

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE AUTHORITY

Report to: Police Authority
Date: 12th March 2009
Subject: BTPA Budget 2009/10
Sponsor: Chief Executive & Clerk
Author: Treasurer
For: Decision

1. INTRODUCTION

At its meeting on 6th February 2009, the Strategy, Budget & Performance Monitoring Committee reviewed the Secretariat's budget and was asked to re-look at the increase. The increase on budget 2008/09 accordingly has been reduced from 4.8% to 3.8% which is recommended for adoption. This paper sets out the BTPA 2009/10 budget.

2. 2008/09 FORECAST

This year's spend against the budget is expected to show no under spend.

3. 2009/10 BUDGET

The budget has been prepared in line with the discussions around the BTP budget increases and has been limited to 1% less than RPI. This totals an increase of £70k to £1,936.5k. The resulting budgeting is shown at Appendix A.

The main movement in the budget compared to last year is the reduced cost of the internal audit contract (£74k). These reductions have been broadly offset by estimated legal costs relating to the arbitration and the impact of the judicial review (£52k); inflation (£56k) and the remaining costs of recruiting the new CC (£11k). In total, £212k has been set aside as a provision for any future potential legal costs. The key risk in terms of the budget is the disputes arising from the Charges Review. It is impossible to predict how much this will cost in terms of legal fees and consultancy. At the time of writing this report the outcome of the JR is unknown; if we lose then potentially legal costs will be awarded against us. There is NO specific provision for this in the budget. This could amount to £400k. The provision for staff costs reflects provision for 2 no charging members and the full year effect of vacancies and increased pay rates.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- Note the risks posed by the charges disputes for 2008/09 and 2009/10 and discuss whether or not to make any provision for the potential costs.
- Approve the budget of £1,936.5k.

Appendix A

	Proposed Budget £k
Staff Salaries and expenses	544.8
Member salaries and expenses	267.1
Other staff costs	13.1
Total Staff costs	825.0
Travel and hotels	60.7
Premises and meeting room costs	121.7
Communications	5.2
<u>Consultancy and Consultation costs</u>	
Charging model	20.3
Pensions advice	33.0
Other Consultancy	31.2
Appeals	28.0
Independent Custody Visiting	26.4
Other consultation	29.0
Total consultancy and consultation costs	167.9
<u>Legal costs</u>	
Legal advice	72.8
Legal costs re charges	211.9
Total legal costs	284.7
Media and Marketing (policing plan, strat plan, annual report, subscriptions)	85.3
External Audit Fees	120.0
Internal Audit Fees	90.4
HMIC Costs	100.0
Supplies and Services	11.0
Postage, printing and Stationery	18.1
Recruitment	46.5
Non Staff Costs	1,111.5
Total Costs	1,936.5