

Value for money

Providing an excellent return on investment

For every £1 received from the police over the last five years, ACRO has returned services worth £3.12, provided to police forces in the form of subject access requests, international criminal conviction exchange and Europol liaison.

ACRO provided policing and law enforcement services totalling £6.7m, 2.4 times the £2.8m funding received from police forces.

Our funding model is based on the principle of using income from Police Certificates to reduce the financial burden on frontline policing. The operational cost of Police Certificates was £3.5m, which returned an income of £7.9m. The surplus supported the services we provided to policing and law enforcement to continue our commitment to safer communities in the UK and across the world.

International criminal conviction exchange forms the majority of our policing and law enforcement services, which operated at a cost of £5.9m.

At £9.2m, employee expenditure remained our biggest single cost, though it was £0.5m less than last year's figure.

Premises expenditure remained the same as the previous year which included our expansion into additional premises to enhance our business continuity and contingency options.

The difference between income and operating costs left us with a year-end surplus of £2m. This will be reinvested over the next two years to update and develop the organisation's systems and infrastructure.

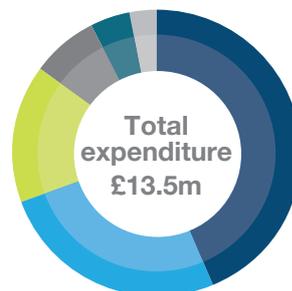
To relieve the risk of reduced Police Certificate income during the Covid-19 pandemic, ACRO drew down £1m of the surety that was lodged with the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The remaining surety of £3m continues to be lodged with the OPCC to mitigate against ACRO not being able to meet its current and future liabilities.

At the end of the financial year, the reserves amounted to £5.6m. ACRO continued to support other national police units including Chief Police Officers' Staff Association, National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service, the National Wildlife Crime Unit and the National Police Freedom of Information and Data Protection Unit, also on a cost-recovery basis.



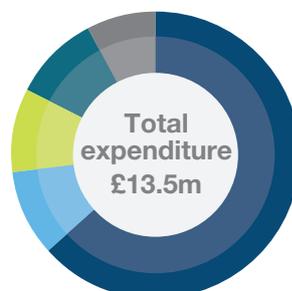
Income

- Police Certificates £7.9m
- Police service funding £2.8m
- Other income £2.3m
- Fixed penalty notices processing reimbursement £1.7m
- PNC services £0.8m



Expenditure

- International services £5.9m
- Police Certificates £3.5m
- Fixed penalty notices processing £2.1m
- PNC services £1m
- Subject access £0.6m
- Other £0.4m



Expenditure by expense type

- Employee £9.2m
- Premises £1.4m
- Supplies and services £1.4m
- Third party payments £1.4m
- IT £1.1m

Support services recoveries
-£1m

ICPC

Total annual income for International Child Protection Certificate (ICPC) was £0.8m against an expenditure of £0.7m, increasing the closing reserve to £0.4m. The reserve will be reinvested into developing products to safeguard vulnerable individuals. This will include developing links with our partners in the National Crime Agency to service those products.