



CEO Response: Public Sector Spending Review

June 2025



1. Introduction

The Chancellor's Public Sector Spending Review, announced on 11 June 2025, has significant implications for UK policing, particularly concerning Labour's pre-election commitments. While the review outlines substantial investments in areas like health, housing, and infrastructure, it falls short in providing the necessary funding to meet Labour's policing objectives. The Chancellor hangs the government's hopes on driving productivity and efficiencies through AI. Whilst this captures headlines, it is unlikely to yield meaningful results for anyone other than the large consulting firms. As Forensic Analytics has demonstrated, productivity and efficiency can, when working with ambitious police forces, deliver results through existing technologies.

2. Chancellor Rachel Reeves' Spending Review: Policing Implications

The Spending Review allocates a £2.1 billion increase in police funding from 2026 to 2029, equating to a real-terms rise of just 1.7% per year. This modest increase is projected to result in a £1.2 billion shortfall, potentially forcing police forces to reduce headcount. The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) warns that this funding gap undermines Labour's pledge to recruit 13,000 neighbourhood police officers, a key election promise. The Police Federation and Police Superintendents' Association criticised the spending review as a failure to prioritise public safety after years of austerity.

3. Labour's Pre-Election Policing Commitments

Prior to the 2024 general election, Labour outlined several key objectives for policing:

- **Recruitment of 13,000 additional neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs**, funded through a Police Efficiency and Collaboration Programme.
- **Crackdown on antisocial behaviour**, introducing tough new penalties for offenders and a new network of youth hubs.
- **Combatting knife crime**, with measures such as mandatory plans to prevent reoffending for young people caught in possession of a knife.
- **Tackling violence against women and girls**, including specialist domestic abuse workers in 999 control rooms and specialist rape investigation units in every force.
- **Addressing youth crime**, through the introduction of a new offence of criminal exploitation of children and a 10-year Young Futures programme.

4. Comparison and Analysis

Aspect	Chancellor's Spending Review (June 2025)	Labour's Pre-Election Commitments (2024)
Police Funding Increase	£2.1 billion over 3 years	£13.2 billion over 5 years
Neighbourhood Police Officers	Modest increase; potential cuts due to funding gap	13,000 additional officers and PCSOs
Antisocial Behaviour Measures	Limited funding: no specific programmes announced	Crackdown with new penalties and youth hubs
Knife Crime Initiatives	No specific measures announced	Mandatory intervention plans for young offenders
Violence Against Women and Girls	No specific measures announced	Specialist workers and rape investigation units
Youth Crime Prevention	No specific measures announced	New offence of criminal exploitation and Young Futures programme

The Chancellor's Spending Review provides a modest increase in police funding, which may not be sufficient to meet Labour's ambitious policing objectives. The projected funding gap raises concerns about the feasibility of fulfilling commitments such as recruiting 13,000 additional officers and implementing comprehensive crime prevention measures.

5. Conclusion

The Chancellor's Spending Review, whilst pivoting from years of austerity, falls short in addressing the funding needs of UK policing. Without additional investment, Labour's pre-election commitments may be challenging to achieve, potentially impacting public safety and trust in law enforcement.

Forensic Analytics is a specialist UK based and owned SME technology and professional services business who provide digital forensic software, training and expert witness services to all police forces in the UK and to the other law enforcement agencies in the "five eyes community" - US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The Labour Party's 2024 general election manifesto outlined comprehensive policies aimed at supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and fostering technological innovation. There was nothing in this spending review to reflect this, it is therefore hardly surprising that the thriving UK tech industry finds it easier to do business outside the UK than at home.

Forensic Analytics software has been proven to save time, save money and solve crime whether it is tackling County Lines drug gangs, organised crime syndicates, missing persons, or violence against women and girls. Case studies prove that our CSAS evidential software can help deliver increases in charge rates for VAWG cases from an average of 6% to over 55%, guilty pleas on first interview in county lines cases from less than 12% to over 80%.

Our colleagues and customers in UK law enforcement, must like us be experiencing a major cognitive dissonance episode, where stated government policies and promises are unlikely to be achieved based on this PSSR.

Brought to you by
Forensic Analytics



CSAS



CellView



CDAN Nexus



CSAS Find



Lima Cell Monitor

Forensic Analytics Ltd | Registered in England and
Wales. Company No: 08606475, Pixmore Centre,
Pixmore Avenue, Letchworth, SG6 1JG

+44 800 158 3830 | www.forensicanalytics.io

© Forensic Analytics Ltd 2025



THE QUEEN'S AWARDS
FOR ENTERPRISE:
INNOVATION
2021