

# 2007 Pre-Budget Report and Comprehensive Spending Review

## Northern Ireland Office

### Woodward welcomes CSR07 settlement

Northern Ireland will receive £1.2 billion a year over the next three years for policing and criminal justice, which will allow the new integrated training college for the police, fire and rescue service and prison service to go ahead.

The Comprehensive Spending Review settlement for the Northern Ireland Office will:

- give a green light to the provision of new prison accommodation; and
- fund improvements to the facilities of the Forensic Science Agency.

The settlement will allow the Northern Ireland Office to build on the sustained funding of the past decade, which has delivered policing reforms, falling crime rates, improvements to the criminal justice system and progress with the peace process.

### Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Shaun Woodward, said;

“I welcome this settlement for Northern Ireland. This settlement means that we can deliver on the much-needed integrated training college for the police, prisons staff and the fire and rescue services. It also means that we can move ahead with important new prison accommodation and upgrading the facilities of the Forensic Science Agency. This settlement puts the Police Service of Northern Ireland and criminal justice system on a sustainable footing for the years ahead. This should be reassuring to the Executive as it continues its preparations for the devolution of justice and policing”.

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. The Northern Ireland Office (NIO) aims to support stable devolved government in NI and, in line with the St Andrews Agreement is making preparations to enable the devolution of policing and justice functions to occur next year. In the meantime, responsibility for these matters rests with the NIO.
2. The settlement preserves the Department's resource cash and capital budgets. It also delivers access to end year flexibility (EYF) resource funds totalling £134m over the CSR07 period.
3. The resources released by the value for money programme, and the ongoing efficiency embedded into departmental planning will allow the NIO to continue to deliver service improvements. The Northern Ireland Office will make value for money savings of £108 million by 2010/11 which will be released to frontline services that include the following initiatives:
  - The Police Service of Northern Ireland has identified opportunities for adopting more efficient working practices and is expected to deliver annual net cash-releasing savings of £74 million by 2010/11.
  - The Northern Ireland Prison Service have also reviewed their working practices, which includes exploring opportunities for recruiting support grades to release prison officers to front line activities. These changes together are planned to deliver annual net cash-releasing savings of £11 million a year by 2010/11. Reform of the Northern Ireland Prison Service will include implementation of a strategic review to ensure a modern, cost effective prison service including planning for a new prison.
  - Key criminal justice initiatives have included the establishment of a single, independent Public Prosecution Service, the creation of the Criminal Justice Inspectorate and Law Commission, and work to modernise the sentencing framework and forensic science provision.
  - The Department will support the effective and efficient operation of public inquiries already announced. An independent Consultative Group has been set up to review the wider question of dealing with Northern Ireland's past.
  - In addition to policing and prisons all other areas of the Department are contributing to the value for money savings which will be transferred to deliver frontline services.

## Tables

	<b>£ million</b>			
	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Additions</b>		
	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>
Resource DEL	1,152	72	40	40
<i>of which near-cash</i>	929	0	0	0
<i>of which administration</i>	79	-2	-4	-6
Capital DEL	72	0	0	0
<b>Total DEL<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>

<sup>1</sup> Full resource budgeting basis, net of depreciation.

For further details on NIO's settlement and Departmental Strategic Objectives over the CSR07 period, please see *The 2007 Pre-Budget Report and Comprehensive Spending Review: Meeting the aspirations of the British people* [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr\\_csr/pbr\\_csr07\\_index.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/pbr_csr07_index.cfm)

The Government today announced 30 cross-departmental Public Service Agreements, setting out the top priorities for the CSR07 period. For further details on these please see: [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr\\_csr/pbr\\_csr07\\_index.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/pbr_csr07_index.cfm)

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