Home Office

Annual report and accounts

2023 to 2024

HC 184

Home Office

Annual report and accounts 2023 to 2024

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This is part of a series of departmental publications which, along with the Main Estimates 2024-25 and the document Public Expenditure: Statistical Analyses 2024, present the government's outturn for 2023-24 and planned expenditure for 2024-25.

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Performance report

Permanent Secretary's statement

Throughout 2023-24, our focus was on ensuring the safety, security and prosperity of the United Kingdom and on delivering the Government's priorities. We introduced a new Organisational Strategy, designed to equip the Department for present and future challenges through increased collaboration, the harnessing of data and technology, and greater resilience.

As part of the effort to combat illegal migration, we enacted new legislation and strengthened enforcement measures to enable immediate detentions and removals. In parallel, we continued activities to facilitate legal migration. We demonstrated our commitment to provide modern services through streamlined processes and digitised systems. This included eGate trials for 10 and 11-year-olds.

To enhance public safety, we took measures to reduce serious violence and neighbourhood crime. We made progress implementing the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan and took steps to close county lines.

The publication of the new Serious and Organised Crime Strategy in December 2023 established our focus on combatting complex criminal networks. Our Fraud Strategy set a 10% reduction target for fraud offences compared with 2019. We have continued to focus on increasing convictions for modern slavery offences and enhancing the response to child sexual exploitation and abuse. Parliament also passed significant legislation, including the National Security Act and the Online Safety Act.

To reduce national security risks to the UK's people, prosperity and freedoms, we have led initiatives such as CONTEST 2023, and enhanced capabilities and infrastructure by setting up the Counter-Terrorism Operations Centre.

The Home Office must be flexible and agile in order to maximise its effectiveness. Throughout the year, we focused on measures to promote productivity and efficiency. We delivered savings which absorbed significant inflationary and demand-driven budget pressures.

We remain wholeheartedly committed to righting the wrongs suffered by members of the Windrush Generation. Work to implement the recommendations of the Windrush Lessons Learned Review continues. We have and will continue to make concerted efforts to increase our workforce diversity and relocate roles outside of London.

As this report demonstrates, the work of the Home Office is as important and consequential as it has ever been. Challenges will continue to arise, but I am confident the Department is in a strong position to serve the Government and the public.

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE
Permanent Secretary

Performance overview

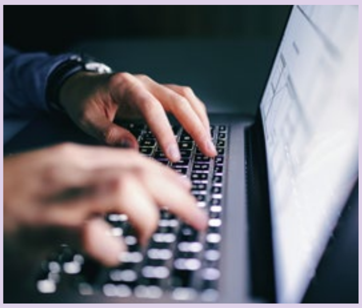
The purpose of the performance overview is to summarise the outcomes we are aiming to achieve, our objectives, and our performance in delivering those objectives.

In 2023-24, the Home Office delivered significant outcomes in priority areas. We are on track to deliver a 20% reduction in both serious violence and neighbourhood crime. The recruitment of 20,000 police officers, has provided the forces of England and Wales the resources to reduce crime. In the context of a challenging external threat environment, the Department has sought to strengthen homeland security capabilities with the refresh of the CONTEST Strategy, and bringing the Counter-Terrorism Operations Centre online. The Department has overseen the development of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy and the passage of the National Security Act. New initiatives on illegal migration were introduced, including improving productivity in asylum decision-making and closing asylum hotels. We maintained service standards in our visa routes, waiting times at the border improved, and we launched the first phase of Electronic Travel Authorisations as part of efforts to transform and digitise the UK border.

Reducing crime

The Home Office has supported policing to decrease serious violence by 25% and neighbourhood crime by 24% for the year ending September 2023, relative to year ending December 2019. Efforts to address anti-social behaviour have continued through the implementation of the ASB Action Plan and have improved the police response to violence against women and girls, for example, by increasing the number of rape cases referred to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). We have closed more than 2,500 Type 1 county lines, as part of efforts to combat the supply of drugs.

Strengthening homeland security



The Department has developed strategies and legislation aimed at promoting and protecting the security and prosperity of the UK, including CONTEST 2023, the Economic Crime Plan, Fraud Strategy and Online Safety and National Security Acts. Working with law enforcement and industry partners, we oversaw a reduction of 13% in fraud for year ending September 2023 (compared to year ending December 2019), and secured agreements with the technology sector via the Online Fraud Charter.

Legal migration and the border

The Department maintained customer service standards for passport and visa services and, despite a significant increase in travellers, average wait times at the border reduced, with 95% of passengers processed within service standards. We have expanded the Electronic Travel Authorisation scheme to new countries for legitimate visitors and delivered £527 million of revenue loss prevention through strengthening checks and compliance on goods crossing the border.

Tackling illegal migration

The Home Office strengthened its collaboration with France, passed legislation including the Illegal Migration Act, and tripled the number of asylum applications processed. In 2023, the small boat arrivals saw a reduction of around 36% over 2022. Immigration Enforcement increased the number of visits to combat illegal working and removed thousands of foreign national offenders from the UK under the Early Removal Scheme (ERS).

Financial performance

The Performance Analysis section focuses on the outcomes achieved through Home Office expenditures. It also provides a cross-reference to the Financial Review section, which details the allocation of Exchequer grant funds across various Home Office operations. This comprehensive approach ensures a clear understanding of both financial performance and the resulting outcomes of departmental spend.

Home Office Structure at the end of 2023-24

Sir Matthew Rycroft — Permanent Secretary

Migration & Borders Second Permanent Secretary — Simon Ridley

Missions

Homeland Security Group	Chloe Squires
Public Safety Group	Jaee Samant
Migration and Borders Group	Dan Hobbs

Capabilities

Stuart Skeates	Illegal Migration Operational Command
Joanna Rowland	Customer Services
Basit Javid	Immigration Enforcement
Phil Douglas	Border Force
David Kuenssberg	Corporate and Delivery
Jennifer Rubin	Science, Technology, Analysis & Research
Ruth Tomlinson and John Ward	HO Legal Advisors
Julie Blomley	Human Resources
Rebecca Ellis	Strategy & Private Office
Robert Hall	Communications

Changes to governance

Details of changes to governance can be found in the Governance Statement included in the Accountability Report.

Performance analysis

Reducing crime

What we set out to achieve

The Home Office committed to reduce the number of victims of crime, make our neighbourhoods safe, and support the police and other law enforcement partners in reducing crime.

We prioritised: cutting neighbourhood crime; reducing serious violence and homicide; exposing and ending hidden harms, such as child sexual abuse and domestic abuse; prosecuting perpetrators; and building capability and capacity to tackle fraud, cyber and online crime.

Restoring public trust and confidence in the police is essential if together we are to achieve these ambitions. We committed to focussing our efforts on improving police performance to address historic and persistent failures, whilst taking action to ensure the police have the resources and tools they need.

What we delivered

We have delivered increases in the number of rape cases referred by the police to the Crown Prosecution Service and work continues towards reducing the prevalence of domestic abuse.

On modern slavery, we have delivered an increase in the number of convictions and have also demonstrated improving performance on the part of the police in tackling child sexual exploitation and abuse.

We continued our efforts to reduce crime and saw a 16% decrease in homicides in England and Wales for year ending September 2023 compared to year ending December 2019 (pre-Covid baseline). Neighbourhood crime (which consists of vehicle related theft, domestic burglary, theft from the person (including pickpocketing) and robbery of personal property) and serious violence (measured by under 25's hospital admissions for assault with a sharp object) have decreased by 24% and 25% respectively over the same period.

Progress has been made in combatting drugs by closing down 2,530 Type 1 county lines achieved 18 months ahead of schedule. We are on track to deliver our Drug Strategy ambition of 8,800 major or moderate disruptions against organised crime groups involved in drugs by April 2025.

The Home Office has continued efforts to tackle anti-social behaviour through the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan, which was published in March 2023.

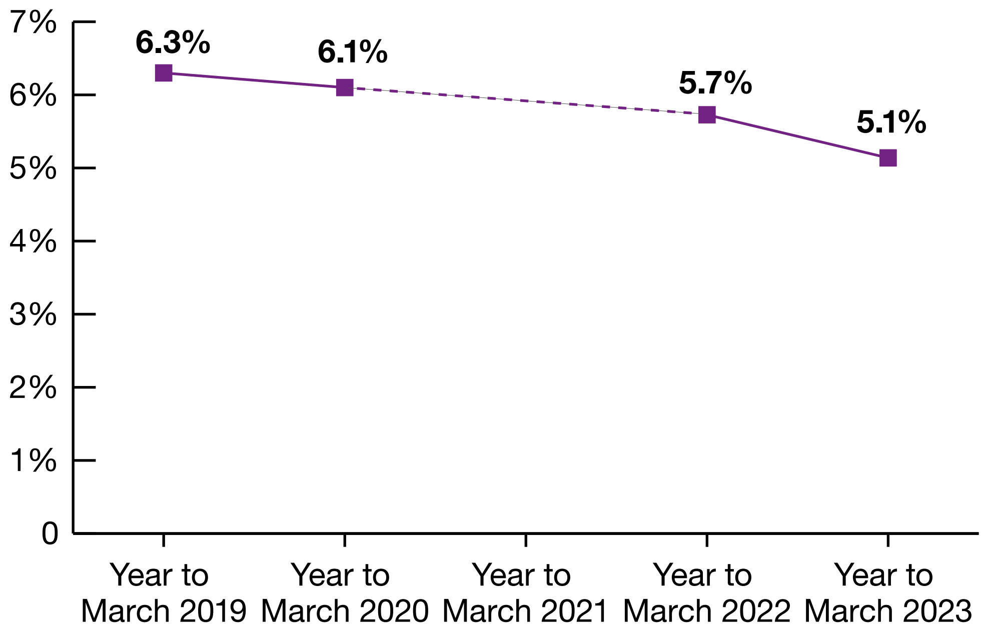
The Department continued efforts to respond to disruptive protests through the enactment of the Public Order Act.

Following recruitment of an additional 20,000 police officers, the number of police officers in England and Wales has increased by 3.3% in the 12 months leading to September 2023. However, this included a slight decrease of 0.3% from March 2023 to September 2023.

We also published a new Serious and Organised Crime Strategy in December 2023 that sets out the government's mission to reduce serious and organised crime by disrupting and dismantling the organised crime groups operating in and against the UK.

Violence against women and girls

Prevalence of domestic abuse*



Purpose:

This metric measures the estimated prevalence of domestic abuse, which is the percentage of people aged 16 to 59 years old who have experienced domestic abuse in the last year, according to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW).

Performance:

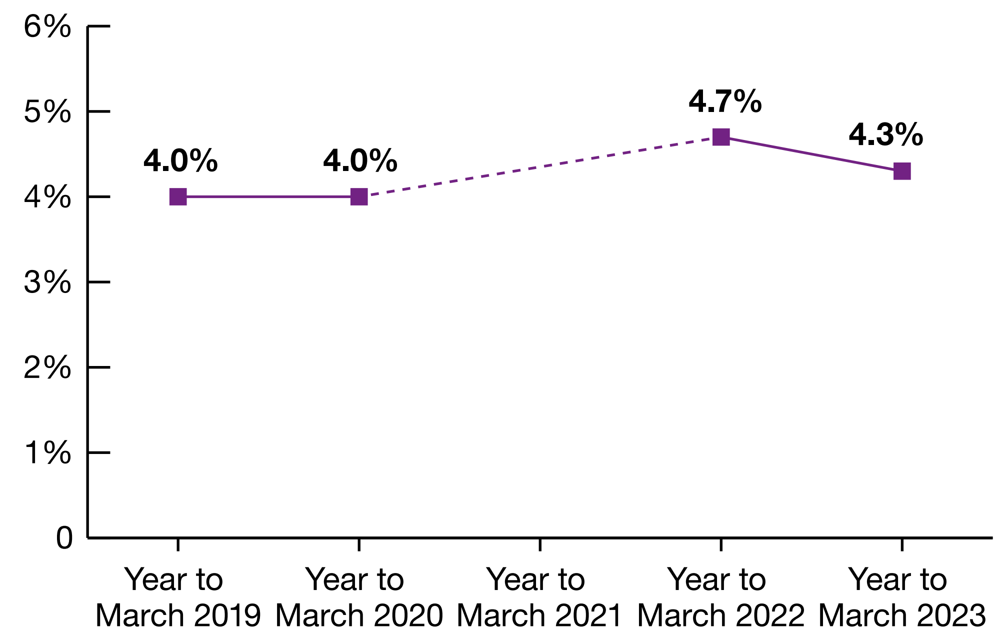
The metric supplied by the CSEW demonstrates that the estimated prevalence of domestic abuse has decreased in comparison to the pre-pandemic estimate (6.1% in year ending March 2020 to 5.1% in year ending March 2023).

Source: Domestic abuse prevalence and victim characteristics - (ons.gov.uk) Table 4 and 5 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[1]

Data frequency: Annual

1 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/domesticabuseprevalenceandvictimcharacteristicsappendixtables

Prevalence of stalking*



Purpose:

This metric measures the estimated prevalence of stalking, which is the percentage of people aged 16 to 59 years old who have experienced stalking in the last year, according to the CSEW.

Performance:

This measure shows that the estimated proportion of adults who had been a victim of stalking in the year ending March 2023 was 4.3%, with the trend remaining broadly stable (the apparent difference between the latest estimate of 4.3% and the previous one of 4.0% was not large enough to be statistically significant). The Department remains committed to tackling this crime.

Source: Stalking: findings from the Crime Survey for England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[2]

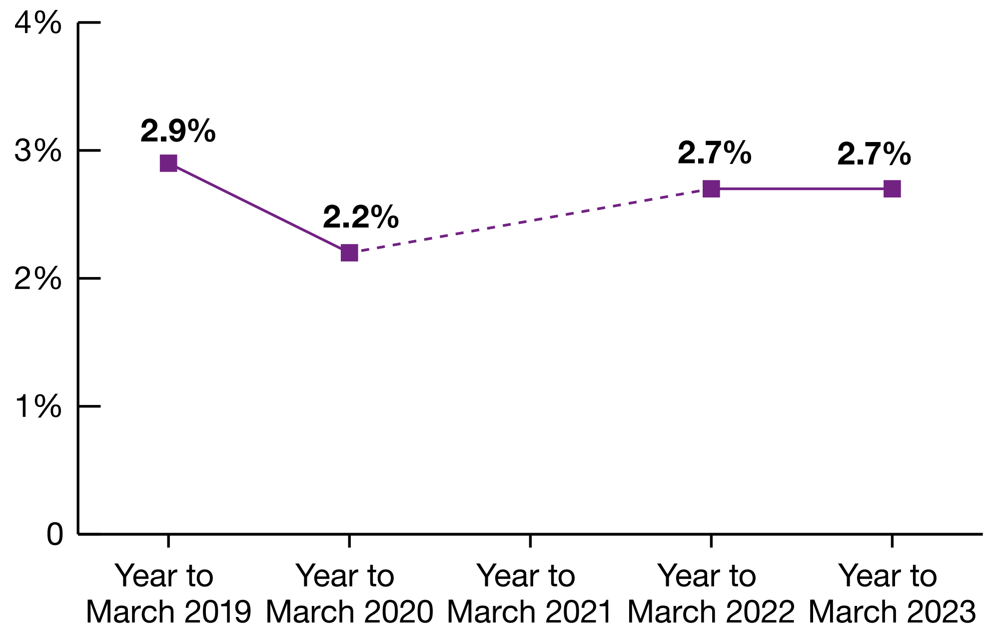
Data frequency: Annual

* Due to the margin of error around (sample) survey-based estimates, it cannot be definitively said whether any observed changes are real. Describing these as changes would be misleading, therefore the difference between 4.3% in year ending March 2023 and 4.0% in year ending March 2020 is not large enough to be considered statistically significant.

* Due to the suspension of the CSEW during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no available data for the year ending March 2021 (represented by the dotted lines).

2 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/stalkingfindingsfromthecrimesurveyforenglandandwales

Prevalence of sexual assault*



Purpose:

This metric measures the estimated prevalence of sexual assault, which is the percentage of people aged 16 to 59 years old who have experienced sexual assault in the last year, according to the CSEW.

Performance:

This measure shows that the estimated proportion of adults who had been a victim of sexual assault in the year ending March 2023 was 2.7%, with the trend remaining broadly stable (the apparent difference between the latest estimate of 2.7% and the previous one of 2.3% was not large enough to be statistically significant). The Department remains committed to tackling this crime.

Source: Sexual offences prevalence and victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[3]

Data frequency: Annual

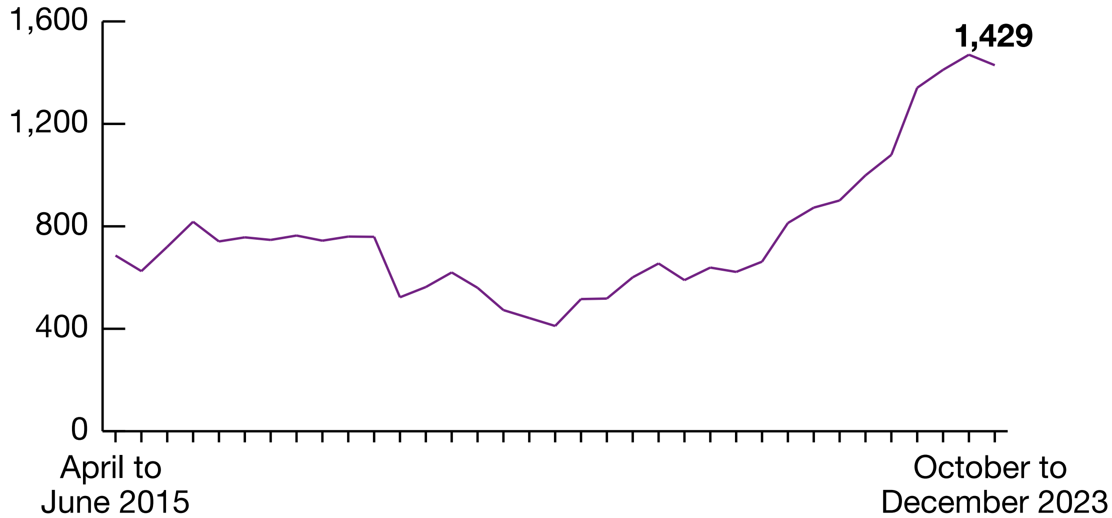
* Due to the margin of error around (sample) survey-based estimates, it cannot be definitively said whether any observed changes are real. Describing these as changes would be misleading, therefore the difference between 2.7% in year ending March 2023 and 2.3% in year ending March 2020 is not large enough to be considered statistically significant.

* Due to the suspension of the CSEW during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no available data for the year ending March 2021 (represented by the dotted lines).

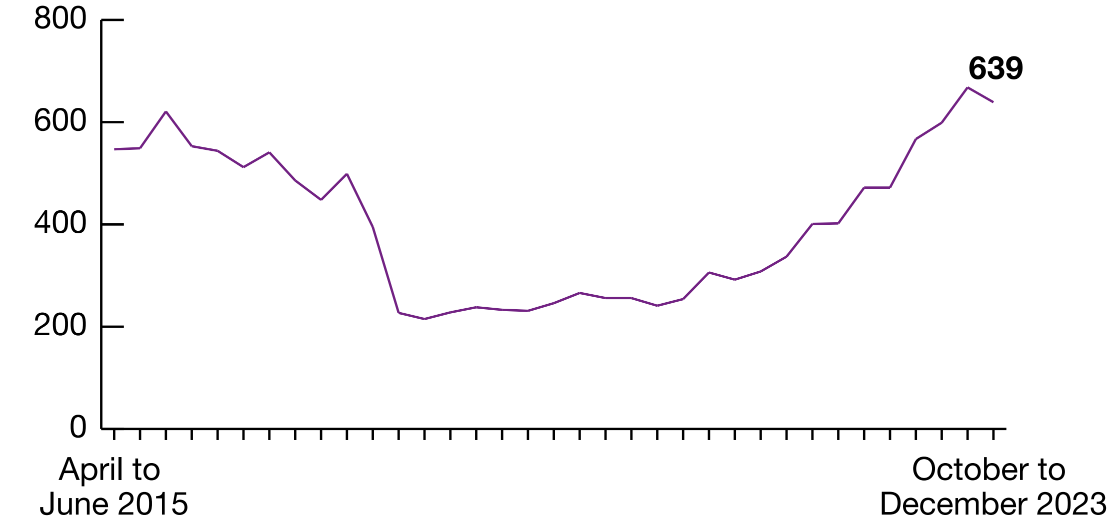
3 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/sexualoffencesprevalenceandvictimcharacteristicsenglandandwales

Adult rape and other sexual offences

Adult Rape Offences referred to Crown Prosecution Service by the Police



Adult Rape Offences charged by the Crown Prosecution Service



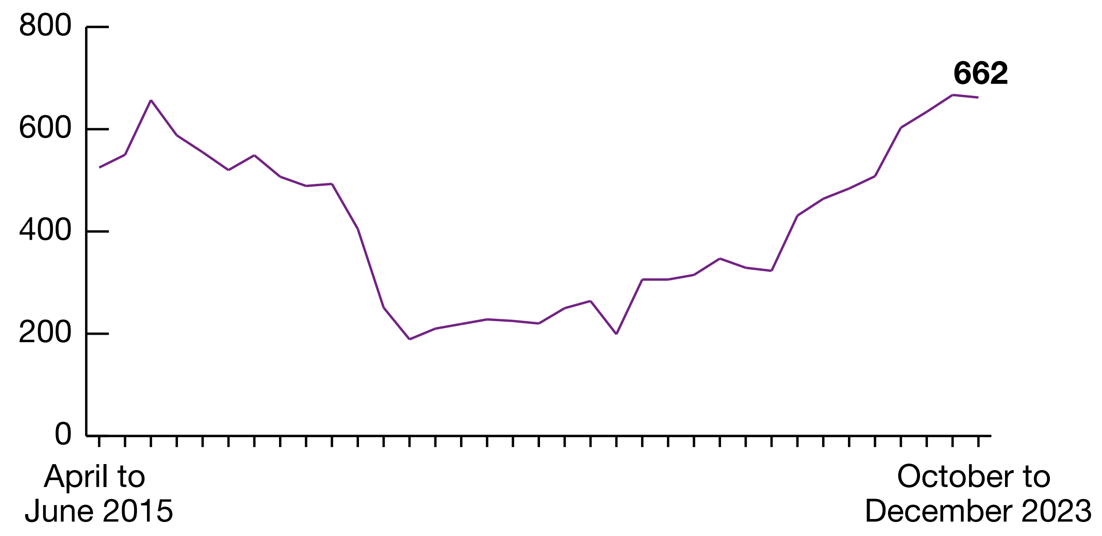
Sources: Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.

Criminal Justice System - All metrics - CJS Dashboard for historical CPS data on adult rape cases flagged and charged by the CPS.[4]

CPS data summary Quarter 3 2023-2024 | The Crown Prosecution Service for the data from latest quarter on adult rape cases flagged and charged by the CPS.[5]

4 https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/cps-data-summary-quarter-3-2023-2024
5 https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/cps-data-summary-quarter-3-2023-2024

Adult Rape cases received by the Crown Court



Purpose:

These metrics total the quarterly figures, from April to June 2015 to October to December 2023, for adult rape offences referred to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) by the police and charged by the CPS and adult rape cases received by the Crown Court.

Performance:

Quarterly performance has improved since 2019 across all three metrics:

- There were a total of 1,429 adult rape-flagged police referrals to the CPS in October to December 2023. This was a 210% increase compared to the 2019 quarterly average, when the Rape Review was published (461), and an 87% increase compared to the 2016 quarterly average (766). Compared to the previous quarter, total police referrals decreased by 3% (1,470 to 1,429).
- There were 639 CPS charges for adult rape-flagged cases in October to December 2023. This was a 162% increase on the 2019 quarterly average (244) and 19% higher than the 2016 quarterly average (538). Compared to the previous quarter CPS charges decreased by 4% (668 to 639).
- There were 662 adult rape Crown Court receipts in October to December 2023. This was a 187% increase compared to the 2019 quarterly average (231) and 20% higher than the 2016 quarterly average (553). Compared to the previous quarter Crown Court receipts decreased by 1% (667 to 662).

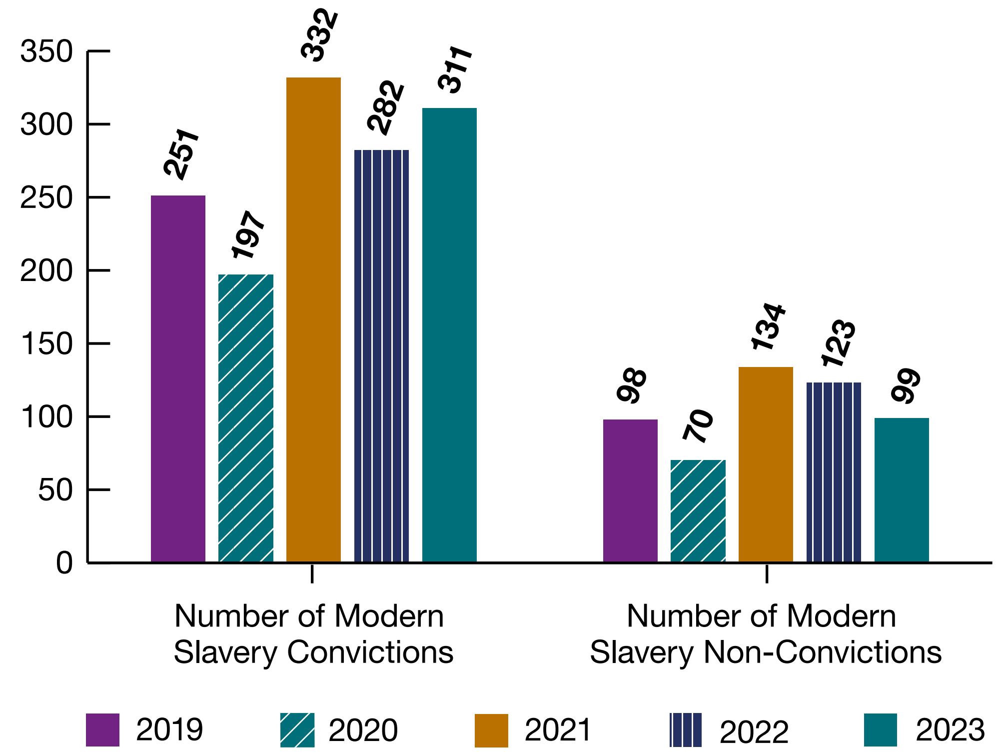
Source: Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.

Criminal court statistics quarterly: October to December 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) for data on adult rape crown court receipts.[6]

Data frequency: Quarterly

6 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-court-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2023

Number of modern slavery prosecutions (convictions and non-convictions)



Purpose:

The metrics supplied by the CPS show the number of convictions and non-convictions relating to modern slavery cases.

Performance:

The Home Office continued efforts in tackling modern slavery in supply chains. While 2021 was the high point for modern slavery convictions, the latest figures for 2023 represent a 24% increase in convictions since 2019. Non-convictions in 2023 were 1% higher than in 2019.

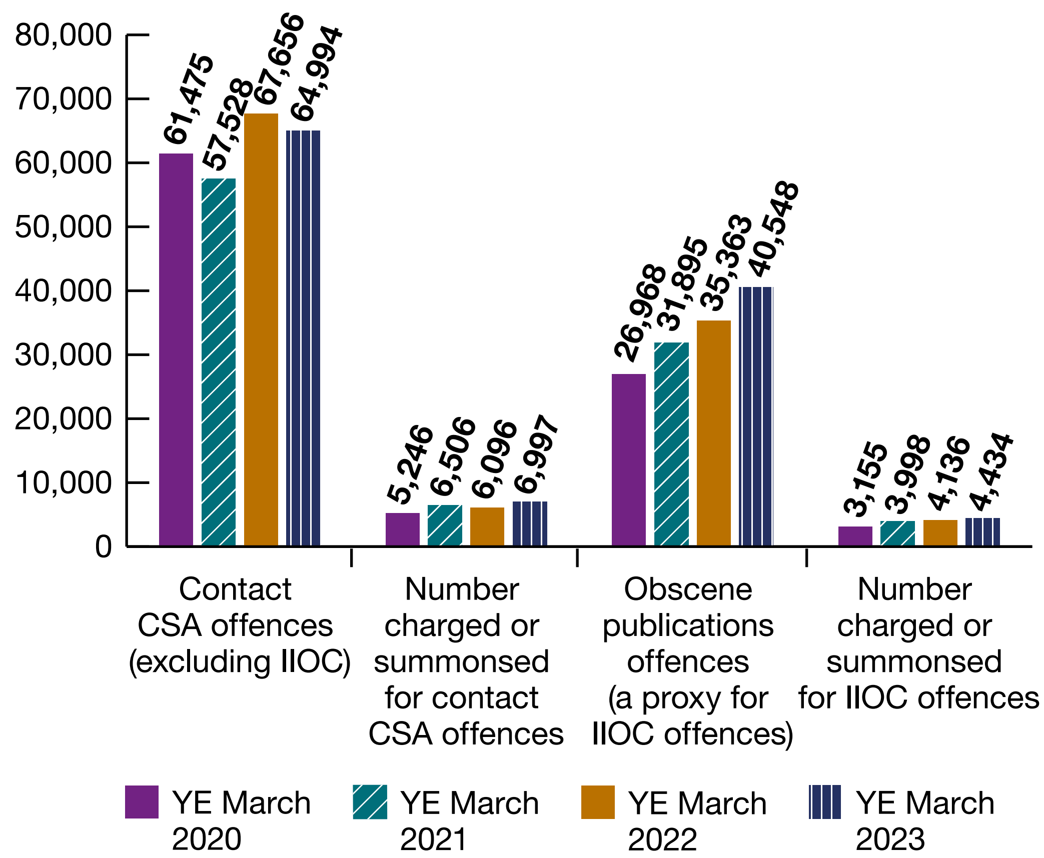
Source: CPS quarterly data summaries | The Crown Prosecution Service - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[7]

Data frequency: Quarterly

7 https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/cps-quarterly-data-summaries

Child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA)

Number of CSEA offences and charges[8]



Purpose:

These metrics measure police recorded crime, as well as the number of charges and summons relating to CSEA and Indecent Images of Children (IIOC) offences.

Performance:

The number of charges and summons for contact child sexual abuse offences has increased by 33% from year ending March 2020 to year ending March 2023, and the number of police-recorded contact child sexual abuse offences has increased by 6%. The number of recorded offences, charges and summons for IIOC has also increased over the last three years.

We responded to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (IICSA) and accepted all but one of the Inquiry's recommendations.

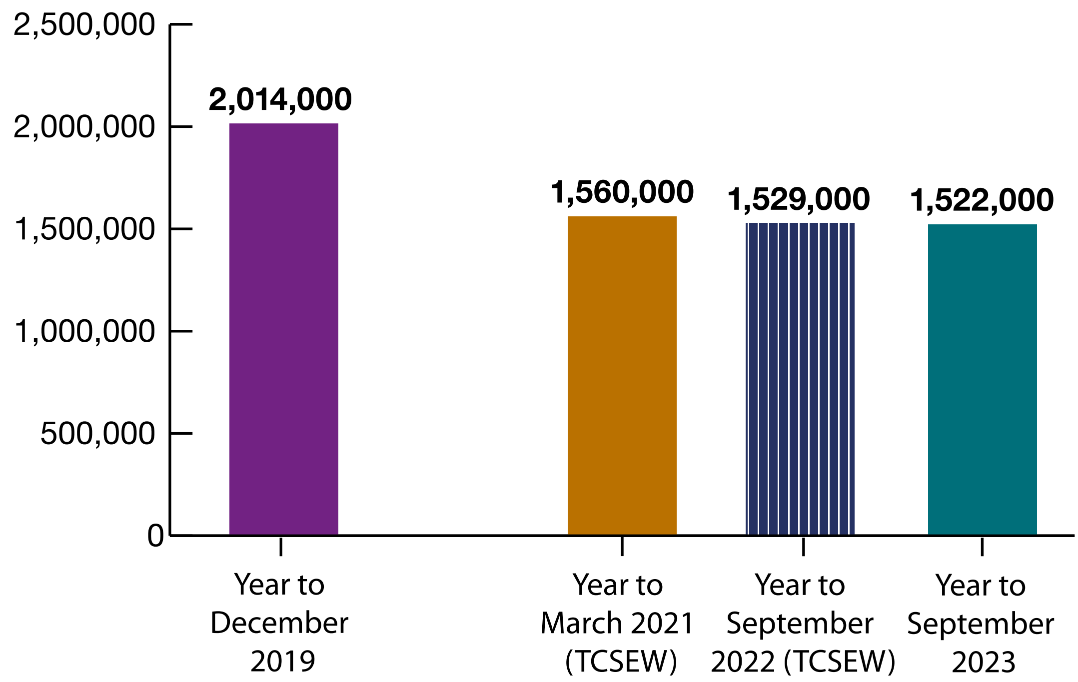
Source: Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables – GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[9]

Data frequency: Quarterly

8 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables
9 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables

Neighbourhood crime

Number of neighbourhood crime incidents



Purpose:

This metric measures the total number of neighbourhood crime incidents, which includes robbery, theft from the person, burglary and vehicle crime as recorded by the Crime Survey of England and Wales.

Performance:

The Home Office continues to work alongside policing partners to reduce neighbourhood crime. According to the latest available data for the year ending September 2023, incidences of neighbourhood crime have decreased by 24% from year ending December 2019.

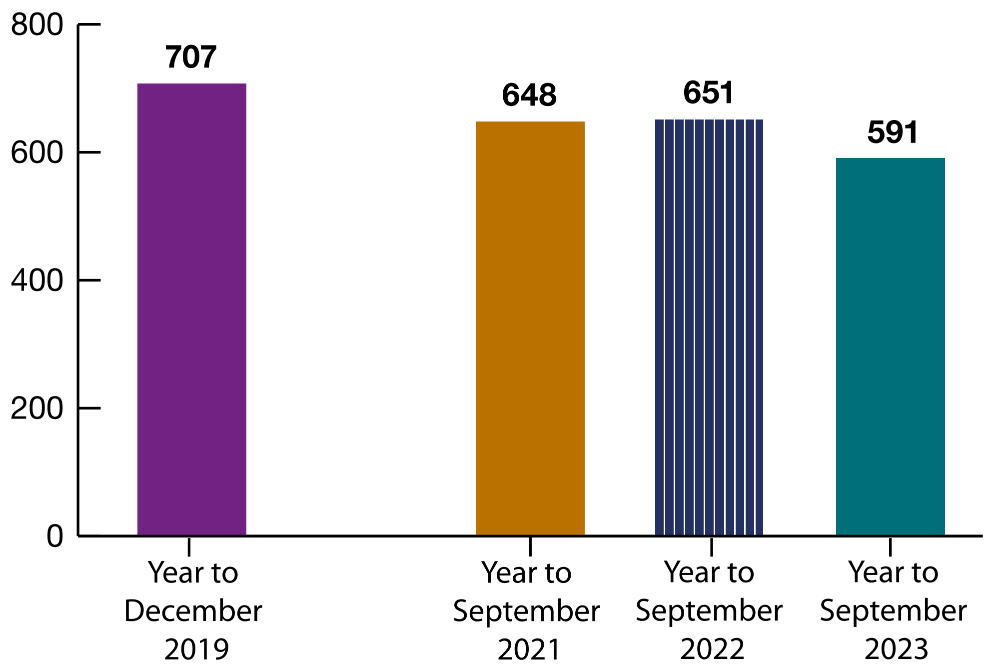
Source: ONS (Crime in England and Wales) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[10]

Data frequency: Quarterly

10 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

Homicide and serious violence

Number of homicides



Purpose:

This metric measures the number of homicides committed in a 12 month period.

Performance:

According to the latest police recorded crime data, which accounts for the year ending September 2023, the number of homicides committed in England and Wales is 16% lower than the year ending December 2019 baseline.

The low volume of homicides committed in England and Wales makes the trend more volatile.

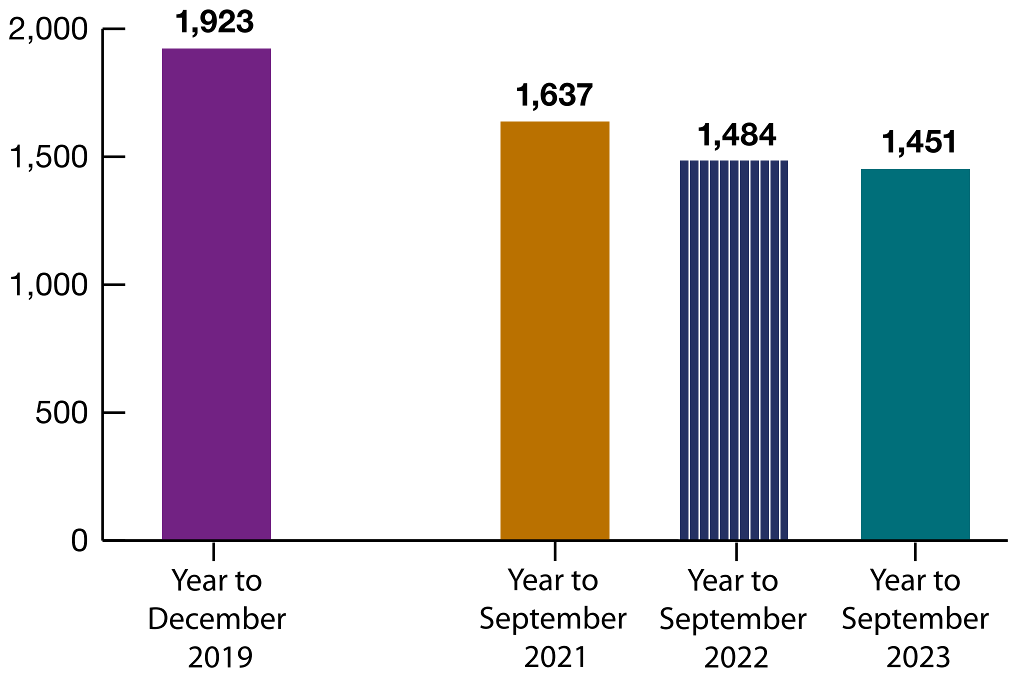
Note: The figure for the baseline year to December 2019 includes 39 human trafficking victims who were found dead in a lorry in Essex.

Source: ONS (Crime in England and Wales) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[11]

Data frequency: Quarterly

11 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

Under-25s hospital admissions for 'sharp object assault' (England and Wales)



Purpose:

This metric measures the number of hospital admissions for 'sharp object assault' recorded in the preceding 12 month period.

Performance:

According to the latest available data, serious violence has reduced by 25% relative to the December 2019 baseline.

Source: ONS (Crime in England and Wales).[12]

NHS admissions for assault with sharp objects by age group, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[13]

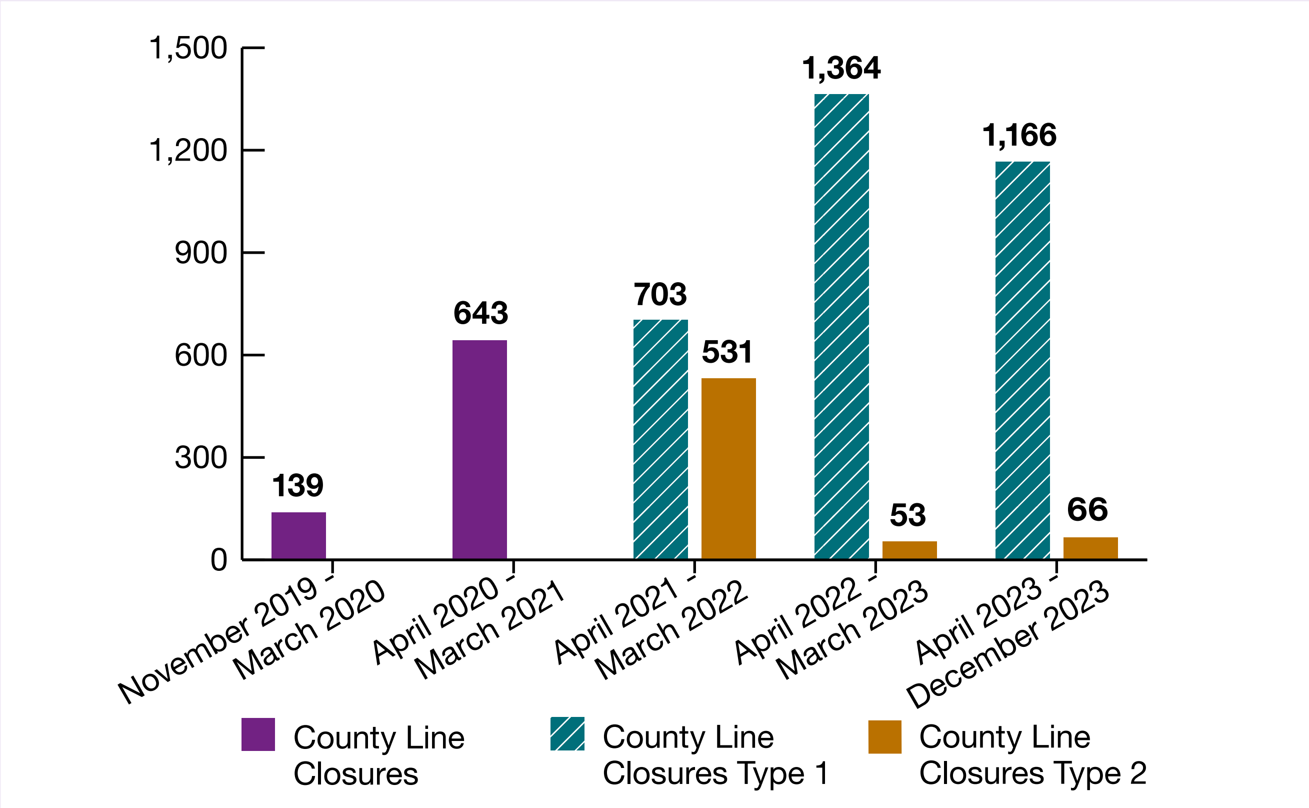
Data frequency: Quarterly

12 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

13 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/adhocs/15498nhsadmissionsforassaultwithsharpobjectsbyagegroupenglandandwales

Drugs

Number of county lines closures*



Purpose:

This metric measures the number of county lines closures achieved by County Lines Programme taskforces.

Source: County Lines Programme Data - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[14]

Data frequency: Annual

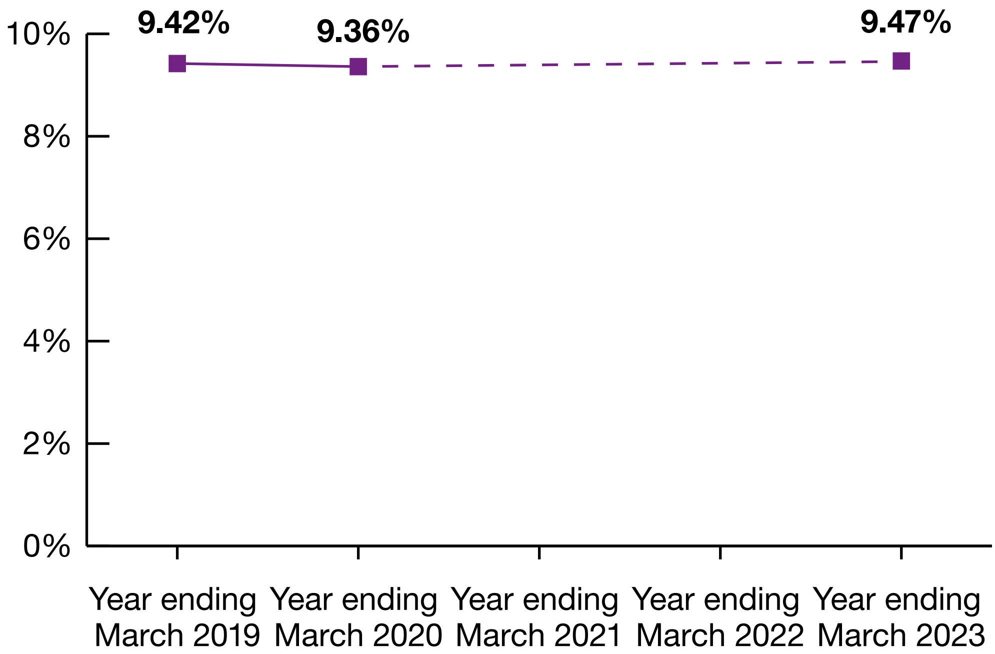
Performance:

The Home Office County Lines Programme closed down 1,166 Type 1 and 66 Type 2 county lines between April 2023 and December 2023.

* The differentiation between types of line closure (Type 1 and Type 2) can only be made from 2021-22 onwards. From April 2022, Type 1 line closures were prioritised by police to align with the ambitions set out in the Drugs Strategy, published in December 2021.

14 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-offices-county-lines-programme-data/county-lines-programme-data

Prevalence of drug misuse: % using drugs in previous 12 months



Purpose:

This metric provides an estimate of the percentage of people aged 16 to 59 years who reported using a drug in the 12 months preceding March 2023.*

Performance:

According to the latest available data, the prevalence of drug misuse was 9.47% at year ending March 23, no statistical difference to year ending March 2020.*

Source: Drug misuse in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk).[15]

Drug misuse in England and Wales - Appendix table - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[16]

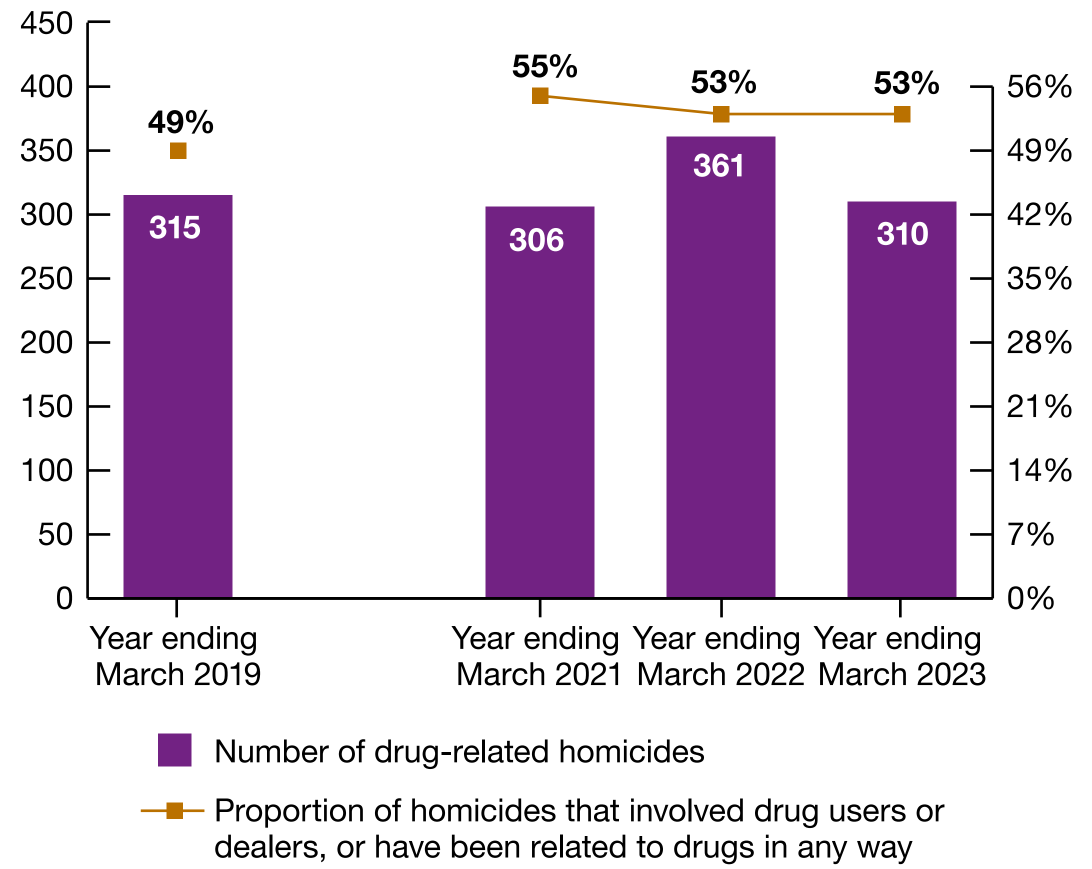
Data frequency: Ad-hoc

* Due to the suspension of the CSEW during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, there is no available data for the year ending March 2021 and the year ending March 2022 (represented by the dotted lines).

15 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/drugmisuseinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2023

16 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/drugmisuseinenglandandwalesappendixtable

Drug-related homicides



Purpose:

The metrics included above relate to the volumes and proportion of drug-related homicides, which includes those homicides which were thought to involve drug users or dealers or were in some way drug-related.

Performance:

In the year ending March 2023, 310 homicides were thought to be drug-related, which is slightly lower than what was recorded in the year ending March 2019. The proportion of drug-related homicides to non-drug related homicides has been stable over this period.

Source: Homicide in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk).[17]

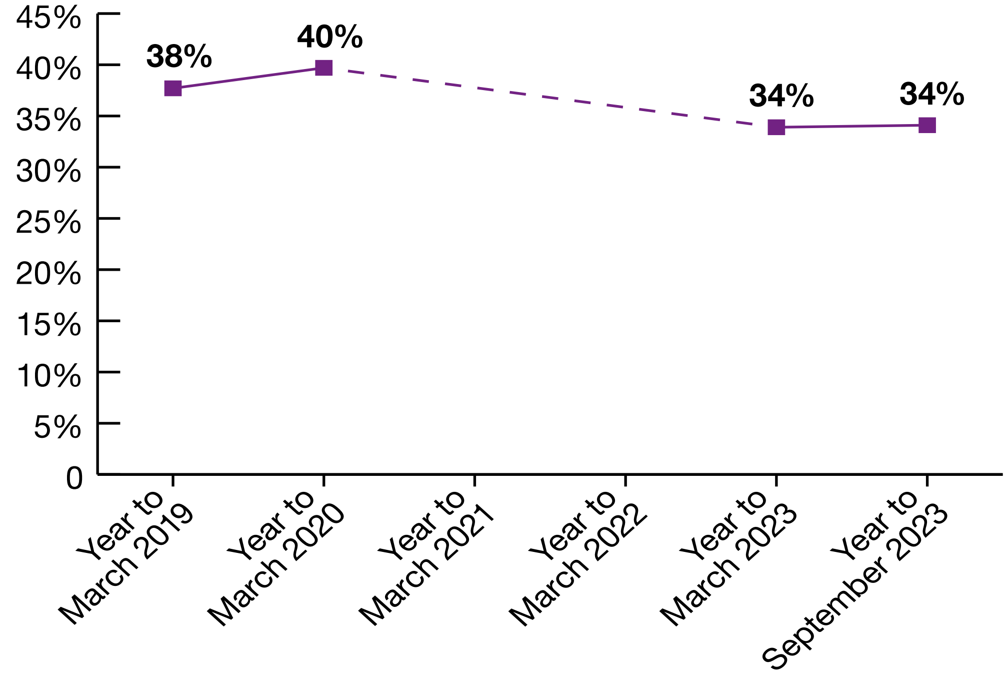
Homicide in England and Wales: year ending March 2023 - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[18]

Data frequency: Annual

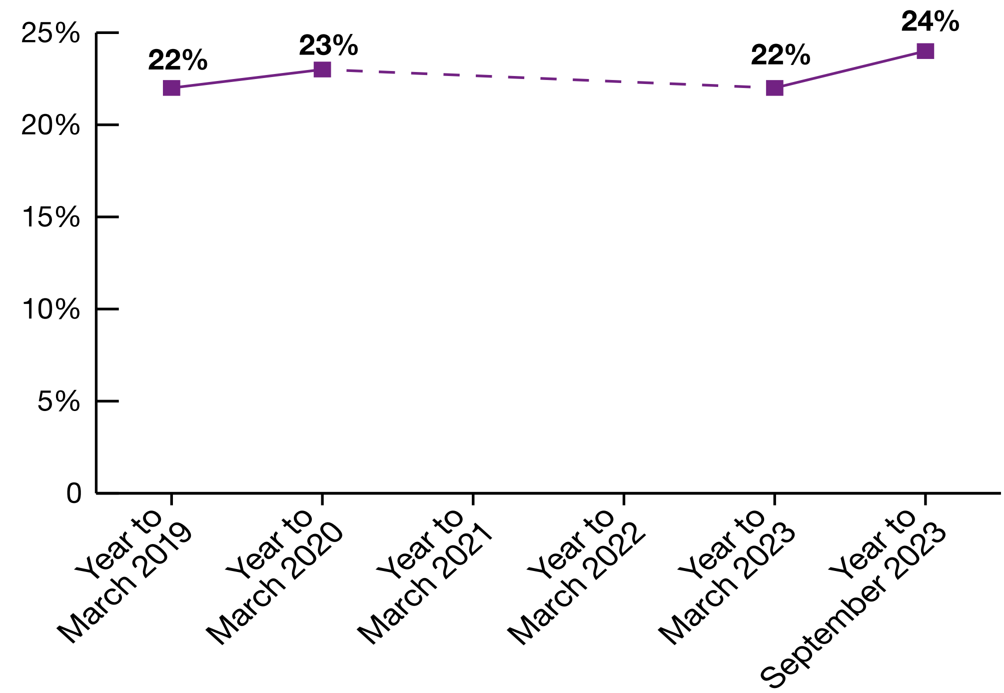
17 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/homicideinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2023
18 https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/homicideinenglandandwalesyearendingmarch2023

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Percentage who have witnessed/experienced ASB in their local area in past 12 months*[19]

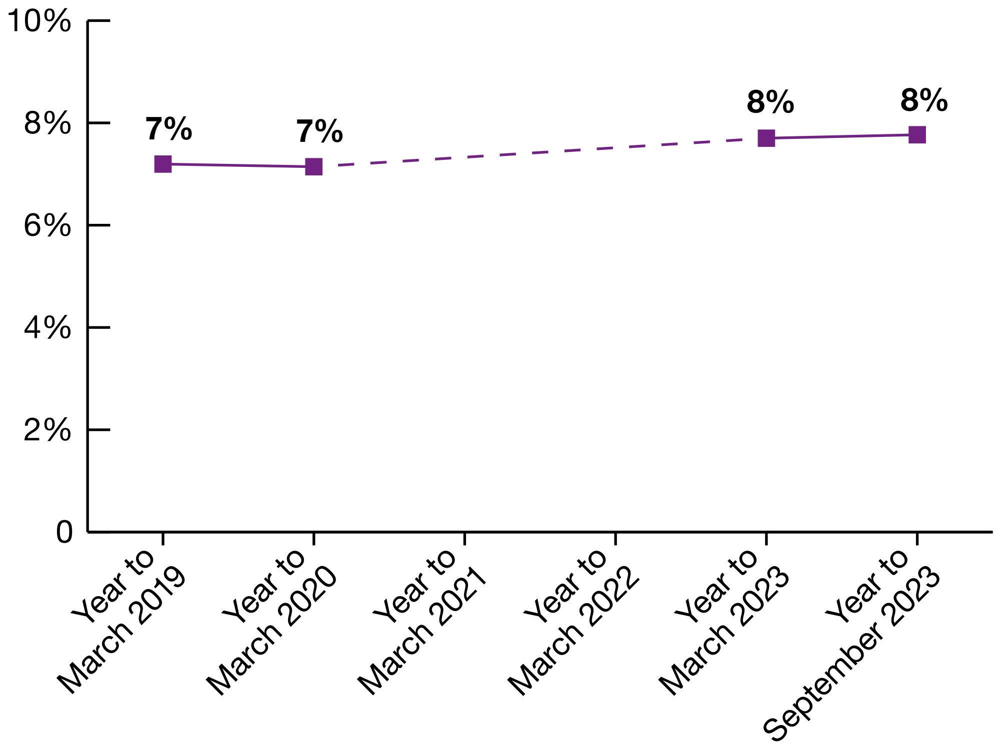


Percentage saying ASB is a problem in their local area*[19]



19 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

Percentage who consider there to be high levels of ASB in their local area*



Purpose:

These metrics estimate the proportion of people who have experienced or witnessed some type of ASB, as well as the public's perceptions of ASB in their local area, according to the CSEW.

Performance:

According to the metrics, the public's experience and perception of ASB has been broadly stable. The percentage of people who are estimated to have witnessed or experienced ASB in the year ending September 2023 is 34%, which is comparable with the year ending March 2023.

The data for the year ending September 2023 shows a slight decrease in the public's experience of ASB over the last four years.

The estimated percentage of those who consider ASB to be a problem or consider there to be high levels of ASB in their area has seen a slight increase over the last four years.

The Home Office has continued to tackle ASB and to deliver on the commitments outlined in the ASB Action Plan, which was published in March 2023.

Source: ONS (Crime in England and Wales) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[20]

Data frequency: Quarterly

* Due to the suspension of the CSEW during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no available data for the year ending March 2021 and the year ending March 2022 (represented by the dotted lines).

20 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

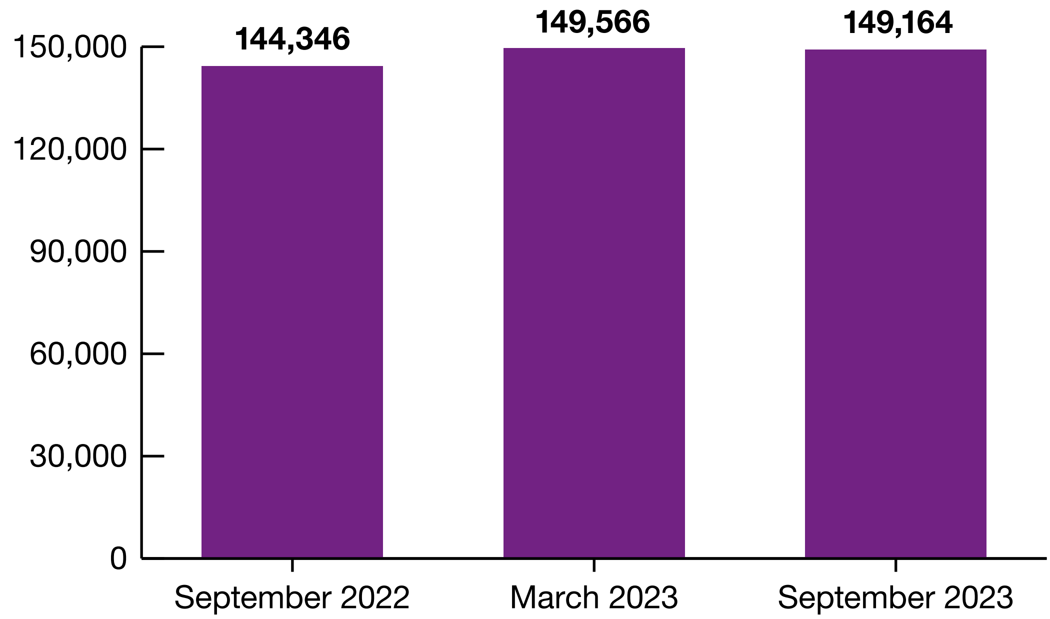
Performance:

In May 2023, the Public Order Act was passed by Parliament. The Act aims to enhance the police's powers to respond more effectively to disruptive protests. Provisions in the Act include:

- New criminal offences of locking on to, and going equipped to lock on to, objects or buildings, intending to cause serious disruption.
- A new criminal offence of obstructing major transport works, including disrupting the construction and maintenance of projects, such as HS2.
- A new criminal offence for interfering with key national infrastructure, which covers any behaviour which prevents or significantly delays the operation of key infrastructure, such as airports, railways, printing presses, and oil and gas infrastructure.
- Extended stop and search powers for police to search for and seize articles suspected to be used for protest-related offences.
- Serious disruption prevention orders, a new preventative court order targeting protestors determined to disrupt the public.

Maintaining police officer numbers and improving police performance

Police officers (headcount), England and Wales



Purpose:

This metric measures the number of police officers (headcount) in England and Wales.

Performance:

The police officer headcount has increased by 3.3% in the 12 months leading to September 2023, meaning there are 149,164 police officers in the 43 territorial police forces in England and Wales. Whilst this is an increase compared to September 2022, it is a small decrease of 0.3% compared to numbers recorded in March 2023.

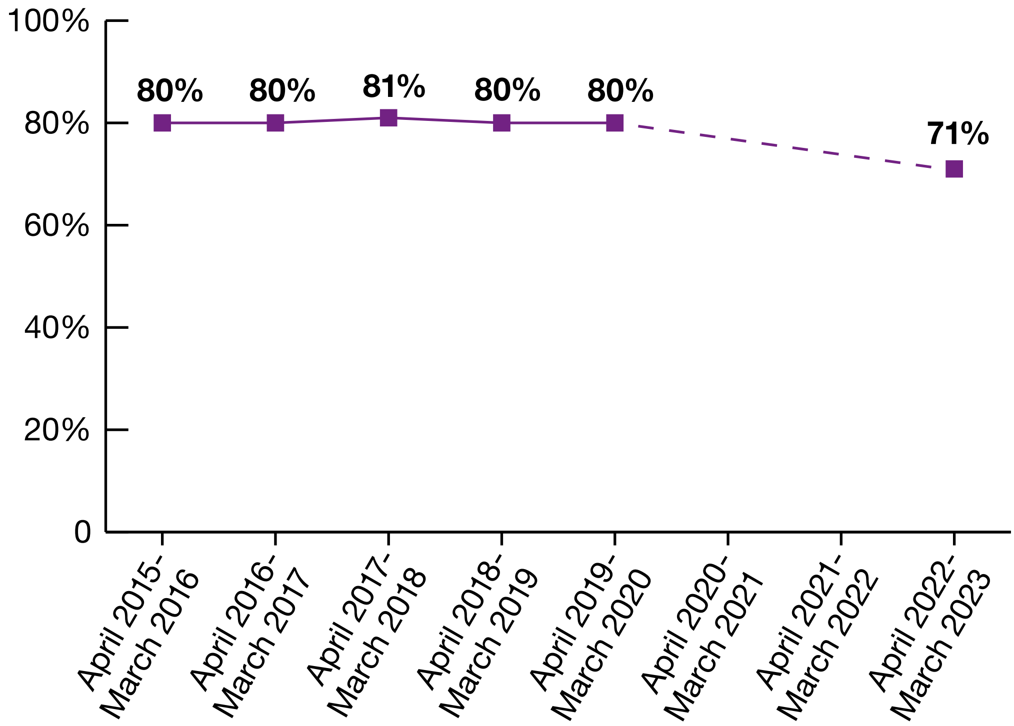
The total police workforce size, which includes police officers, police staff, designated officers and Police Community Support Officers in England and Wales, was 234,438 FTE in September 2023, which is an increase of 3% on the previous year.

Source: Police workforce, England and Wales: 30 September 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[21]

Data frequency: Bi-annual

21 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-england-and-wales-30-september-2023

Percentage agreeing that police in the local area can be trusted*



Purpose:

This metric measures the percentage of people who reported that they felt the police can be trusted, according to the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Performance:

From year ending March 2016 to year ending March 2023, the percentage of those who reported that the police can be trusted has decreased from 80% to 71%.

Public trust and confidence in the police is a complex topic with many different factors influencing trends at any one time. Events since the 2019-20 CSEW data collection, including COVID-19 and several high-profile cases of police misconduct, are likely to have played a part.

Source: Crime in England and Wales: Annual supplementary tables - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[22]

Data frequency: Annual

* Due to the suspension of the CSEW during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no available data for the year ending March 2021 and the year ending March 2022 (represented by the dotted lines).

22 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesannualsupplementarytables

Serious and organised crime (SOC)

In December 2023, the five-year SOC Strategy was published. This strategy responds to the growing threat from SOC and takes into account how this area of crime is likely to change in the future. Our mission is to reduce SOC in the UK, using the full reach and power of our intelligence and law enforcement agencies in partnership with the private sector and communities.

We will do that by disrupting and dismantling the organised crime groups operating in and against the UK. We aim to achieve this through an end-to-end response with five lines of action:

- In-country.
- UK border.
- International.
- Technology and capabilities.
- Multi-agency response.

We are now focused on the implementation of the strategy, building on existing work to date.

Major events, public emergencies and civil contingencies, international criminality, and Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme

For major events, we ensured that the Department, including its operational partners, responded effectively and with co-ordination in the delivery of major events of national significance, such as the Coronation of King Charles III in May 2023.

For public emergencies and civil contingencies, we worked with police forces to provide a single coherent information picture, ensuring situational awareness across and enabling the department to support operational partners where needed.

On fire policy, we have sought to strengthen fire and rescue services in England through the Fire Reform White Paper and delivered changes to fire safety legislation to address the recommendations and learning from Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1.

On international criminality, we focused efforts on international law enforcement and criminal justice co-operation with the aim to disrupt organised crime groups, tackle enablers and protect vulnerable communities by working with and influencing partners like INTERPOL, Europol and Eurojust.

Our Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme is creating the Emergency Services Network (ESN) to replace the Airwave system currently used by Britain’s emergency services. The Public Accounts Committee and the National Audit Office have reviewed the programme and highlighted a number of risks to its successful delivery. Home Office has accepted their recommendations to strengthen the programme’s work.

Strengthening homeland security

What we set out to achieve

The Home Office plays a fundamental role in promoting and protecting the sovereignty, security, and prosperity of the UK. We are the lead government department responsible for protecting the nation from the greatest threats we face to our homeland security, covering the full range of threat types and threat actors, including state-based, state-linked proxies, economic criminals and terrorists.

This year we set out to:

- Reduce the risk to the UK and its citizens and interests overseas from terrorism through the Cross-Government Counter-Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST.
- Reduce the risks from overt and covert actions (falling short of armed conflict) undertaken by foreign states that threaten our security, interests, prosperity, and values.
- Strengthen our response to economic crime, bringing together government, law enforcement, and the private sector in cooperation to deliver a whole system response.
- Reduce the risks from cyber crime, strengthening the government's toolkit, capability, and processes for detecting, disrupting, and deterring cyber crime and threats.
- Ensure the investigatory powers regime remains effective and properly safeguarded.

What we delivered

The external threat environment in 2023-24 was challenging and we have dedicated resource to managing the domestic impacts of regional conflicts throughout. Despite this, we have delivered strategies that set the direction for delivery across government, including CONTEST 2023, Economic Crime Plan 2, and the Fraud Strategy, and we have led the domestic response to state threats.

The UK counter terrorism system is mature and has proved agile in responding to the emerging challenges and radicalising impact of the conflict between Israel and Hamas. We are applying best practice to radically shift our level of response across the wider range of threats we face. Efforts have been made to deliver reform following the Independent Review of Prevent, with 30 of the 34 recommendations completed in full and 115 of the 120 sub-actions within a year of its publication; supported delivery of the Online Safety Act 2023 to ensure companies take effective action against illegal content relating to terrorism, child sexual exploitation and abuse, and fraud; and invested in our capabilities and our Counter Terrorism Operations Centre, which is now online and will be fully operational by 2025.

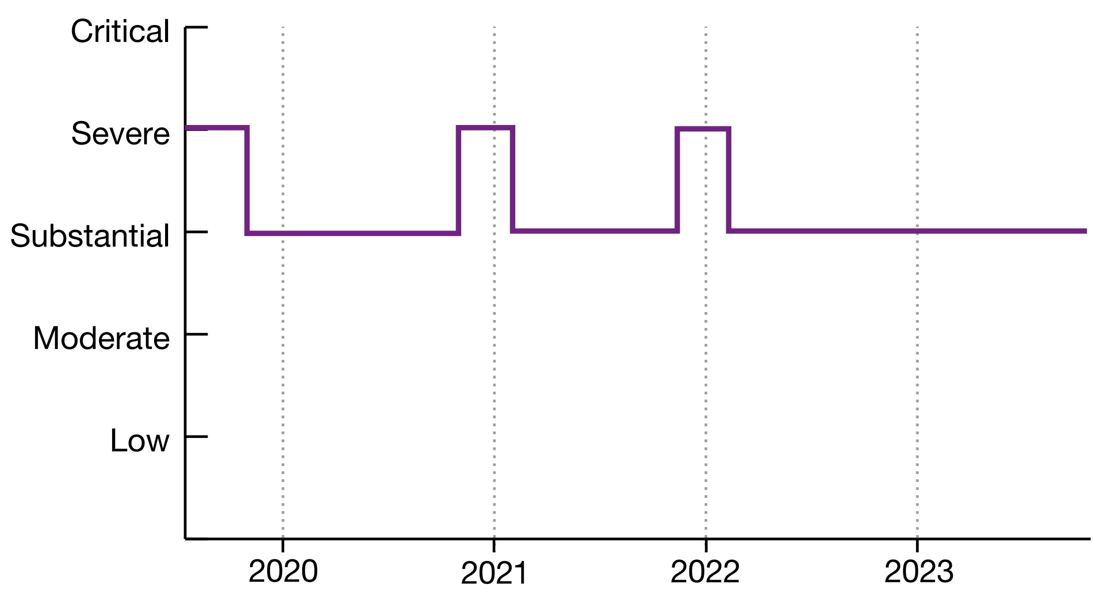
We have delivered an overhaul of our espionage legislation with the National Security Act 2023. This brings together new measures to protect the British public and endeavours to make the UK the hardest operating environment for malign activity undertaken by foreign actors. We have taken action against Putin's proxies, proscribing the Wagner Group under the Terrorism Act 2000 to send a clear message that the UK will not tolerate their barbaric actions in Ukraine nor their campaign of corruption and bloodshed on the African continent.

We saw a reduction of 13% in fraud compared to 2019 that meets the 10% target a year early, set by our Fraud Strategy. In February 2024, we launched our National Fraud Campaign, 'Stop! Think Fraud', whose anti-fraud messaging is backed by organisations across law enforcement, tech, banking, telecoms and the third sector to help raise public awareness on fraud safety advice. We delivered the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 to bear down further on kleptocrats, criminals and terrorists who abuse our financial system, aiming to strengthen the UK's reputation as a place where legitimate business can thrive, whilst driving dirty money out of the UK.

At the Global Fraud Summit, we established agreements to protect the public from fraud, in collaboration with major technology companies on the Online Fraud Charter. Additionally, we negotiated the international government statement against ransomware payments, with 46 countries and INTERPOL endorsing the UK statement through the White House-led Counter Ransomware Initiative.

UK Threat level and Prevent (anti-radicalisation programme) referrals

UK Threat Level has not changed from SUBSTANTIAL



Purpose:

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack.

Performance:

The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism is SUBSTANTIAL and has remained at this level since February 2022. The Northern Ireland Threat Level was set to SUBSTANTIAL in March 2024, returning to this level for the first time since March 2023.

In July 2019 changes were made to the terrorism threat level system to reflect the threat posed by all forms of terrorism, irrespective of ideology.

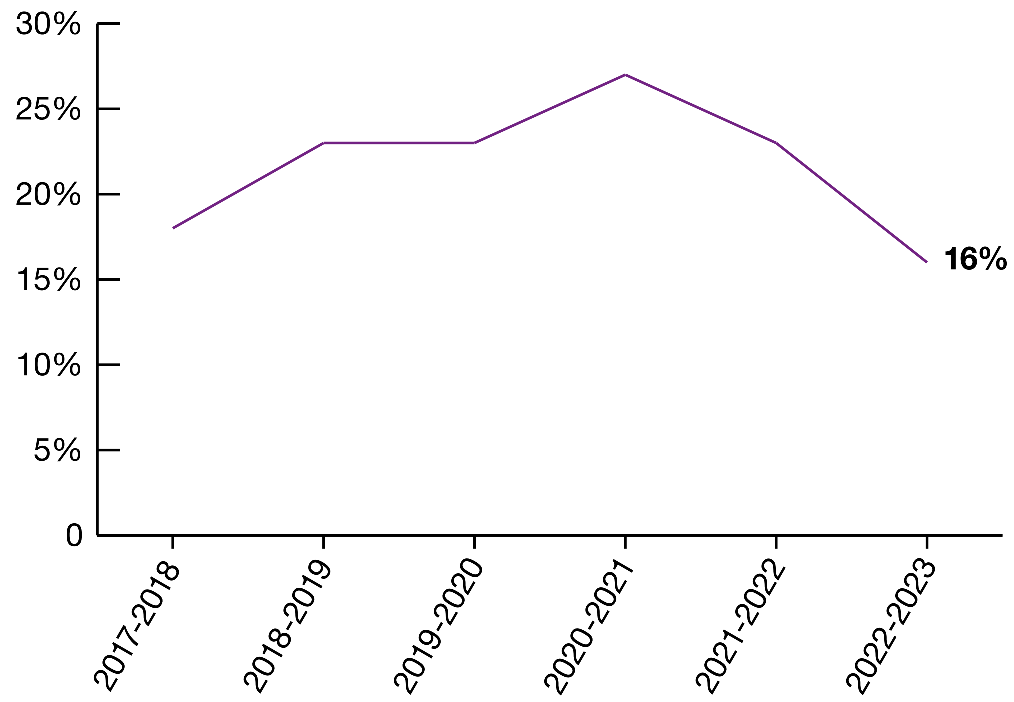
The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) analyses and assesses all information relating to international terrorism at home and overseas. It is responsible for setting the threat level for the UK (including Islamist terrorism, Extreme Right-Wing terrorism, Left and Single Issue terrorism, and Northern Ireland related terrorism in Great Britain). MI5 set the threat level for Northern Ireland related terrorism in Northern Ireland.

Source: Threat Levels | MI5 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[23]

Data frequency: Threat levels do not have any set expiry date but are regularly subject to review.

23 https://www.mi5.gov.uk/threat-levels

Percentage of Prevent (anti-radicalisation) referrals discussed at a Channel panel



Purpose:

Individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent programme due to concerns they were susceptible to a risk of radicalisation. Following initial screening and assessment, referrals may be passed to a multi-agency 'Channel panel', where a risk of radicalisation exists. Chaired by local authorities, these panels determine the extent of an individual's susceptibility to radicalisation and whether a tailored package of support is necessary and proportionate to address them.

Performance:

In the year ending March 2023, 16% of referrals to Prevent were considered for Channel support - representing a 7 percentage point decrease compared to the year ending March 2022.

Of the 6,817 referrals to Prevent in the year ending March 2023, 82% (5,557) were deemed not suitable for Channel consideration and exited the process prior to a Channel panel discussion. Of these, the majority were signposted to other services (4,385, 79%), 16% (1,113) were considered for Channel support, and 9% (645) were adopted as a Channel case, falling below 10% for the first time since 2018-19.

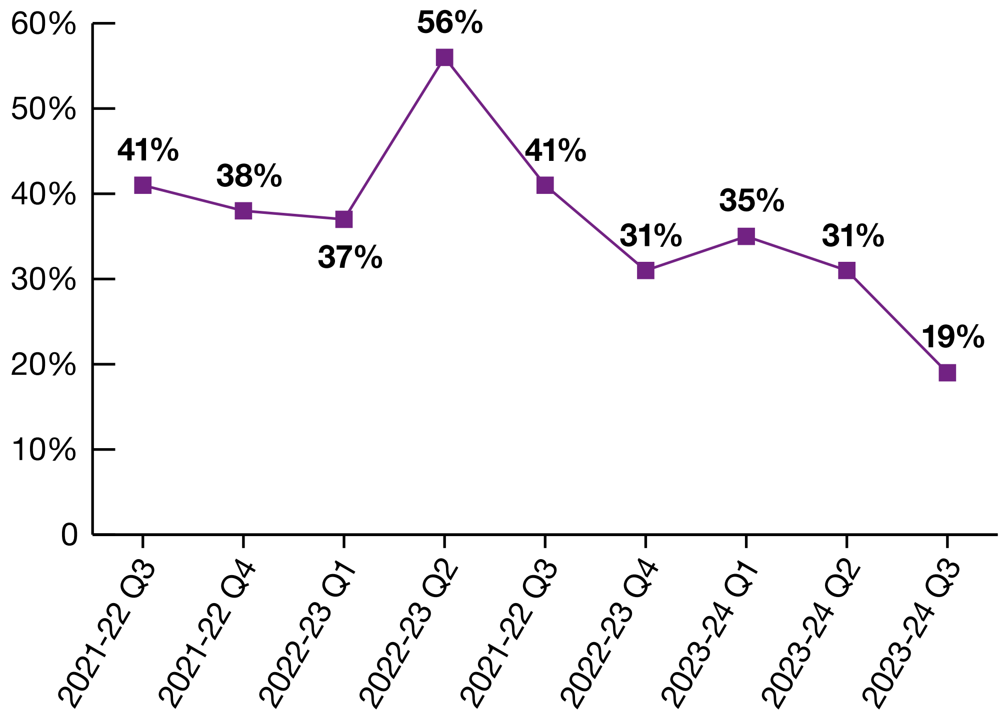
Source: Individuals referred to Prevent: to March 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[24]

Data frequency: Annual

24 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/individuals-referred-to-prevent

Terrorism arrests – charges and convictions

Percentage of terrorism related arrests resulting in a charge (Great Britain)



Purpose:

To show the percentage of terrorism-related arrests that result in a charge. An arrest is considered to be terrorism-related when, at the time of arrest or during the course of the subsequent investigation, a police officer suspects a person of being involved with terrorism. Terrorism-related arrests can result in charges for any criminal offence, not just those covered by terrorism legislation.

Performance:

There were more terrorism-related arrests in Q3 2023-24 compared to the previous quarter, increasing from 51 to 73 arrests. There was a 31% increase in terrorism-related arrests in the year ending December 2023 compared to the year ending December 2022 (219 arrests compared to 167).

For all charges following a terrorism-related arrest (both those under terrorism legislation and those under non-terrorism legislation), the arrest-to-charge rate decreased from 31% in Q2 2023-24 to 19% in Q3 2023-24. Year-on-year, the arrest-to-charge rate for the year ending December 2023 was down 15 percentage points to 28% (compared to 43% in the year ending December 2022).

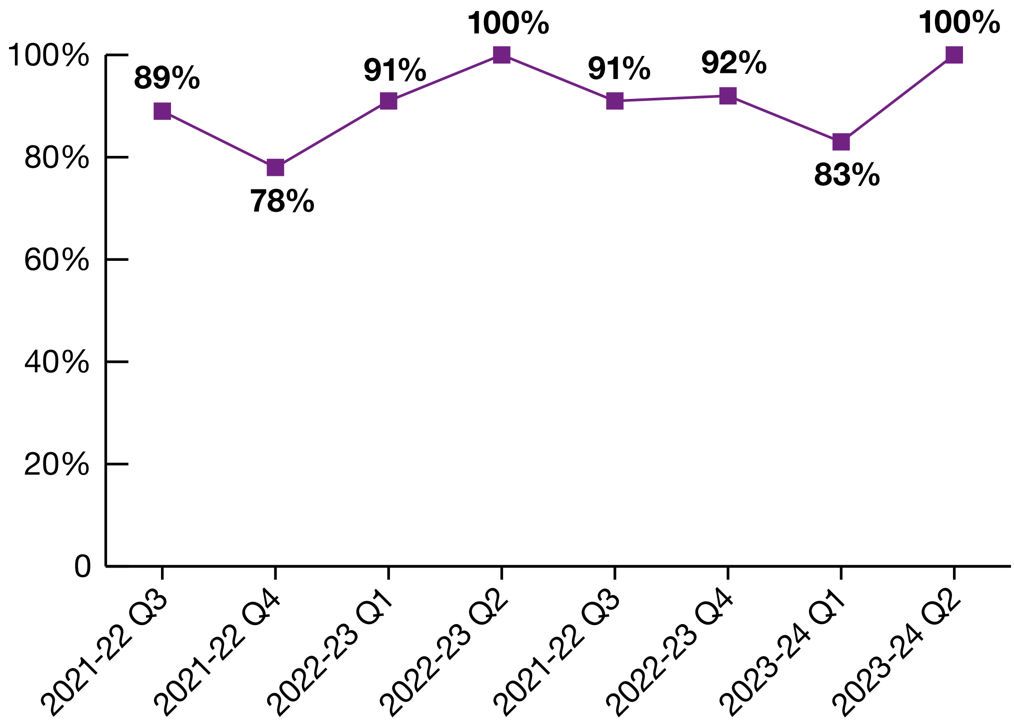
Note: When reporting this data on charges, it is important to recognise the caveat that there is a potential lag period between an arrest and charge. An individual may not be charged in the same quarter that they are arrested. Therefore, charges rates for the most recent quarters may increase in future releases.

Source: Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[25]

Data frequency: Quarterly

25 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/operation-of-police-powers-under-tact-2000-to-december-2023

Percentage of those prosecuted for terrorism related offences that were convicted (England and Wales)



Purpose:

To show the percentage of those prosecuted for terrorism-related offences that were convicted. Not all charges for terrorism-related offences result in convictions for terrorism-related offences. In some instances, a person arrested for a terrorism-related offence may be charged for a non-terrorism-related offence. All resultant convictions (whether terrorism-related or non-terrorism-related) are presented in the data.

Performance:

23 individuals were convicted of terrorism-related offences in England and Wales during the latest reported quarter (Q3 2023-24), compared to 11 in the previous quarter. There was an increase of 20%, from 51 in the year ending December 2022 to 61 in the year ending December 2023.

Relative to the previous quarter, the conviction ratio of persons prosecuted for terrorism-related offences remained at 100% (23 of 23) in Q3 2023-24. There was a 6% increase when comparing the year ending December 2022 and year ending December 2023, from 88% to 94%.

Note: When reporting this data on convictions, it is important to recognise this caveat that there is a potential lag period between prosecution and conviction. An individual may not be convicted in the same quarter that they are prosecuted.

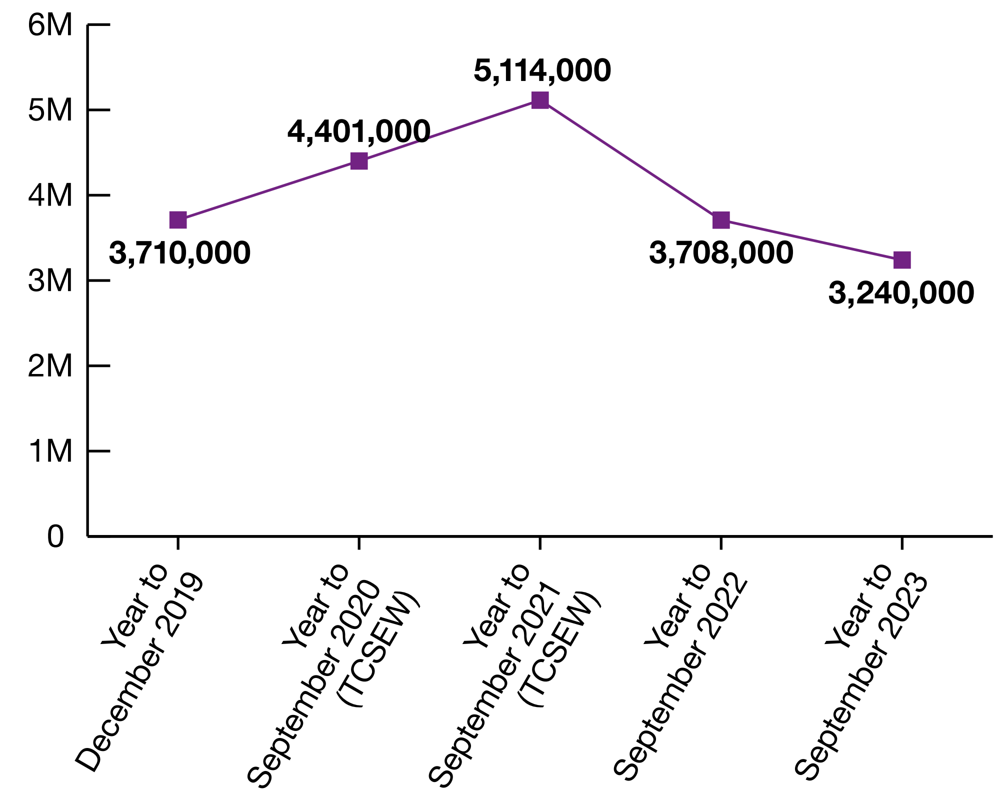
Source: Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[26]

Data frequency: Quarterly

26 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/operation-of-police-powers-under-tact-2000-to-december-2023

Economic crime

Number of incidents of fraud against individuals



Purpose:

To show the estimated total number of fraud incidents committed against individuals in the preceding 12 months, sourced from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), which offers insights into the crime experienced of surveyed individuals.

Performance:

The Home Office is on track to achieve its commitment in the Fraud Strategy to deliver a 10% reduction in fraud. According to the CSEW, fraud accounts for 38% of all estimated crime in England and Wales.

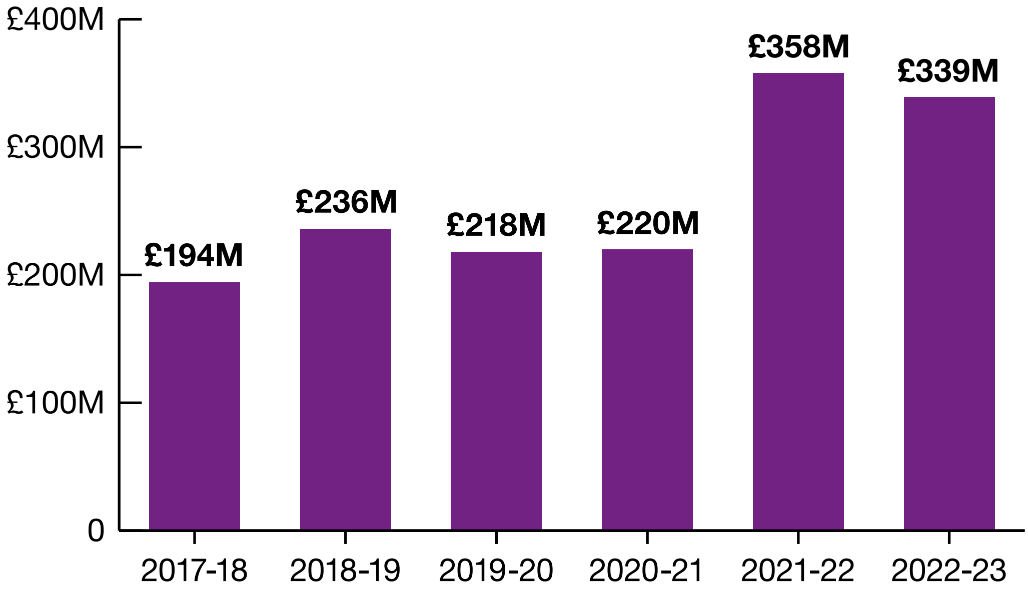
The latest CSEW data available showed that 3.2 million instances of fraud were committed in the year ending September 2023, which is a 13% reduction on the year ending December 2019 baseline.

Source: ONS (Crime in England and Wales) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[27]

Data frequency: Quarterly

27 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesotherrelatedtables

Value of proceeds of crime recovered in England and Wales and Northern Ireland



Purpose:

To show the total proceeds of crime recovered from Confiscation Orders, Forfeiture Orders and Civil Recovery Order Receipts over the previous six financial years.

Performance:

£339.1 million of assets were recovered from Confiscation, Forfeiture, and Civil Recovery Orders in the financial year 2022-23. This is a fall of 5% compared to financial year 2021-22, which was the highest year on record for proceeds of crime recovered, but reflects the overall rising trend in asset recovery over the last six years.

Of the £339.1 million recovered in 2022 to 2023, £179 million was recovered through Confiscation Order Receipts, £97.2 million was recovered through Forfeiture Order Receipts and £62.9 million was recovered through Civil Recovery Order Receipts.

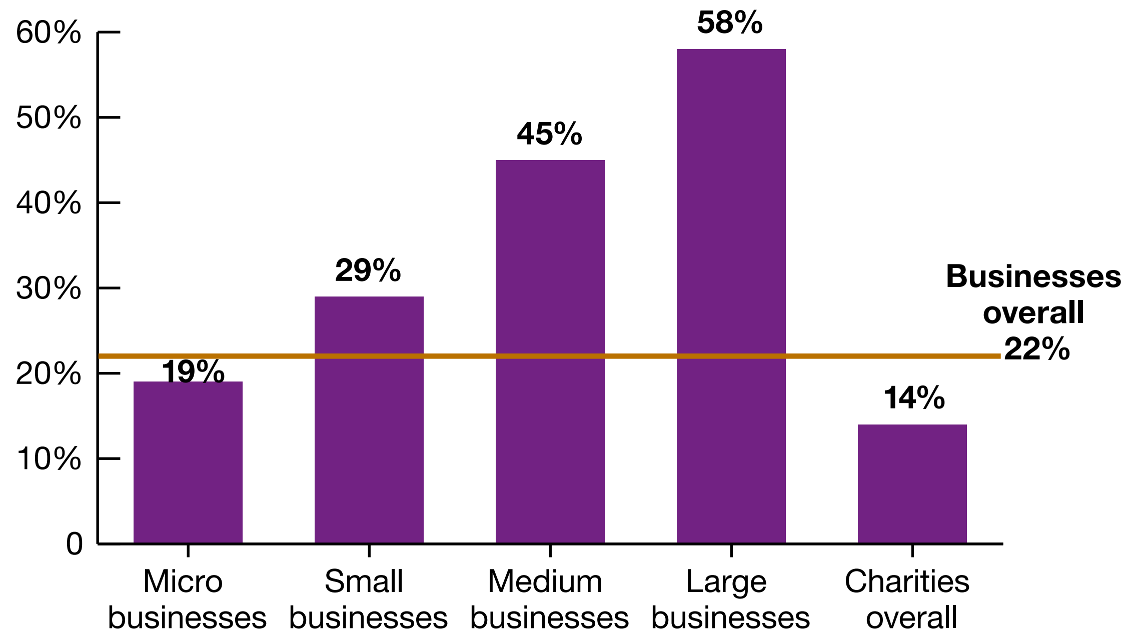
Source: Asset Recovery Statistical Bulletin - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[28]

Data frequency: Annual

28 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/asset-recovery-statistical-bulletin-financial-years-ending-2018-to-2023

Cyber crime

Percentage of organisations that have experienced any cyber crime in the last 12 months



Purpose:

This metric estimates the percentage of UK organisations that have experienced any cyber crime in the last 12 months, using the Cyber Security Breaches Survey (CSBS). In each publication year, the quantitative fieldwork has taken place in the winter of the preceding year.

Performance:

In the UK it is estimated that 22% of businesses and 14% of charities have been a victim of cyber crime in the last 12 months. This accounts for approximately 312,000 businesses and 27,000 registered charities.

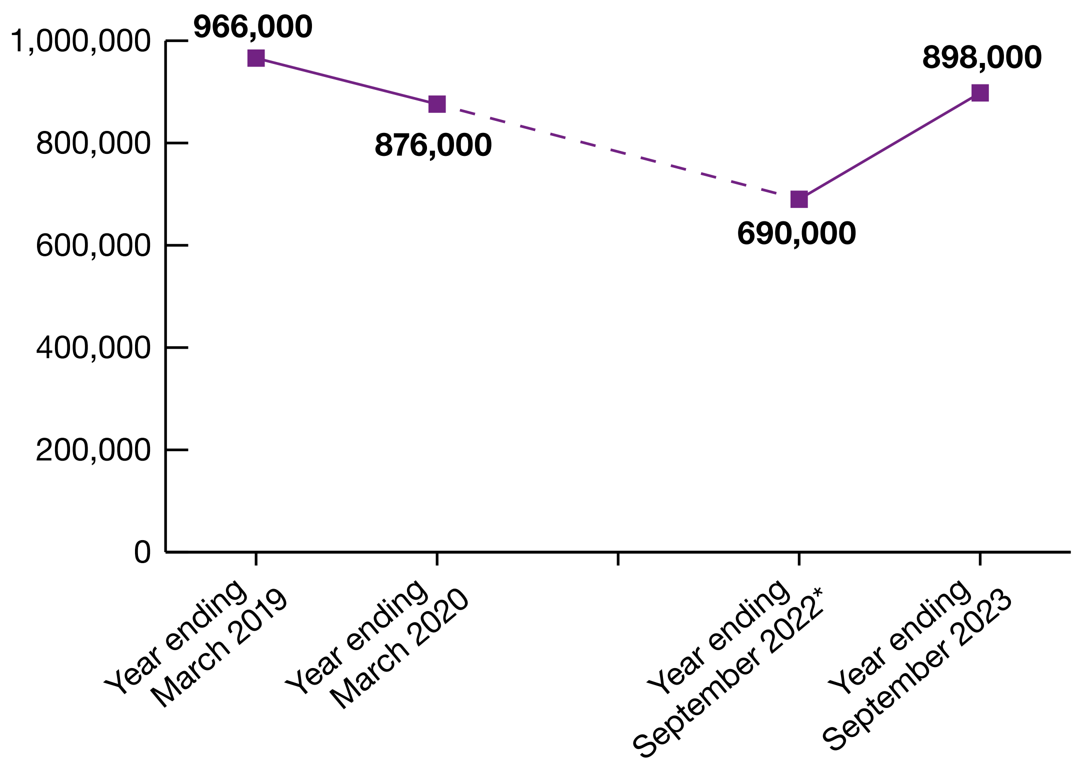
Only two years of estimates of cyber crime against organisations are available for the CSBS. Comparisons to the previous year cannot be made, due to the methodology updates to the 2024 CSBS.

Source: Cyber security breaches survey 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[29]

Data frequency: Annual

29 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/cyber-security-breaches-survey-2024/cyber-security-breaches-survey-2024

Number of incidents of computer misuse (Crime Survey for England & Wales)*



Purpose:

This metric estimates the total number of computer misuse offences against adults in England and Wales using a nationally representative sample from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW).

Performance:

Estimates from the CSEW, for the year ending September 2023, showed that there were approximately 898,000 offences of computer misuse. This represented a significant 30% increase compared to the previous year ending September 2022 (estimated 690,000 offences). This was similar to the pre-pandemic year ending March 2020 estimates (876,000 offences).

Whilst the findings in the CSEW are not directly comparable with the Cyber Security Breaches Survey, they provide a broader context from which to consider the scale of cyber crime in organisations.

Source: Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[30]

Data frequency: Quarterly

* The trend is disrupted between the year ending March 2020 and year ending September 2022 due to Telephone-operated Crime Survey for England and Wales computer misuse estimates being known to be overestimates. For more information see the update to comparability report.[31]

30 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/latest#computer-misuse

31 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/updatetocomparabilitybetweenthetelephoneoperatedcrimesurveyforenglandandwalesandthefacetofacecrimesurveyforenglandandwales/2022-10-27

Legal migration and the border

What we set out to achieve

The Home Office is committed to creating a world-leading border that facilitates legitimate migration and goods flow, attracts talent, contributing to a safe and prosperous UK as outlined in the 2025 UK Border Strategy.[32]

The Department was focused on the following in 2023-24:

- Facilitating routes for non-British nationals to live, work and study in the UK by processing visa applications within service standards, maintaining UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) applicant satisfaction and facilitating sponsorship applications and license applications.
- Facilitating routes for non-British nationals to visit the UK by processing visa applications within service standards.
- Facilitating passengers crossing the border within service standards and the smooth movement of legitimate goods and protecting the UK from harm by seizing dangerous and illicit goods and protecting revenue loss.
- Rolling out a range of new legal migration measures to reduce overall levels of net migration (for example by restricting student dependants) and tackle abuse in the system, for example via the care worker route.

32 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2025-uk-border-strategy

What we delivered

The Home Office met its objectives throughout 2023-24 whilst navigating challenges with resilience and adaptability.

The Home Office faced industrial action and recruitment challenges early in the year, but managed to restore customer service standards for visa services, leading to a reduction in complaints and an improvement in satisfaction levels.

Over the course of the year, the Department experienced heightened demand across various visa categories, including visit, work, and study visas, although overall performance remained robust. Customer service standards were upheld across all main routes ensuring positive performance throughout the year amidst increasing passenger volumes.

In 2023, while operating close to pre-pandemic summer demand levels, Border Force met its performance targets with 95% of passengers crossing the border within the service level agreement standard. eGate trials for 10 and 11-year-olds were completed which further improved efficiency and security measures.

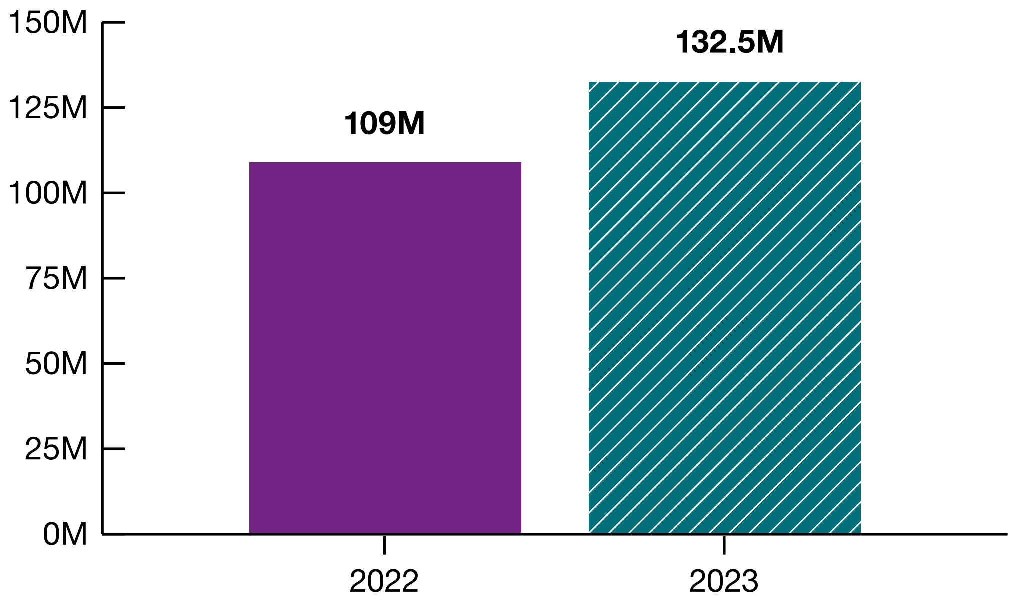
Towards the end of the year, the Department managed the operational pressures on sponsorship pre-license visas, delivering continued positive performance.

In 2023, Border Force improved revenue protection efforts, by preventing £527 million in revenue loss on alcohol and tobacco products, a 14% increase from 2022.

The Future Border and Immigration System (FBIS) Programme continued to deliver against plans, ensuring ongoing transformation initiatives remained on track. This includes opening the Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme to nationals of Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Arrivals and wait times

Passenger arrivals (outside of common travel area)



Purpose:

This metric compares the number of passenger arrivals into the UK from outside of the Common Travel Area.

Performance:

There were approximately 132.5 million passenger arrivals from outside the Common Travel Area in 2023 (including foreign tourists and returning UK residents).

This was c.22% more than 2022 (109 million), which reflects an increase in global travel after restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic were removed in early 2022. However, numbers remain c.9% lower than in 2019, before the pandemic.

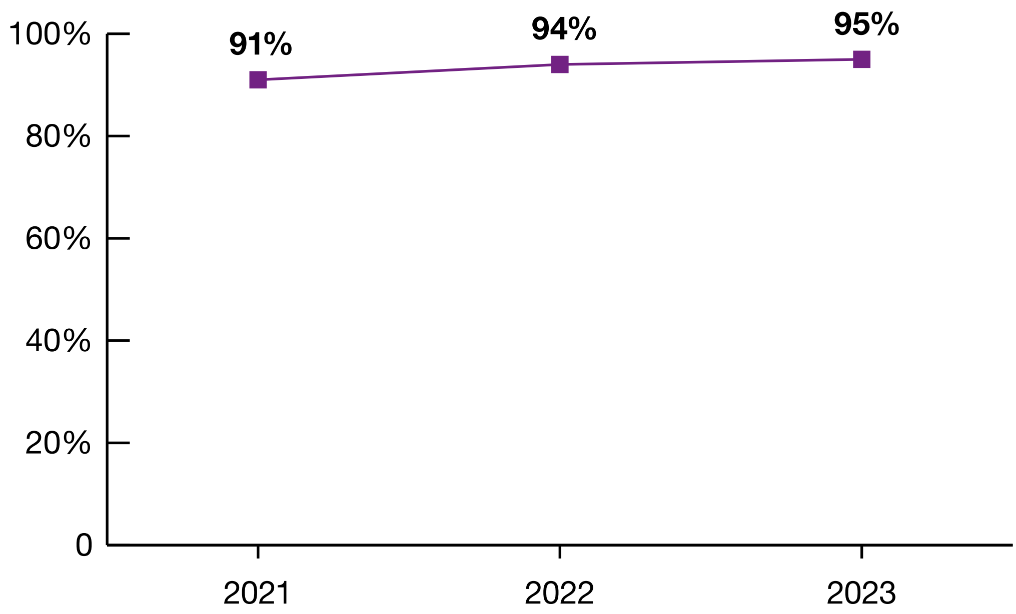
Passenger arrival data includes all arrivals at the UK border through legal routes. Many of those arrivals (such as British nationals, non-visa nationals coming to visit, and persons with indefinite leave to remain) do not require prior permission (such as a visa) to enter the UK. Others will require permission to enter, such as a visa or Electronic Travel Authorisation.

Source: Passenger Arrivals admissions, Dec 2023 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[33]

Release schedule: Quarterly

33 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#passenger-arrivals-admissions

Passenger wait times



Purpose:

This key performance indicator is used to assess the efficiency of Border Force Operations concerning passenger wait times, showing the percentage of passengers crossing the border within service standards, set at 95%.*

Performance:

In 2023, Border Force performance improved over that of 2022, successfully meeting the established service standards. Overall, the data indicates stable performance throughout 2023; however, Q4 saw a notable increase to 97%, surpassing the performance of the same period in 2022.

Source: Border Force transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[34]

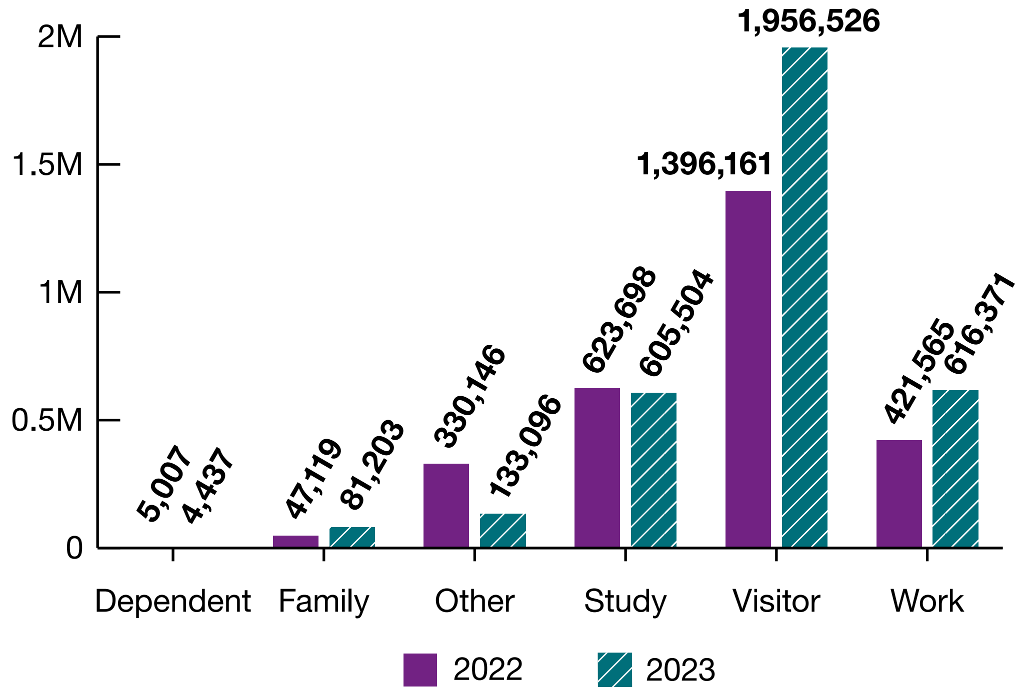
Release schedule: Quarterly

* Service standards are: 95% of European Economic Area (EEA) passengers, from the point they join an immigration queue, to be seen by an officer or arrive at an automatic passport gate within 25 minutes; and 95% non-EEA passengers within 45 minutes.

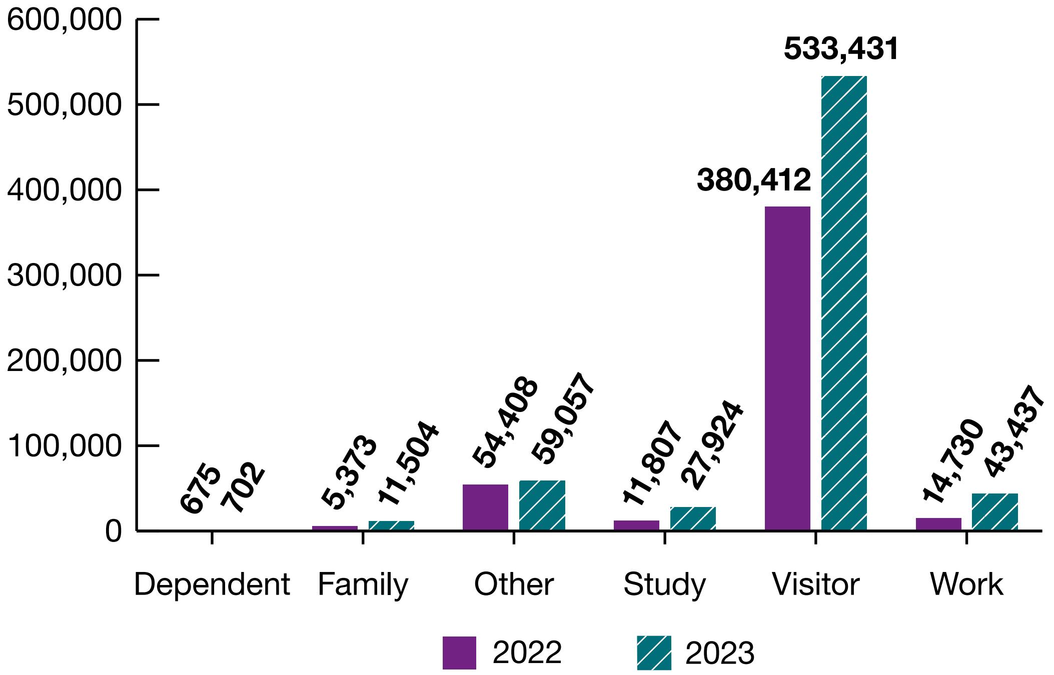
34 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/border-force-transparency-data-q4-2023

Entry clearances visa applications issued, refused, lapsed, withdrawn, by visa type

Issued (Grants)[35]

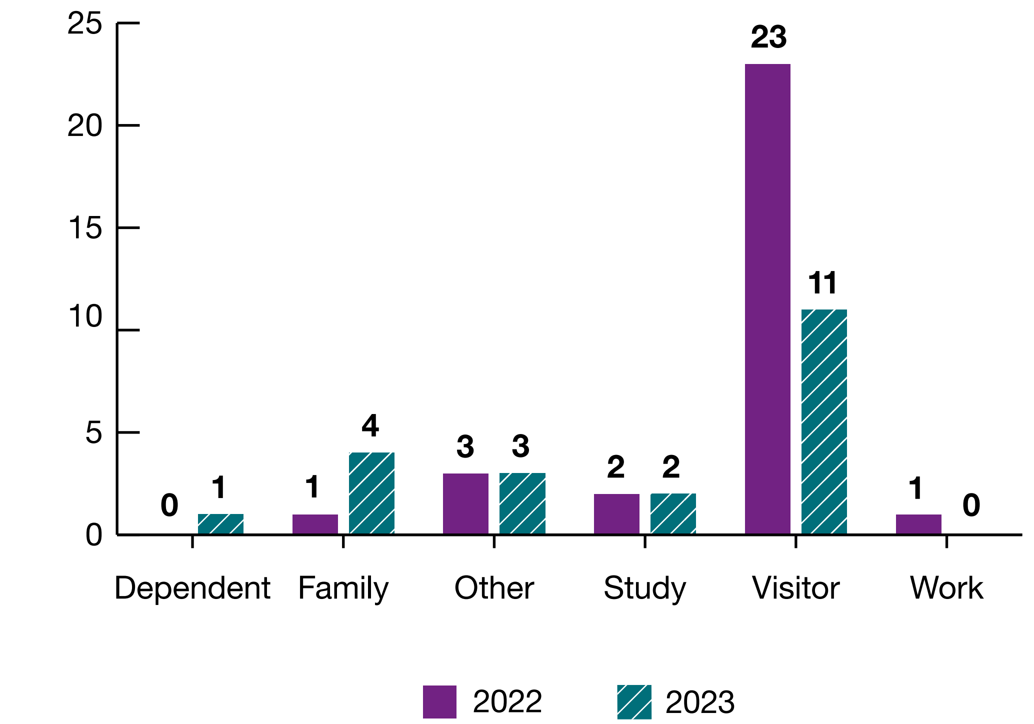


Refused[35]

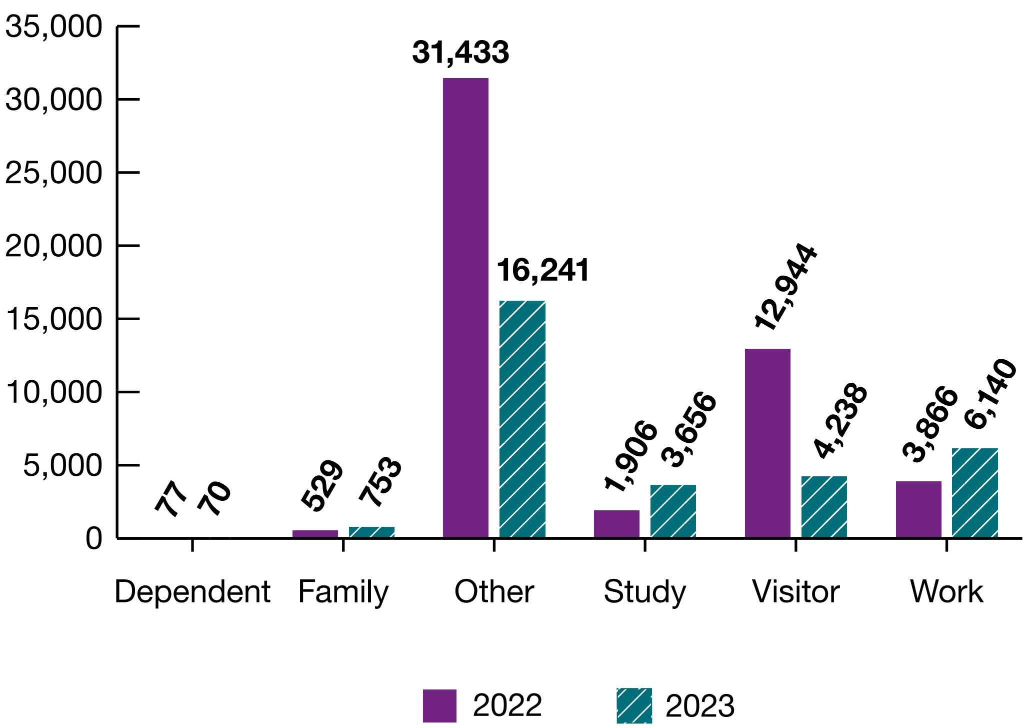


35 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#entry-clearance-visas-granted-outside-the-uk

Lapsed



Withdrawn



Purpose:

This key performance indicator shows outcomes of entry clearance visa applications categorised by type of visa. This entails monitoring the number of entry clearance visas issued, refused, lapsed, and withdrawn across different visa categories.

Performance:

We saw a bounce back in applications for 2023, after two years of suppressed intake over the pandemic. We saw increases across most routes, but most notably in visitor visas due to 560,000 additional visitor visas granted in 2023. The grant rate for visitor visas was 78% in 2023, the same as the grant rate in 2022. Grant rates across other entry clearance routes stayed broadly the same.

In 2023, there were 3.4 million entry clearance visas granted, marking a 20% increase from 2022 and a 7% rise from pre-pandemic levels. There was a notable uptick in work and study visas granted in 2023, accounting for 36% of the total, compared to 19% in 2019.

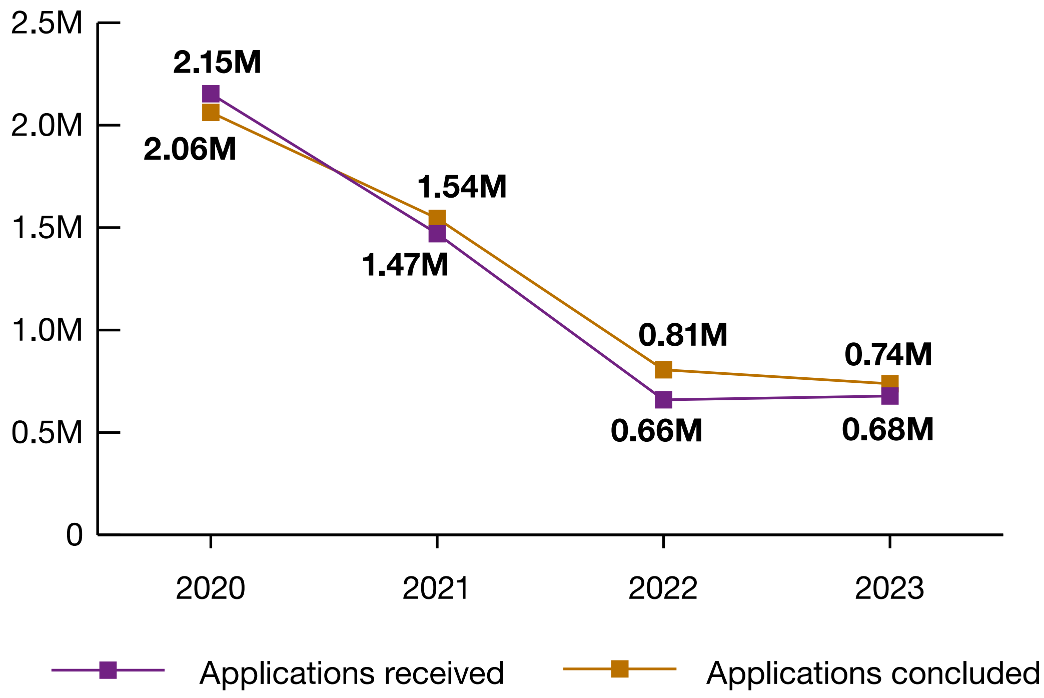
Source: Gov.uk - Entry clearance visa applications and outcomes datasets, Dec 23 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[36]

Release schedule: Quarterly

36 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#entry-clearance-visas-granted-outside-the-uk

EU Settlement Scheme

EU settlement and safe and legal routes



Purpose:

This metric is used to evaluate the number of European Union settlement scheme applications received and concluded.

Performance:

In 2023, the EU Settlement Scheme, concluded more applications (c.0.74 million) than it received (c.0.68 million). This trend has been largely consistent since 2021.

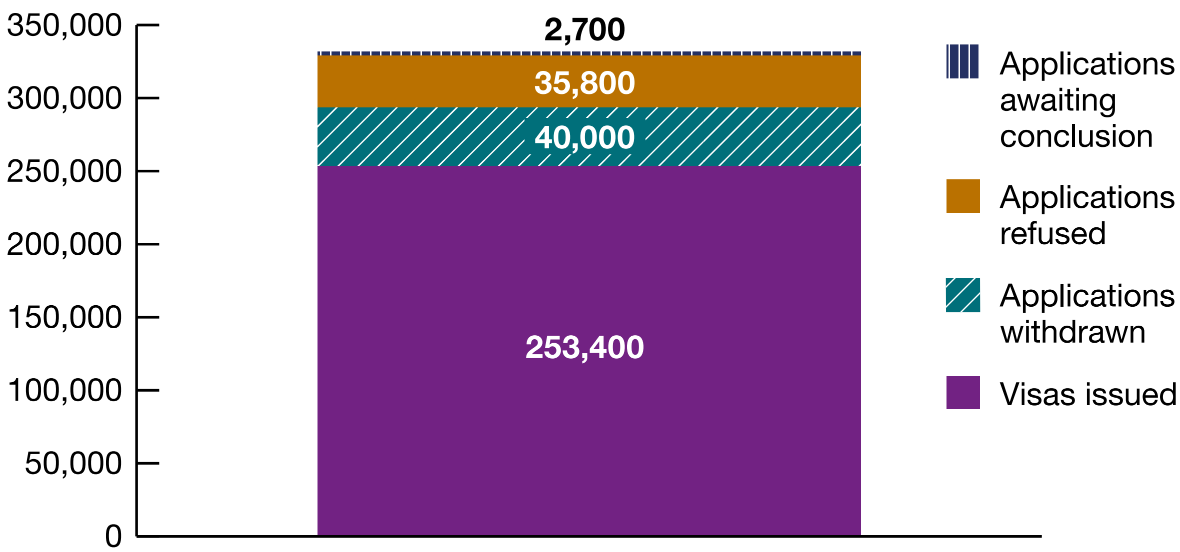
As of 31 December 2023, the EU settlement scheme received 7.7 million applications. Approximately 7.6 million applications had been concluded up to 31 December 2023 – 49% (3.7 million) were granted settled status, 37% (2.8 million) were granted pre-settled status and 14% had other outcomes (including 666,470 refused applications, 189,080 withdrawn or void applications and 198,750 invalid applications).

Source: EU Settlement Scheme, December 2023 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[37]

Release schedule: Quarterly

37 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-december-2023

Ukraine scheme



Purpose:

This metric tracks the number of applications under the Ukraine scheme from March 2022 onwards.

Performance:

The data, as of 5 March 2024, reflects a significant effort by the Home Office in implementing the Ukraine scheme, with a total of c.253,400 visas (c.76%) issued across the scheme. This includes c.72,100 Ukraine Family Scheme visas and c.181,300 Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme visas.

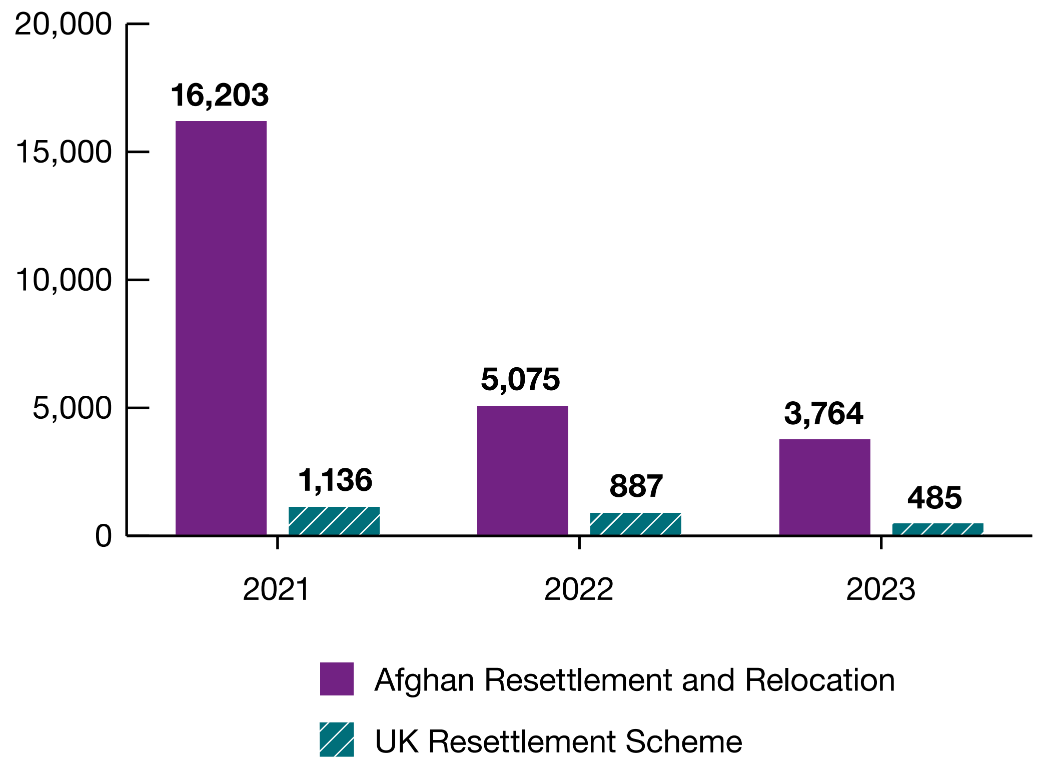
The Ukraine Family Scheme ended on 19 February 2024. The Ukraine Extension Scheme will close on 16 May 2024 but will continue for UK-born children. Over 250,000 Ukrainians have been offered refuge in the UK, with over 200,000 arriving since the launch of the scheme. The government introduced the Ukraine Permission Extension Scheme, granting existing visa holders an extra 18 months' stay, demonstrating continued support for Ukraine amidst the crisis.

Source: Ukraine Visa Data March 2024 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[38]

Release schedule: Weekly

38 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukraine-family-scheme-application-data/ukraine-family-scheme-and-ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-homes-for-ukraine-visa-data--2

People offered safe and legal routes



Purpose:

This metric tracks the number of people offered safe and legal (humanitarian) routes under Afghan and UK resettlement schemes.

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - GOV.UK - Asy_11 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[39]

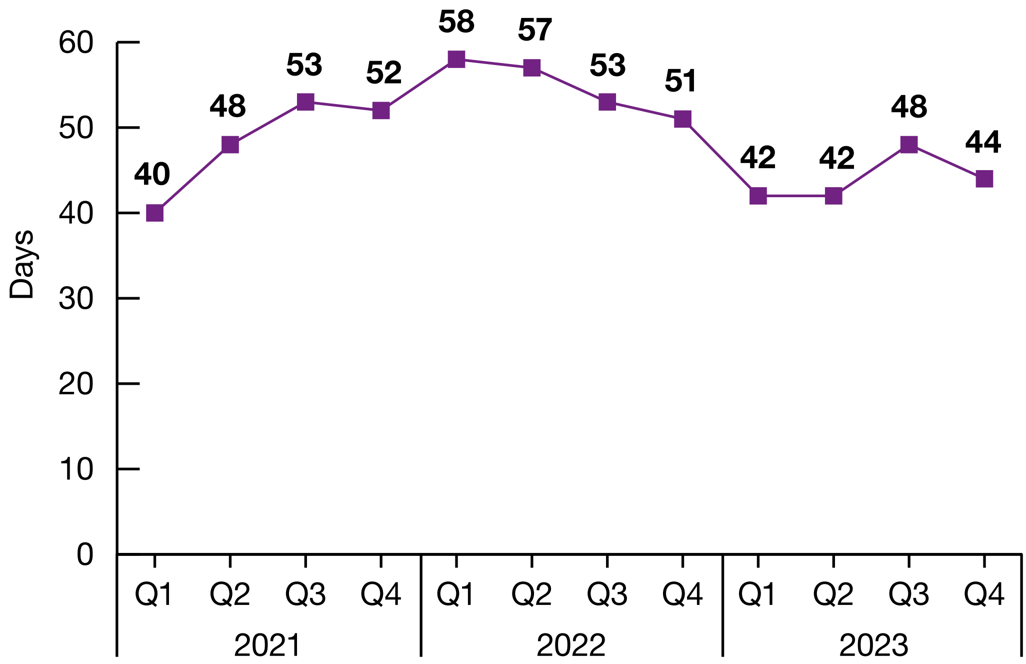
Release schedule: Quarterly

Performance:

In 2023, 3,764 Afghans were resettled and relocated in the UK, with an additional 485 people settled under the UK resettlement scheme.

39 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#asylum-and-resettlement

Application processing times



Purpose:

This key performance indicator measures the average duration, in days, required to process a sponsorship application. Home Office uses this metric to gauge its effectiveness in handling sponsorship applications and to identify ways to improve overall operational performance.

Performance:

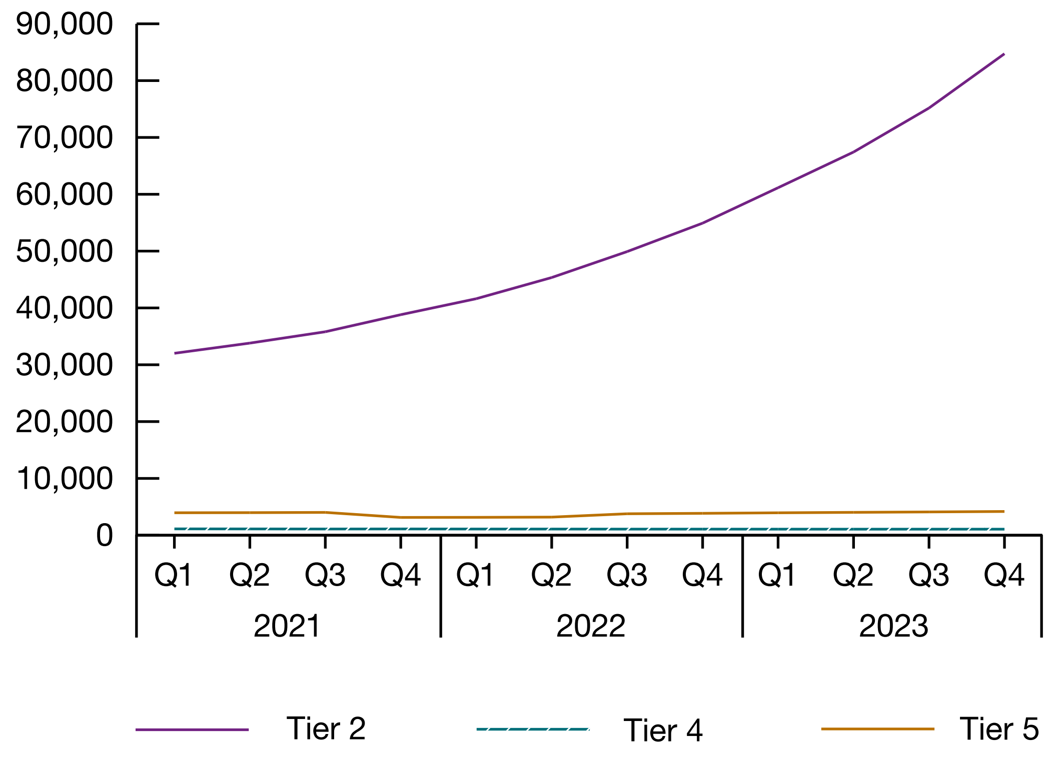
Throughout 2023, the Home Office achieved an average processing time of 44 days in the final quarter. This represents a marked improvement compared to the previous year's average of 51 days. Across all quarters of 2023 the Department maintained consistent efficiency, with an average processing time of 43 days, compared to the preceding year's average of 54 days.

Source: Sponsorship transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK, - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[40]

Release schedule: Quarterly

40 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsorship-transparency-data-q4-2023

Sponsor registrations



Purpose:

This metric covers sponsor registration within the Points Based System (PBS). By tracking the number of registered sponsors, this metric provides valuable insights into the scale and expansion of the PBS, a pivotal aspect of immigration management.

Performance:

In 2023, the Home Office observed significant growth in sponsor registrations compared to the previous year; particularly the substantial increase in Tier 2 sponsor registrations, rising from c.55,000 (Q4 2022) to c.85,000 in (Q4 in 2023). This 55% increase in Tier 2 registrations underscores the heightened engagement of sponsors with the Home Office's sponsorship processes.

In 2023, there were 457,673 sponsored study visas granted to main applicants, 5% fewer than 2022 but 70% higher than 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A total of 90% of those applying for sponsored study visas were for higher education institutions (such as universities); this sector has accounted for most of the growth in students in recent years.

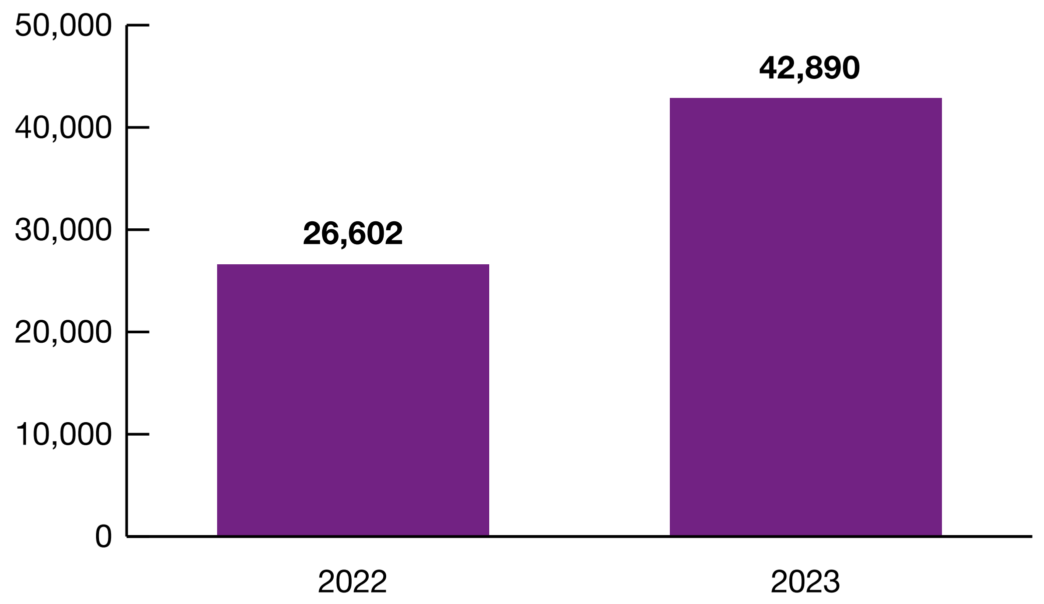
In 2023, grants of extensions into sponsored study routes for main applicants decreased by 15% to 41,359, compared with 2022 (48,857).

Source: Sponsorship transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK, - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[41]

Release schedule: Quarterly

41 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsorship-transparency-data-q4-2023

Sponsorship licensing



Purpose:

This key performance indicator shows the number of decisions made for sponsorship licensing for work and study. It also breaks down the information for granted and not granted (including both applications withdrawn and those rejected).

Performance:

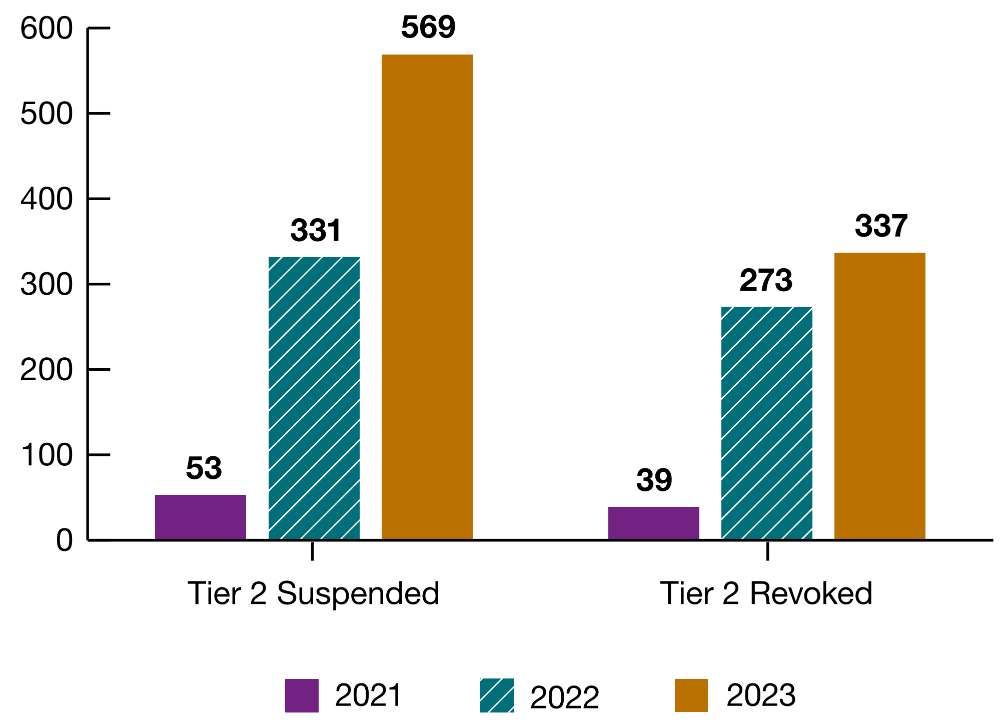
This data also shows that there were 42,890 decisions made in 2023, compared to 26,602 in 2022. Of the 42,890 decisions, 33,231 licences were granted (67% higher than the year before) and 9,659 were not granted (including both applications withdrawn and those rejected).

Source: Immigration system statistics: Dec 2023 - GOV.UK, - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[42]

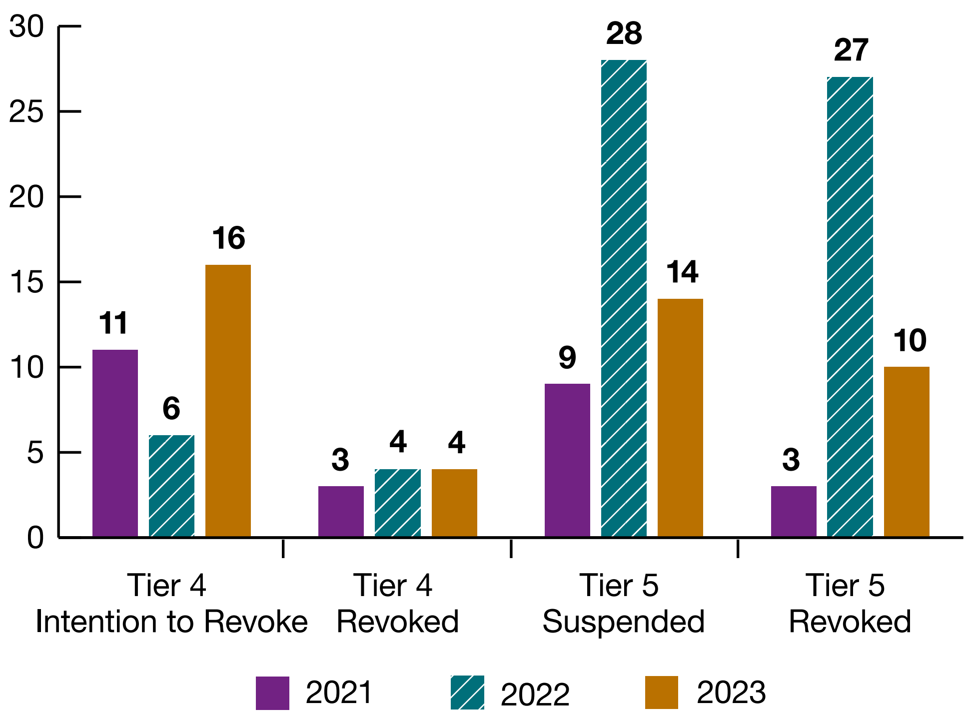
Release schedule: Quarterly

42 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-system-statistics-year-ending-december-2023/why-do-people-come-to-the-uk-to-work

Actions against sponsors[43]



Actions against sponsors



43 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsorship-transparency-data-q4-2023

Purpose:

This metric is used to quantify the frequency of actions taken by the Home Office against sponsors and aids in assessing the effectiveness of enforcement efforts, whilst also supporting transparency and accountability in maintaining the integrity of the immigration system.

Performance:

In 2023, there was an increase in Tier 2 sponsor suspensions, rising from 331 in 2022 to 569 in 2023. Similarly, Tier 2 sponsor revocations also saw an uptick, increasing from 273 in 2022 to 337 in 2023. While Tier 4 and Tier 5 experienced some fluctuations, their absolute numbers remain relatively small compared to the shifts observed in Tier 2. Total yearly actions taken against sponsors as a proportion of the total number registered at Q4 of the relevant year remained at 1.1% for Tier 2, rose from 0.9% to 1.9% for Tier 4 and fell from 1.4% to 0.6% for Tier 5 between 2022 and 2023.

At the end of 2023, there were around 86,900 organisations and institutions registered as licensed sponsors for work and study.

In 2023, there were 45,388 new sponsor applications made across all tiers. This represents an increase from the previous year, with 26,164 applications in 2022 and 17,909 in 2021. The data illustrates a consistent upward trend in new sponsor applications.

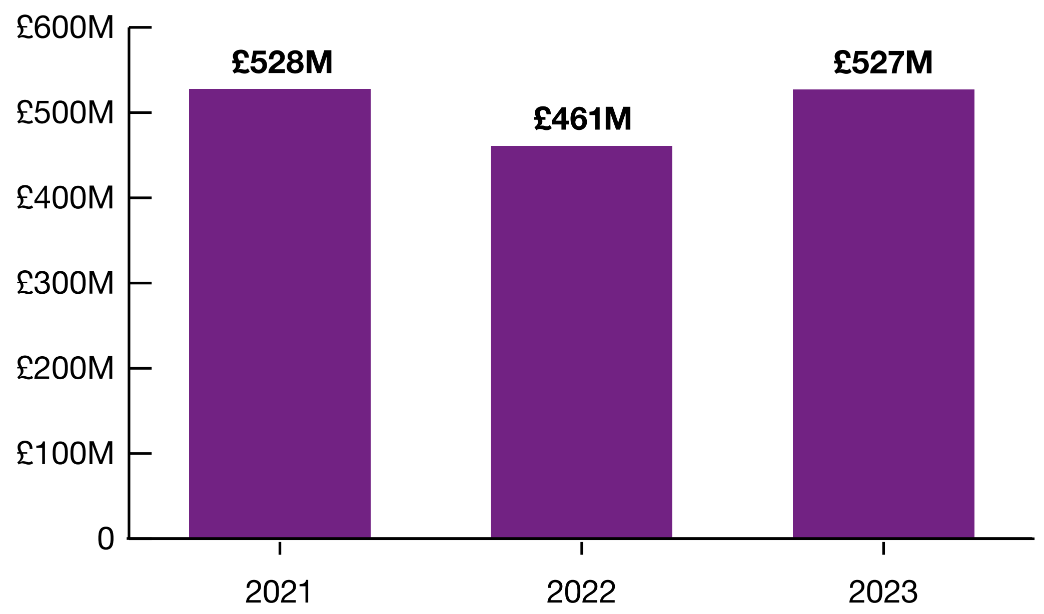
Source: Sponsorship transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK, - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[44]

Release schedule: Quarterly

44 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsorship-transparency-data-q4-2023

Revenue protection and drug seizures

Revenue loss prevented



Purpose:

This key performance indicator is used to evaluate Border Force performance in protecting tax revenue through detecting goods where excise duty has not been declared on alcohol and tobacco products.

Performance:

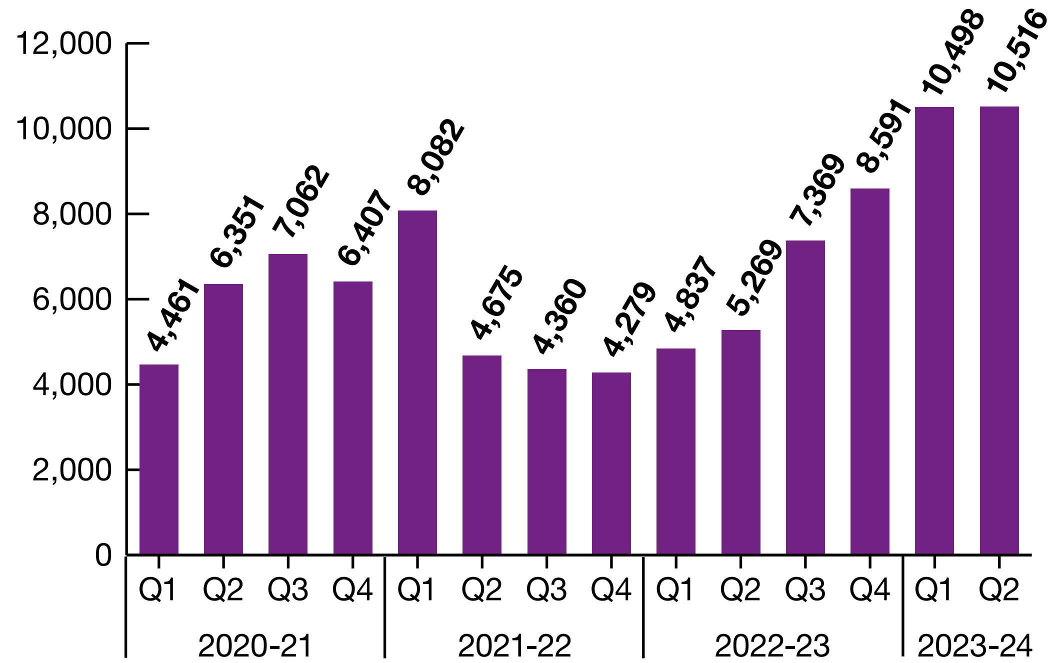
In 2023, the Border Force prevented more revenue loss compared to 2022. The total revenue protected in 2023 amounted to £527 million, marking a significant increase, approximately 14.3%, from the £461 million recorded in 2022.

Source: Border Force transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[45]

Release schedule: Quarterly

45 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/border-force-transparency-data-q4-2023

Total drug seizures



Purpose:

This metric monitors the total number of drugs seizures by Border Force. The targets are collaboratively established with His Majesty's Revenue and Customs and are not solely determined by past performance but an assessment of anticipated activity and success.

Performance:

In the first two quarters of 2023-24, Border Force made 21,014 drug seizures. This represented an increase of 108% from the 10,106 drug seizures that Border Force made in the first two quarters of the previous financial year, 2022-23.

Source: Border Force transparency data: Q4 2023 - GOV.UK - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[46]

Release schedule: Quarterly

46 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/border-force-transparency-data-q4-2023

Border 2025 strategy

The purpose of the strategy is to set out:

- Our approach to working in partnership with the border industry and users of the border to design, deliver and innovate around the border.
- A long-term target operating model (TOM) for the border.
- The major transformations to deliver by 2025 and beyond to implement the target operating model.

The Final Border Target Operating Model (August 2023) sets out a plan to realise the ambition of the 2025 Border Strategy.[47, 48]

47 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-border-target-operating-model-august-2023
48 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2025-uk-border-strategy

Tackle illegal migration, remove those with no right to be here, and protect the vulnerable

What we set out to achieve

The Home Office aims to reduce the level and impact of illegal migration to the UK.

The Department introduced new legislation designed to deter illegal migration by enabling immediate detention and subsequent removal of those who arrive unlawfully in the UK, either to their home country or to a safe third country.

We improved our capabilities to tackle illegal migration by continuing to embed our new Small Boats Operational Command with additional dedicated staff to deliver a more coordinated response to tackling crossings, bringing together military, civilian and National Crime Agency expertise to coordinate our intelligence, interception, processing, and enforcement.

We worked with partner countries to prevent irregular migration at the source and tackle organised immigration crime, including through our partnership with France. The Home Office works with the National Crime Agency to tackle organised immigration crime in Europe.

We have continued to transform the asylum system by increasing the number of asylum caseworkers, and re-engineering the end-to-end process, including reforming our modern slavery system.

We provided accommodation for individuals in need, including increasing capacity within the asylum estate through a range of new sites and increased dispersal accommodation, which reduced the Department's reliance on hotel accommodation and reduce costs.

We increased our activity to clamp down on illegal working by increasing raids on illegal working and restarting data-sharing to ensure illegal migrants cannot access bank accounts.

We changed how we process Albanian illegal migrants. With assurances from Albania that they will protect genuine victims and people at risk of re-trafficking, we focused on setting up a dedicated unit to expedite cases so that thousands of Albanians can be returned home, with weekly flights continuing until all the Albanians in our asylum backlog have been removed.

What we delivered

The Home Office increased its efforts to reduce small boat arrivals this year and continued to manage the significant operational challenges that ongoing arrivals present.

Legislatively, we built on the measures within the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 and passed the Illegal Migration Act in July 2023 with the aim of removing those who come here illegally, either to their home country or a safe third country. The Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill was then introduced in December 2023 to help address the concerns raised by the Supreme Court.

We invested resources, including 700 new staff, in the Small Boat Operational Command to tackle crossings across the English Channel. This increased focus on the operational effort on small boats and minimised the impact on other operational work areas (such as freeing up Immigration Enforcement teams who previously supported small boats work).

Over time, the average number of people in a boat has increased, leading to even more dangerous journeys, resulting in a tragic increase in loss of life. Between 2019 and 24 April 2024, there were 23 incidents in which 73 people died and at least 13 people were reported missing at sea, presumed dead, as a result of small boat crossings. Despite challenges, we maintained a 99% beach interception rate in 2023-24, meaning the vast majority of people arriving by small boats were detected.

To tackle organised immigration crime, in December 2022, we doubled the funding for Project INVIGOR to £74.1 million total for 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years. It brings together the National Crime Agency, Home Office Intelligence and UK Policing, with progress made to disrupt organised crime groups smuggling people from source countries to the beaches of northern France. This has funded a doubling of intelligence staff and a tripling of investigations staff working on OIC in the NCA and has supported increased disruptions across the small boats supply chain.

Our deal with France (10 March 2023) more than doubled the number of UK-funded personnel deployed in northern France, with over half of these in place by the end of 2023, including a permanent French mobile policing unit dedicated to tackling small boats. The UK is also funding several infrastructure projects including a new 24/7 zonal coordination centre, with permanent UK liaison officers. This package is supported by around £475 million of UK funding: approximately £120 million (€141 million) in 2023-24.

To improve our asylum system, we recruited decision makers and made changes to our processes. As a result, asylum caseworker productivity in November 2023 stood at 7.89 initial decisions per caseworker per month, more than triple the average monthly productivity in Q4 2022. This meant by the end of 2023, we had cleared the legacy backlog (those claims made before 28 June 2022), excluding a small proportion of unworkable and complex cases which continue to be assessed. Overall, over 74,000 substantive initial decisions were made in 2023, the highest annual number of substantive decisions in a year since 2002.

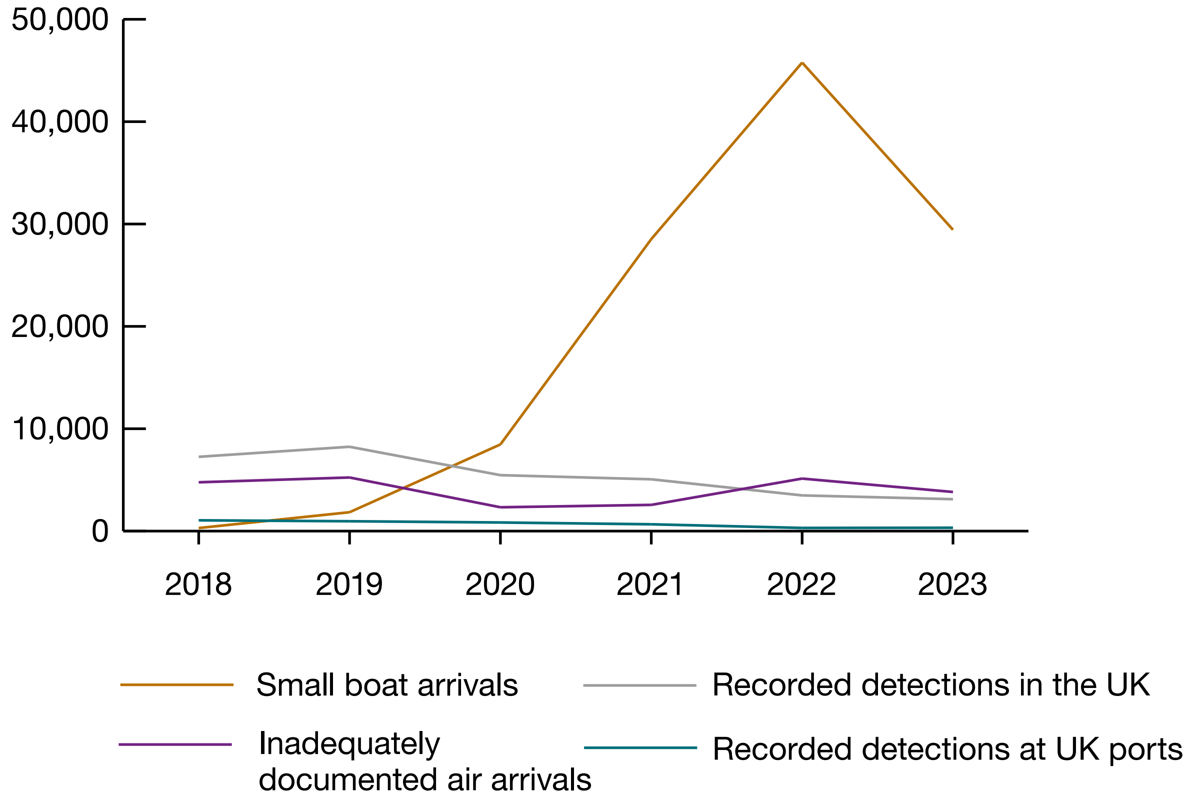
On modern slavery, the evidential threshold for a positive reasonable ground's decision was raised from the 30 January 2023, which led to a reduction in the proportion of positive decisions issued. Overall, for those issued in 2023, the proportion of positive reasonable grounds decisions made was 55%, the lowest for a year since the National Referral Mechanism began. The Home Office also reduced the reflection and recovery period from 45 to 30 days and introduced a public order disqualification. In 2023, there were 331 confirmed disqualifications, all of which were on grounds of public order.

On asylum accommodation, we continue to improve the equitable distribution of asylum seekers across local authorities and have housed 346 more asylum seekers in Dispersal Accommodation than in 2022-23. Two new large sites were opened: Weathersfield and Bibby Stockholm, and work was pursued on Scampton seeking to make it safe, legal and compliant. We have fully closed 109 hotels, and fully vacated, awaiting contract end, a further 21 hotels (as of 28 March 2024). We ended the use of hotels for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking children on 31 January 2023.

On illegal working, we achieved a 50% uplift in enforcement visits into illegal working, which resulted in 77% more civil penalties than the previous year (worth £28.4 million) and took action to ensure those here illegally cannot open bank accounts, via a new taskforce.

In returning those with no right to stay in the UK in 2023, our returns performance recovered from the disruption caused by COVID-19, with 6,393 enforced returns and 19,253 voluntary returns, an increase of 66% and 76% from 2022 respectively. We also refused entry at port to 24,587 who subsequently departed, an increase of 5% from 2022. There were 5,771 enforced and voluntary returns of Albanian nationals in 2023; this includes over 1,467 foreign national offenders, helping to relieve pressure on our prison system, along with an arrangement that will see hundreds of Albanian prisoners returned to their home country in exchange for UK support to help modernise the Albanian prison system.

Detected attempts to enter the UK irregularly, by selected method of entry



Purpose:

This tracks the volume of attempted irregular entries to the UK by mode of arrival between 2018 and 2023.

Performance:

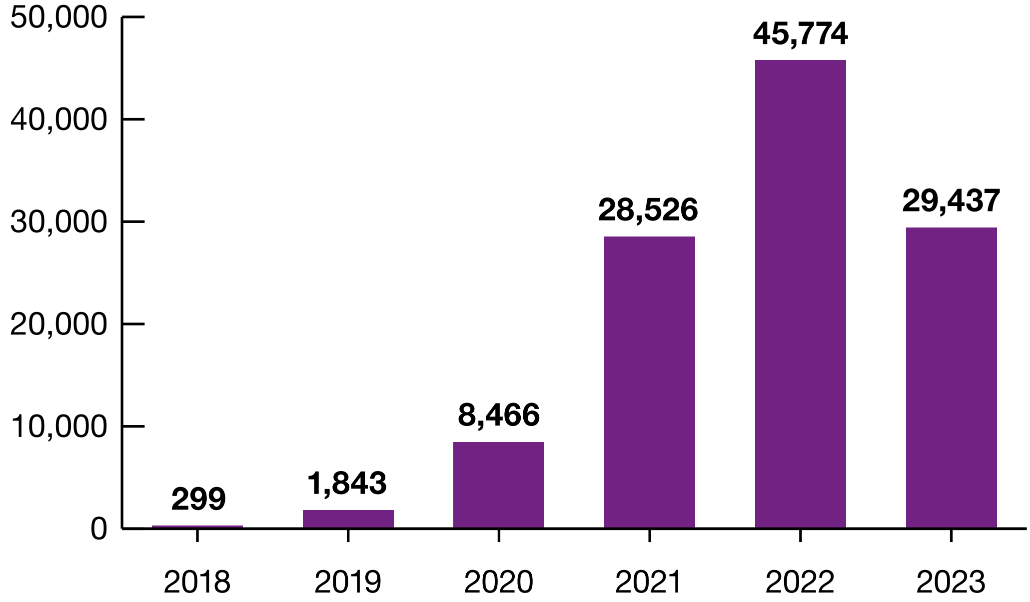
Across all modes to 2019 there was relative stability. Thereafter there was a significant sustained increase in arrival attempts via small boats. In 2023, there were 29,437 small boat crossings, representing 36% less arrivals than in 2022. Improvements in international cooperation with France and other near border partners, along with improved capacity and capability in Border Force are thought to have contributed to a more than one-third reduction in arrivals in 2023.

Source: Irregular migration to the UK detailed dataset, year ending December 2023 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[49]

Release schedule: Quarterly

49 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/irregular-migration-detailed-dataset-and-summary-tables#detailed-datasets

Volume of small boat arrivals



Purpose:

This chart shows the number of migrants detected crossing the English Channel in small boats since 2018.

Performance:

In 2023, there were 29,437 arrivals which is lower than the 45,774 arrivals in 2022. A definitive explanation on causality is difficult to make.

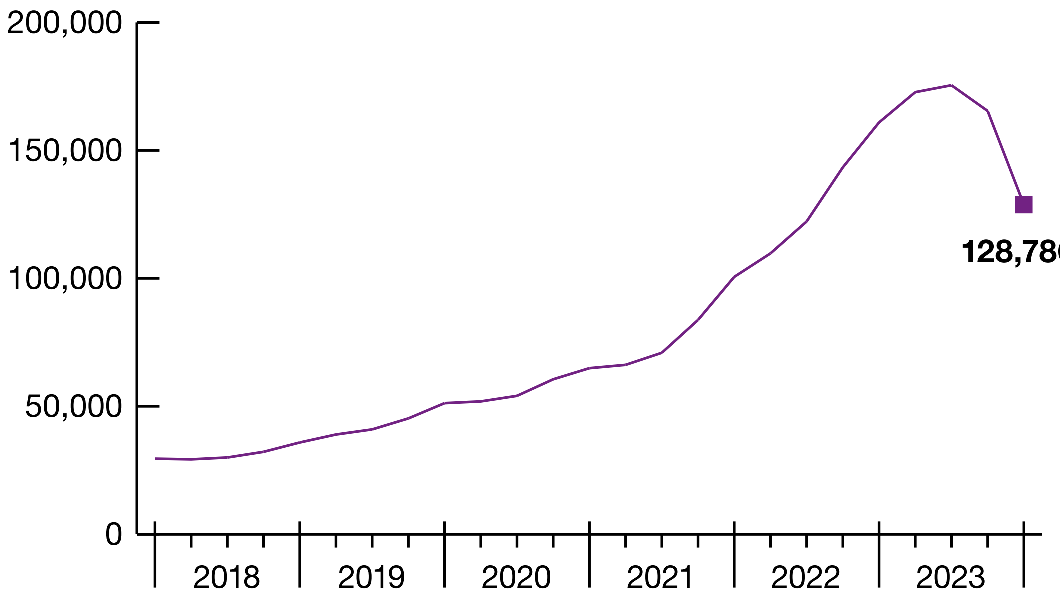
Source: Irregular migration to the UK detailed dataset, year ending December 2023 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[50]

Release schedule: Quarterly.

50 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/irregular-migration-detailed-dataset-and-summary-tables#detailed-datasets

Asylum

Cases awaiting initial asylum decisions



Purpose:

To monitor the overall number of cases awaiting an initial decision.

Performance:

The number of cases awaiting an initial decision declined from 165,411 at the end of Q3 2023 to 128,786 at the end of Q4 2023.

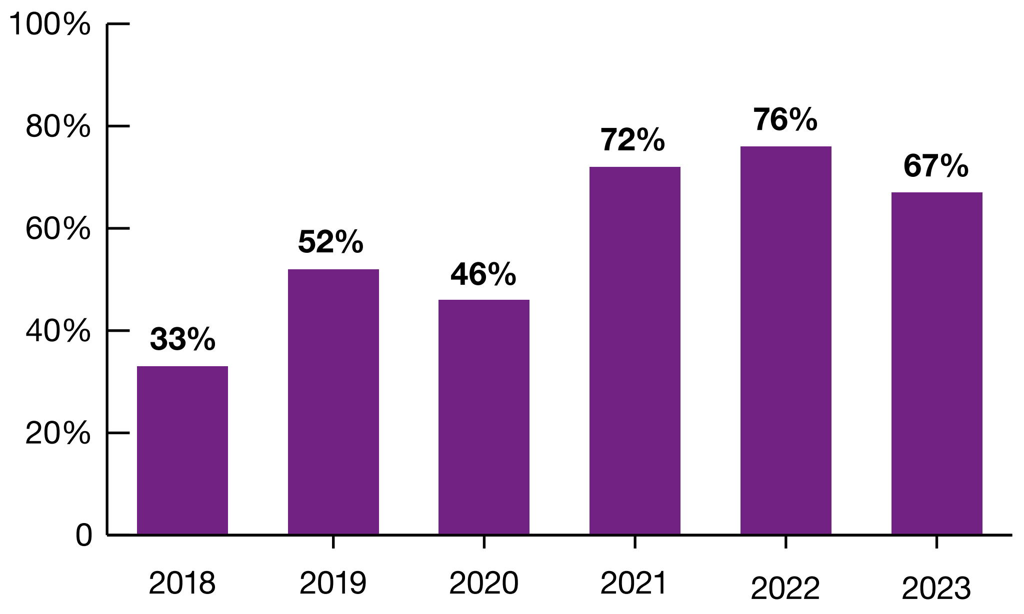
Over 74,000 initial decisions were made across 2023 for main applicants, the majority of which were legacy cases. This was around four times more than the number in 2022 (18,811). Around 3,900 complex legacy cases were highlighted as requiring additional checks or investigation for a final decision to be made and work to clear these cases has continued into 2024.

Source: Asylum and resettlement, year ending December 2023 - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[51]

Release schedule: Quarterly

51 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#asylum-applications-decisions-and-resettlement

Asylum grant rates



Purpose:

To monitor the proportion asylum cases which receive a grant of asylum.

Performance:

Grant rates in 2023 dropped to 67%, from 76% the year before. Meanwhile, the total number of grants increased from 14,370 in 2022 to 49,862 in 2023, reflecting the impact of our increased capacity and process efficiencies.

On average, grant rates have been higher over the past three years, when compared with 2018 to 2020. A broad range of factors will influence the grant rate, including global events, the nationality and demographic mix of those making applications and the impact of domestic policies and prioritisation during the pandemic.

Decision productivity peaked in November 2023, where it was triple the monthly average in Q4 2022. Despite the surge in decisions made, the grant rate for asylum decisions in 2023 was lower than in both 2022 and 2021; 67% compared with 76% and 72% respectively.

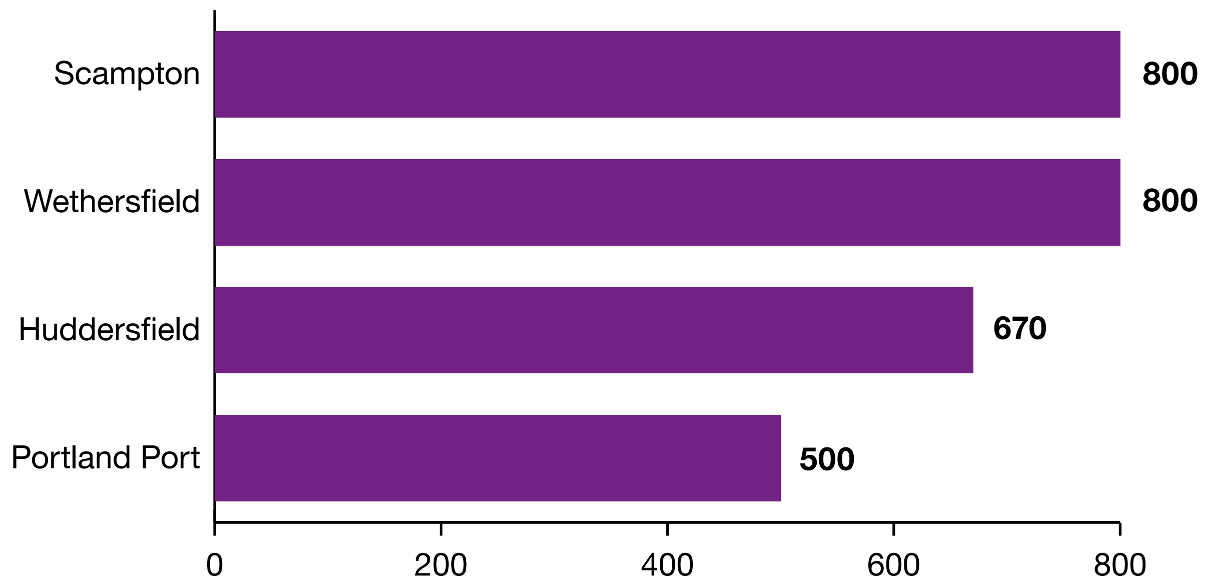
Source: Asylum applications, initial decisions and resettlement detailed datasets, year ending December 2023 (Grant rate figures include main applicants only) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[52]

Release schedule: Quarterly

52 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d884a387005a001a80f8bf/asylum-applications-datasets-dec-2023.xlsx

Accommodation

Maximum capacity (Large sites and vessels)



Purpose:

Maximum capacity of large sites and vessels when fully operational.

Performance:

Two large sites and vessels are operational: Wethersfield and the Bibby Stockholm. Opening of the site at RAF Scampton was delayed to allow work to ensure site is safe, legal and compliant before opening.

Wethersfield and Scampton have recently had their capacity capped at 800.

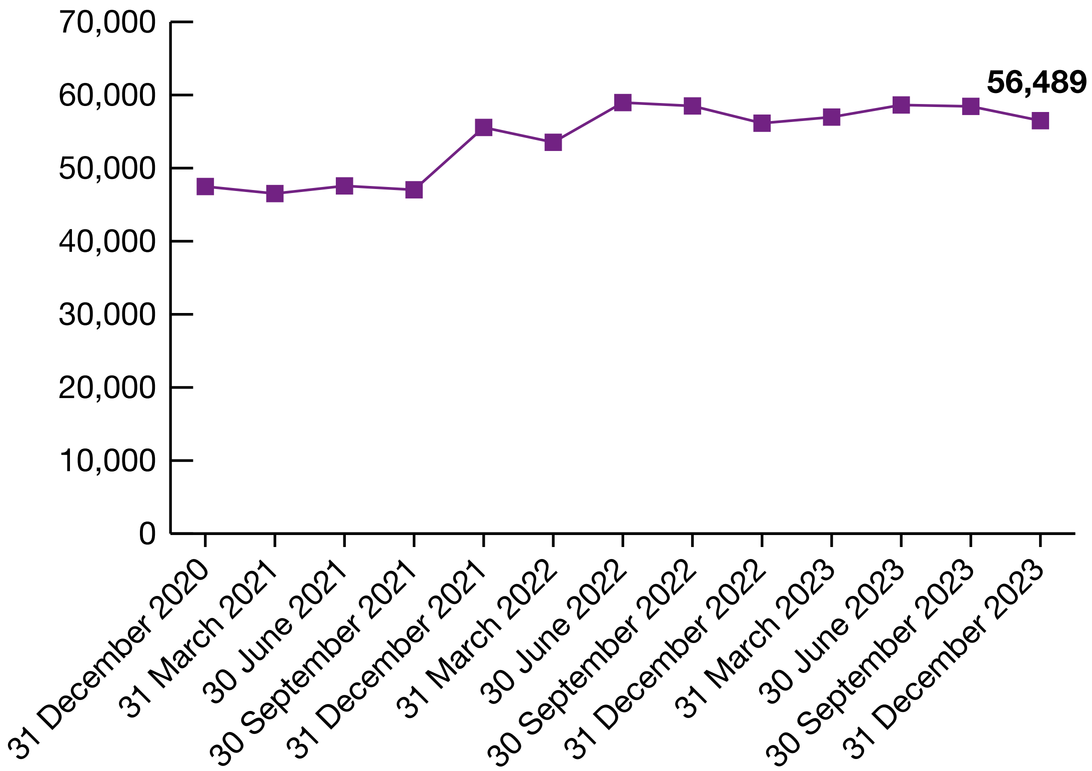
We alleviated pressure across the estate and reduced the Department's reliance on hotel (contingency) accommodation.

Source: Asylum accommodation - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[53]

Release schedule: Quarterly

53 https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/asylum-accommodation

Dispersal accommodation



Purpose:

Asylum seekers in receipt of support housed in dispersal accommodation.

Performance:

We have increased our supply of dispersal accommodation. However, the procurement of dispersal accommodation is impacted by external market factors and competition, which remains a challenge.

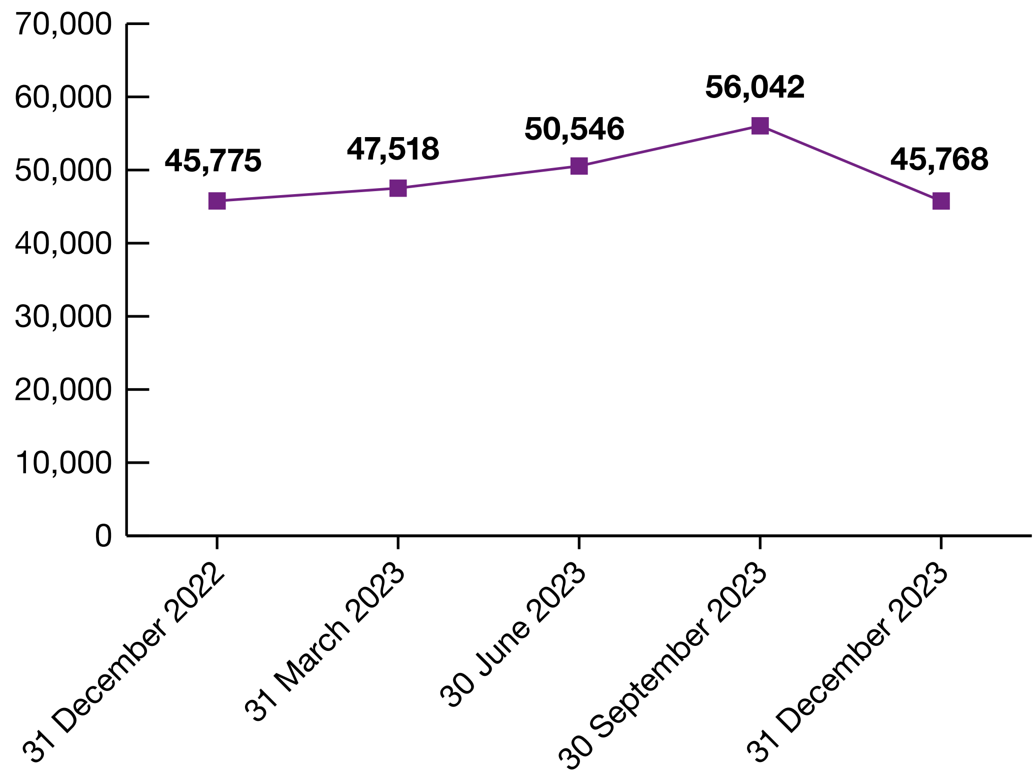
We increased our stock of dispersal accommodation across local authorities as well as improving efficiencies across the system.

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[54]

Release schedule: Quarterly

54 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#returns

Hotel population



Purpose:

Asylum seekers in receipt of support housed in hotels.

Performance:

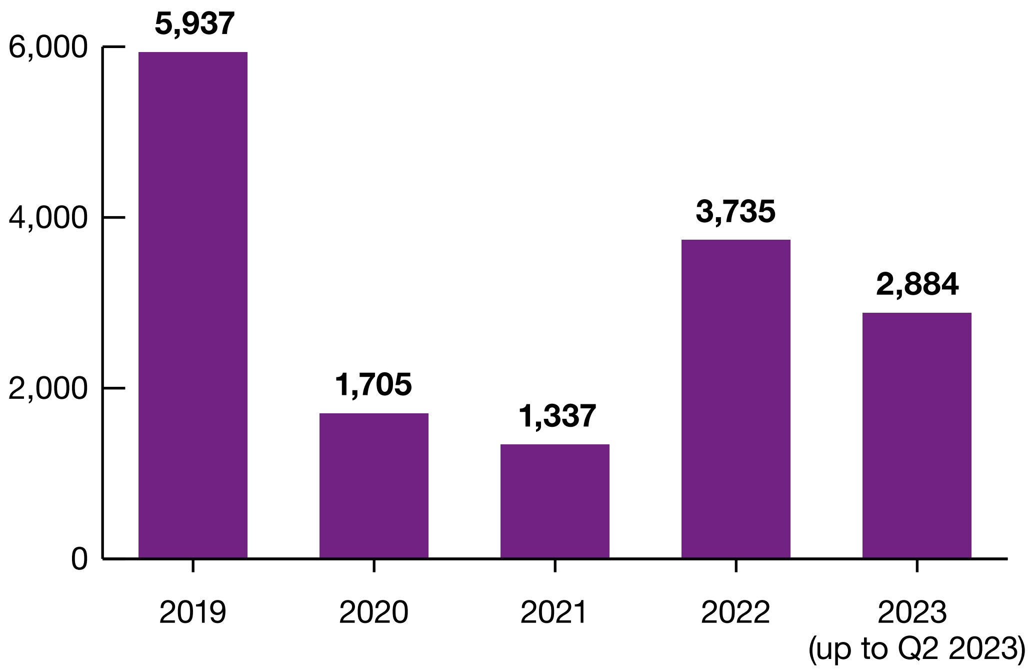
As of 28 March 2024, 109 hotels have been fully closed, and 21 hotels have been fully vacated awaiting the contract end date.

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[55]

Release schedule: Quarterly

55 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#asylum-and-resettlement

Illegal working visits



Purpose:

Volume of enforcement visits that seek to identify, tackle and minimise the impact of illegal working activity in the UK.

Performance:

Data shows an increase in illegal working enforcement activity, achieving a 68% rise in visits compared with 2022. One campaign targeted the food delivery sector, with more than 250 enforcement visits resulting in 380 arrests.

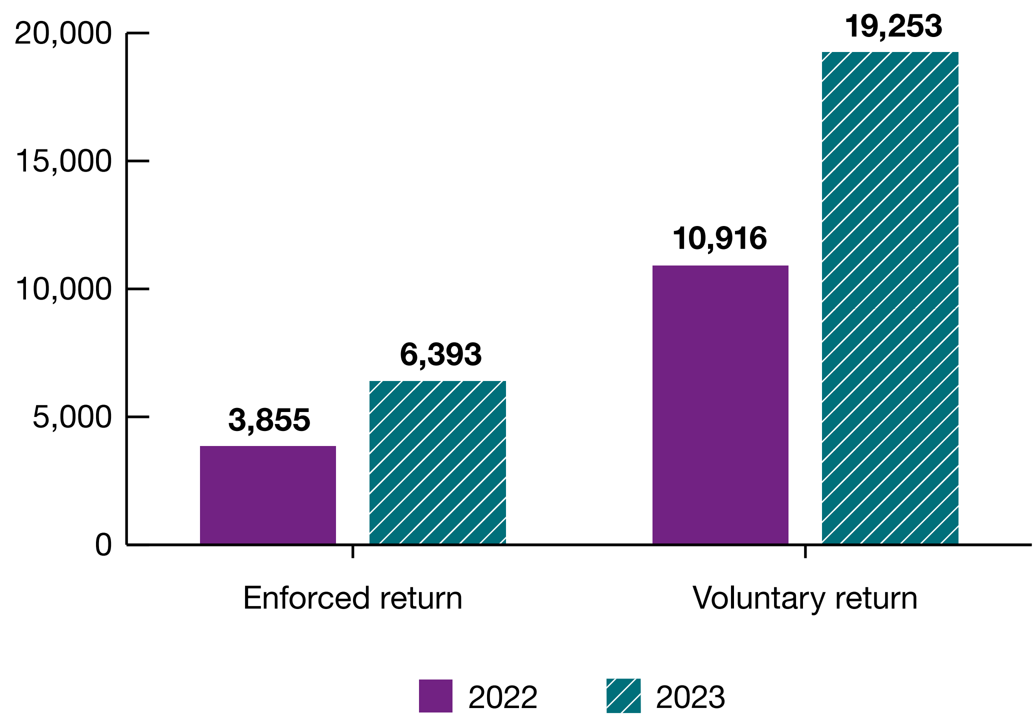
Immigration Enforcement increased the volume of illegal working visits, resulting in arrests more than doubling, from 1,522 to 3,983, in the first six months of 2023-24.

Source: Statistics relating to the Illegal Migration Act (data to July 2023) - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[56]

Release schedule: Quarterly

56 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables

Overall returns



Purpose:

The number of individuals who are forcibly removed from the country through enforced returns and those who voluntarily choose to be removed to their home nation or another safe country.

Performance:

Between 2022 and 2023, data shows substantial increases in enforced (+66%) and voluntary returns (+76%). This was delivered by improving productivity within the returns system and more effective use of the immigration detention estate. The sharp uptick in Albanian returns over this period contributed to these volumes.

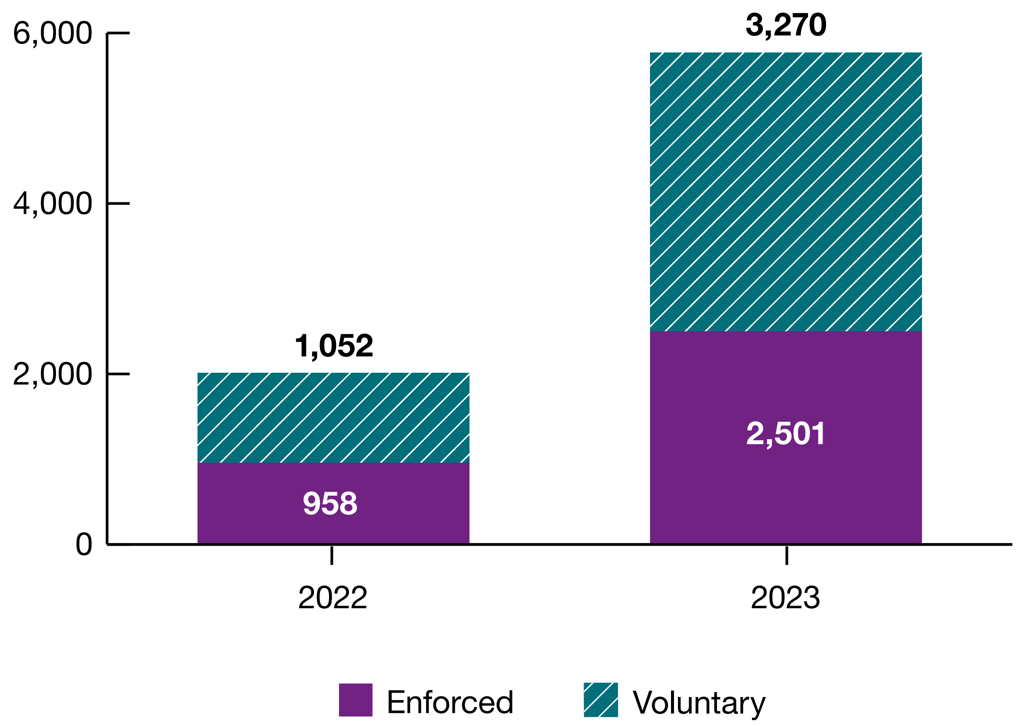
The Department continued to remove those with no right to be here. Overall enforced returns increased by 66% to 6,393 in 2023, although they remain low by historical standards (11% lower than in 2019). The recent increase is partly due to Albanian enforced returns more than doubling from last year (958 to 2,501). Voluntary returns increased by 76% to 19,253 (53% higher than in 2019).

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[57]

Release schedule: Quarterly

57 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#returns

Albanian returns



Purpose:

To monitor the number of Albanian individuals who were removed from the country through enforced returns and those who voluntarily choose to return to their home nation or another country.

Performance:

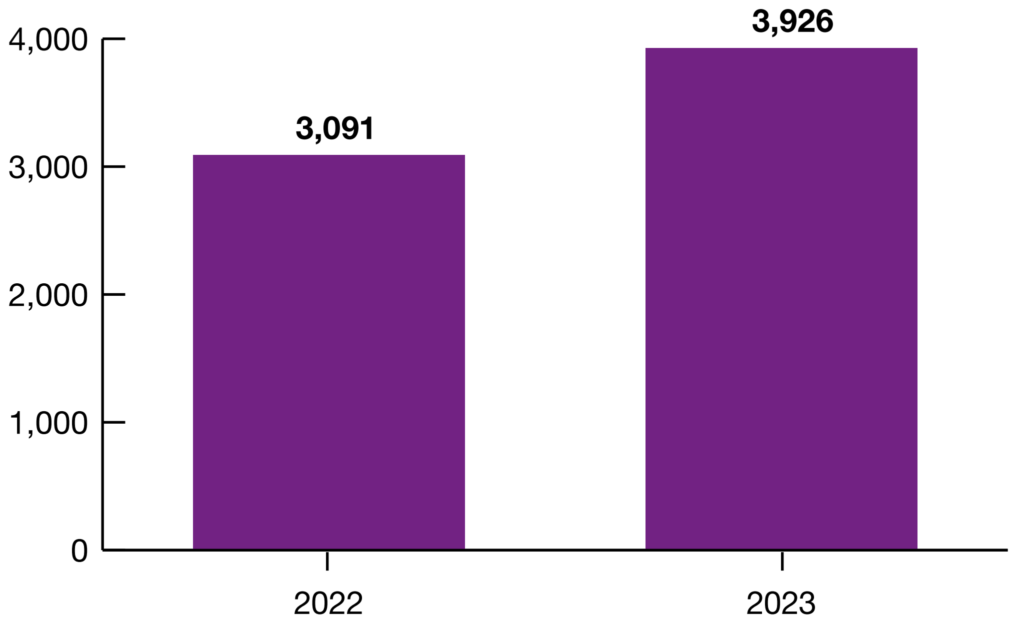
Data shows substantial increases in enforced and voluntary returns. The returns agreement reached with the Albanian Government, alongside operational improvements, helped to deliver 5,000 Albanian returns by 30 November 2023.

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[58]

Release schedule: Quarterly

58 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#returns

Foreign national offenders (FNO) returns



Purpose:

To monitor and track the number of individuals classified as FNOs who are removed from the country via Early Release/Facilitated Returns schemes, voluntary or enforced means.

Performance:

Returns increased by 27% in 2023 compared with 2022, which brought performance closer to pre-pandemic levels. Of the total FNOs removed in 2023, almost half (49%) were EU nationals and 37% were Albanians. Prioritisation of Albanian returns, returning other detained Foreign National Offenders and operational efficiencies made this possible.

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Removal of Prisoners for Deportation) Order 2023 came into force on 16 January 2024. Under these provisions, the Early Removal Scheme has been extended from 12 months to 18 months before the earliest release date. This applies as long as at least 25% of the custodial sentence has been served – the sentence must be a minimum of five years and eleven and a half months. This wll increase the number of FNOs that become eligible for the scheme and, therefore, increase the number of those returned to free up more prison spaces.

Source: Immigration system statistics data tables - Data reflects information available as at April 14, 2024.[59]

Release schedule: Quarterly

59 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/immigration-system-statistics-data-tables#returns

Principal risks

The Department's principal risks are subject to an annual risk identification refresh with Executive Committee (ExCo) members. The summary tables presented here reflect the latest refresh (November 2023) plus progress made in-year to de-escalate some risks and escalate others. Several of the 'new' risks are related to older items that have been re-assessed and reframed to ensure that ExCo continues to track and address topical potential challenges to the Home Office.

The table below sets out both corporate and delivery-specific strategic risks with severity scores of 20 or more (out of 25). This summarises the strategic risk position as of 4 April 2024.

Risk assessments[60] (as at 31 March 2024)	Critical	High	Medium	Low
Trajectory[61] at year-end	⇧ Risk Increase	⇩ Risk Decrease	⇔ No movement	☆ New risk since FY2022-23

60 Assessment of the risks in the table are indicative only and aims to evaluate the risk remaining (or residual risk) to end of March 2024.
61 The trajectory of the risk indicates whether generally the trend in likelihood and impact of the risk materialising increased, decreased, or remained the same over the period of this report. The colour code used indicates the severity of risk which increases using a five-point scale from green, amber, red and purple.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Artificial Intelligence (AI) impact on outcomes	There is a risk that we (i) fail to safely and responsibly adopt AI-enabled technology which results in missed opportunity to transform the Department and/or harm to citizens and HMG interests; (ii) fail to adequately respond to and mitigate the risks and harms posed by AI adoption by others, resulting in outcomes that are not aligned with our strategic objectives (e.g., keeping the UK safe and secure).	• Support an embedded and aligned approach to responsible AI adoption across Home Office teams and partners, including engagement with key partners, including ALBs, OGDs and industry. • Close working with Whitehall partners on policies and plans to identify and mitigate key risks. • A pipeline of trials and pilots to support AI adoption, including Generative AI models with robust governance, including relevant policies, processes and skills.
Data breach	There is a risk of data compromise or loss due to a cyber, rogue or system/individual error. This could result in potential threat to life/safety/privacy, loss of public confidence, inability to operate/ deliver, potential financial impact (fines/ compensation claims/ system recovery).	• Contingency measures for serious breaches, including response procedures triggered following assessment of reported personal data breaches. • Holistic security controls across systems and services each with security assurance and audit regimes. • Cyber projects and initiatives (including protective monitoring, access control, asset classification, End Point Protection and understanding assurance against Top 50 Systems). • Remediating security vulnerabilities for legacy systems. • Staff training and awareness programme of activities.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Cyber threats	There is a risk that vulnerabilities in the Home Office people, processes and technologies could be exploited accidentally or intentionally leading to a breach of confidentiality, integrity or availability of Departmental information, systems and environments.	Home Office continues to embed government and industry best practice including: • Embedding Secure by Design approaches to strengthen systems design and operation, • Adopting the new security assurance framework GovAssure; and, • Extending operational security monitoring supporting the wider government Defend as One approach. Personnel security is ensured through appropriate security vetting and aftercare services, education and culture programmes.
Spending Review (SR) outcome	There is a risk that we are unable to secure sufficient funding in the next Spending Review, resulting in being unable to achieve a range of key delivery outputs during 2024-25 and beyond.	• Challenging future years' forecast across Departmental cost base. • Scoping renewed long-term strategies on income, asylum support portfolio delivery and Home Office corporate spend. • Using the Productivity and Efficiency Programme to support business on productivity metrics, improve tracking, and identify further opportunities. • Producing forward look, strategic plans in preparation for the next Spending Review.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Health & safety, and fire	There is a risk that our approach to health & safety, and fire management systems may be inadequate, exposing the Department's staff and contractors to potential harm, property damage, and/or civil claims.	• New Incident/Accident System has launched 1 July 2023 that is digitally enabled with 7 KPIs long term this will enable benchmarking. • The Department tests its Fire Required Safe Egress Time (RSET) in all its buildings at a minimum of annually using drills (core buildings) with compliance at 95%, drills, lessons learned from false alarms and desktop scenarios (non-core buildings). • Other elements of the fire safety management system are subject to an improvement plan. • GIAA has undertaken a third line audit of health and safety and fire management with the outcome at UNSATISFACTORY with a further one to follow in late 2024. Progress is being made in closing the recommendations out at pace. Accompanying that is a first line assurance and 2nd line audit programme that is in its early stages. • ExCo have completed a leadership audit with an outcome of LIMITED agreeing 9 areas for improvement. Along with this ExCo signed off the Health and Safety Strategy 2025-27 along with the Communications and Engagement Plan 2025-27. • Recruitment and retention of health and safety and fire professionals has and remains a significant challenge, Fire Safety Strategy Lead is now on its 4th attempt and steps are being taken to address this including the use of consultants. • The Departments policy framework for health and safety and fire management will be overhauled in quarters 3 and 4 2024/25 including improvements to clarification around roles and responsibilities and accountability.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Workforce sustainability	There is a risk that we fail to attract and maintain a resilient, diverse, and talented workforce resulting in a reduction in our ability to deliver the Department's priorities now and in the future.	• Home Office Careers website and Careers LinkedIn successfully established and attracting large numbers of diverse and high-quality candidates (1 million unique views). • Launched the Recruitment Continuous Improvement programme – significantly reducing time-to-hire, increasing the external hire rate and increasing the vacancy fill rate whilst delivering against heightened workforce demand. • Increased promotion of talent programmes to support our future management pipeline. Improved line management capability training for those recruited / promoted into management roles. • Launched a positive action initiative focused on attracting and supporting neurodiversity in the Department. • Increased the strength and capacity of our professions, standardised Departmental induction, and increasing deployment of apprenticeship-based learning and qualifications to improve workforce resilience.
Failing to transform	There is a risk that we fail to achieve priority outcomes and respond to the demands of a changing world, including failing to grasp opportunities of new technology, and delivering a workforce fit for the future.	• The Home Office Organisation Strategy prescribes three key transformation shifts for the Department: systems thinking; data and technology; improving resilience. • Delegated responsibility for implementation, supported by (1) monitoring through the Home Office Operating System, and (2) Executive Committee champions for specific cross-Departmental projects. • Specific additional strategies include Science and Technology Strategy to be published post-election.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Illegal Migration Act (IMA) implementation fails	There is a risk that the implementation of the IMA will not lead to a deterrence effect and thus stop small boat arrivals.	• Risk appetite statement to policy challenges. • Legal risks considered within regular advice to the Accounting Officer. • Case working project to identify approaches to reduce the potential for, and impact of, late claims. • Legal advice routinely sought to ensure legal risk is briefed to ministers. • Develop a litigation plan such as using junior counsel to talk to policy colleagues to discuss decision letters and assist litigation. • Procurement and direct award/contract modification strategies and process to avoid the likelihood of supplier litigation. • Work through litigation scenarios in groups, followed by challenge sessions.
Threat to life in accommodation	There is a risk that people accommodated in the system may harm themselves, or others, leading to death or serious injury, and/or significant failure in our duty of support.	• Review of safeguarding standard operating procedures and engagement with safeguarding colleagues across the Migration and Borders System • Embed comprehensive safeguarding process to reduce risk to those residing in our accommodation. Increase communications and assurance. • Reduce hotel use by increasing dispersal accommodation and reducing the risk of overcrowding. • Work with providers through contract compliance to gain assurance about provision of suitable staffing. • National Asylum Seeker Health Steering Group partnership with Department of Health and Social Care. • Policy and Innovation Lab to make recommendations to support mental health and wellbeing of asylum seekers in initial accommodation. • Work closely with our providers, and the police to monitor planned protests.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Critical IT system failure	There is a risk that the Migration and Borders System suffers a critical IT system failure, as a result, of volume demands being placed on our key systems, the level of development without associated resilience seeing a build-up of tech debt, external cyber threats and data capture, retention and use impacting on decision making.	• Implement process to risk assess this risk routinely, and review and implement robust contingency plans to mitigate the risk. • Review change control processes and timing of major change • Decommission vulnerable systems and deliver border security upgrades and budgets.
Immigration detention capacity and volatility	There is a risk that the increased utilisation and changes in the detained cohort lead to unrest and/or harm to staff contractor or residents.	• Significant increase in custodial staff numbers with enhanced capabilities and equipment across all Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs), supported by additional onsite Home Office staff and increased resident engagement. • Completion of physical security reviews across the detention estate, with support from both the Ministry of Justice and relevant Home Office teams to inform any necessary infrastructure changes. • Strengthened IRC population management processes to improve safety and security, including revised lock in arrangements. • Improvements to security and intelligence provision with greater trend analysis and cross-estate intelligence dissemination. Close working with local police forces seeking prosecution of perpetrators where appropriate. • Robust processes in place with HM Prison and Probation Service to safely manage time served foreign national offenders (TSFNOs) who are deemed unsuitable for detention in our estate.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Disruption at the border	There is a chance of systems outages and/or reduced capabilities at the border and a reduction in our ability to run the operating model, resulting in reputational impact and public safety risk if the security of the border cannot be maintained.	• Implement process to risk assess this risk routinely, and review and implement robust contingency plans to mitigate the risk. • Development of more national Critical Incident plans, such as National Power Outage. • Other established control measures and mitigation on non-system failures include national operational planning response and major events structures.
Threat to life in the border process	There is a risk of serious harm, injury or death to one or more individuals as a result of people attempting to arrive in the UK by dangerous methods; or our inability to intercept in a timely manner an unsafe method of entry or a high-risk transportation of drugs; or as a result of negligence or accident to people in our care. This may result in a significant failure in our duty of care and significant reputational damage.	• Upstream intervention work with international partners to inform deterrence, detection, and intervention. • Engagement with the French authorities across all levels of government. • Risk to migrants in Roll-On, Roll-Off traffic analysis underway. • Maximise intelligence led approach.

Title	Short Description	Key controls and mitigating activities 2023-24
Criminal justice system (CJS)	There is a risk that the CJS is unable to align priorities and deliver for victims.	• Work with CJS partners to support the effective operation of the CJS in light of current capacity challenges. • Enhance our understanding of charge trends/other outcomes and their impact on other parts of the CJS. Sub action(s): Identify opportunities and blockers to improved police productivity and delivery of successful CJS outcomes for victims. • Consider improvements to police operational practices, including use of technology.
National risk register preparedness	There is a risk that we are not prepared to respond to one or more of the Home Office-owned national security risk scenarios from the National Risk Register if they materialise.	• Deliver on Home Office priorities in the updated CONTEST Strategy. • Delivery of the Counter Terrorism Operations Centre (CTOC). • Training and exercising to test our risk responses.

Financial review

Budgeting system

As with other ministerial government Departments, operations are predominantly funded by an Exchequer grant, voted by Parliament by means of the Departmental group's submission of expenditure 'Estimates' which have been agreed by HM Treasury.

The Departmental group's budget is separated into:

- Resource Departmental Expenditure Limit (Resource DEL) for current expenditure such as staff pay, purchases of goods and services, and depreciation. This budget is split between the programme budget which captures expenditure on front line services, and the administration budget to cover all other expenditure.
- Capital Departmental Expenditure Limit (Capital DEL) for new investment in assets including digital assets.
- Resource Annually Managed Expenditure (Resource AME) for costs that may be unpredictable such as provisions.
- Capital Annually Managed Expenditure (Capital AME) for unpredictable costs which also give rise to an asset in the Departmental group's financial statements, such as provisions for dilapidations as part of a lease arrangement on buildings.

Estimates

The budget agreed at the Supplementary Estimates for the Department was £24.1 billion (including depreciation), consisting of £19.6 billion Resource DEL (an increase of £5 billion since the Main Estimate), £1.4 billion Capital DEL (an increase of £468.9 million since the Main Estimate), £3.1 billion Resource Annually Managed Expenditure (AME) (an increase of £346 million since the Main Estimate) and £110 million Capital AME (which was not part at the Main Estimate).

Due to the impact of these changes and the projected associated increase in cashflows, the Home Office also increased its Net Cash Requirement (NCR) by £3.4 billion at the Supplementary Estimate.

Resource DEL

Increases and additions in Resource DEL from the 2023-24 Main Estimates primarily relates to:

- £1,064.8 million of funding for the implementation of measures to fix the UK's asylum system with the Illegal Migration Taskforce (£138 million), plans to tackle illegal migration (£601 million) and Illegal Migration Act (£325.8 million).
- £3,983 million of funding received to alleviate pressures within the asylum system.
- £528.2 million of funding received to support the operation of resettlement schemes relating to Afghanistan.
- £54.5 million of funding to support work in relation to the Economic Crime Levy, which aims to tackle money laundering and help deliver the reforms committed to in the 2019 Economic Crime Plan.
- £25 million of funding to implement plans to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour.
- £16.9 million of funding to support increased costs within the Victim Care Contract.
- £16.3 million of funding to increase recruitment to help clear casework in relation to Foreign National Offenders.
- £0.5 million of funding for the Women's Aid flexible fund which provides initial support for victims of domestic abuse.
- £0.4 million of funding for the Shared Outcomes fund for evaluation of combatting drugs partnerships.
- £269 million of non-cash ringfence funding for depreciation was also provided.

These additions to RDEL, were partially reduced by surrenders to HM Treasury, funding switches and transfers to other Government Departments, outlined below:

- £149.4 million (net) of Resource DEL surrendered in return for an equivalent amount of Capital DEL.
- £140.3 million of the funding received as part of the Resource DEL settlement was switched to Capital DEL (£135.4 million of which related to measures to tackle Illegal migration).

Significant transfers to and from the Home Office included:

- £651.7 million was provided to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the devolved administrations for the Immigration Health Surcharge.
- £70.9 million was provided to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to fund a combination of costs relating the Illegal Migration Act, New Plan for Immigration and to clear the asylum backlog and combat controlling and coercive behaviours, amongst other joint initiatives.
- £24.8 million was provided to the National Crime Agency (NCA) for work on organised immigration crime and irregular migration.
- £23.9 million was received by Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS) for policing the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla as well as the Eurovision Song Contest 2023.

Capital DEL

The additions and increases in Capital DEL from the 2023-24 Main Estimates primarily relates to:

- £177 million of funding to implement the Illegal Migration Act (£130 million) and for operation of the Illegal Migration Taskforce (£47 million).
- £30 million of funding to support work in relation to the Economic Crime Levy.
- £149.4 million Capital DEL received in exchange for £149.4 million of Resource DEL which was surrendered.
- £140.3 million of Capital DEL due to the switching of funding received as Resource DEL (mentioned in the changes to the Resource DEL).

These additions to CDEL, were partially reduced by surrenders to HM Treasury, funding switches and transfers to other Government Departments, outlined below:

- £8.1 million of funding was provided by Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT) as part of the Shared Rural Network.
- £7.3 million of funding was provided to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) for costs relating to the Illegal Migration Act.
- £5.9 million of funding was provided to the National Crime Agency (NCA) & Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) for overseas programming to tackle irregular migration.

A number of smaller value transfers were also made between the Home Office and other government departments in the Supplementary Estimates.

Resource AME

The increase in Resource AME compared to the 2023-24 Main Estimates is mainly due to:

- £256.3 million additional cash cover for pension costs linked to the remedy on McCloud (Police Forces and Fire and Rescue Authorities) and Matthews (affecting Fire and Rescue Authorities only) as well as compensation costs related to the McCloud remedy. The impact of the McCloud remedy has had an influence on when scheme members decided to retire, bringing retirement plans forward for many, and this has contributed to the cash cover required.
- £90 million for provisions within the Major Law Enforcement portfolio.

Capital AME

The Supplementary Estimates included a new capital AME provision of £110 million. This is an accounting adjustment created for possible costs associated with leasehold dilapidations – works required at the end of a lease term to return a leasehold property to its original condition at the start of the term.

Budget and outturn

The budgets for the Department agreed at the Supplementary Estimates are shown in the table below. Outturn against each of these budgets is also shown and the variance to budget against each total.

Control total	Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£billion	£billion	£billion
Admin	0.46	0.44	0.02
Programme	19.10	18.42	0.68
Total Resource DEL	19.56	18.86	0.71
Total Capital DEL	1.40	1.17	0.23
Total DEL Voted	20.96	20.03	0.94
Resource AME	3.06	2.86	0.20
Capital AME	0.11	0.06	0.05
Total AME Voted	3.17	2.92	0.25
Total managed budget	**24.14**	**22.95**	**1.19**

All of the main categories were successfully managed within their control totals:

- Resource DEL by £0.71 billion
- Capital DEL by £0.23 billion
- Resource AME by £0.2 billion, and
- Capital AME by £0.05 billion.

Admin was within its control total by £18 million. The sections below provide further analysis on each budget category.

Resource DEL

The Home Office Resource DEL net expenditure was £18.86 billion against a budget of £19.56 billion, resulting in an underspend of £0.71 billion. The table below shows the Resource DEL outturn against budget by business group.

Business Group	Budget	Actual	Variance
	£billion	£billion	£billion
Public Safety Group	11.58	11.58	0.00
Homeland Security Group	1.24	1.24	0.00
Migration and Borders Group	0.48	0.43	0.05
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	0.13	0.13	0.00
Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	(3.34)	(3.34)	0.00
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	5.42	5.42	0.00
Border Force	1.18	1.18	0.00
Immigration Enforcement	0.72	0.64	0.09
Corporate and Delivery	1.21	0.78	0.44
Digital, Data and Technology	0.54	0.54	0.00
Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	0.04	0.04	0.00
Strategy	0.07	0.07	0.00
Legal Advisors	0.01	0.01	0.00
Communications	0.01	0.01	0.00
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	0.25	0.12	0.13
Total Resource DEL	**19.56**	**18.86**	**0.71**

The main reasons for the underspend are:

- Plans to tackle illegal migration and subsequently the Illegal Migration Act (IMA) were introduced to reduce the level and impact of illegal migration to the UK, including reducing small boat crossings. Plans developed in relation to this activity under the partnership with Rwanda and expected to take place during 2023-24 were either delayed or postponed until 2024-25 due to the legal challenges relating to the IMA. This resulted in lower expenditure in the final 3 months of the year than had been projected, resulting in budgets which had been set earlier in the year being underspent.

- Activity under the Afghanistan Resettlement programme continued in 2023-24 with schemes to secure the evacuation, repatriation and care of Afghan citizens coming to the UK. However, lower than forecast arrivals and lower than projected financial support has led to budgets being underspent. Costs for the Afghanistan Resettlement schemes were £441 million in 2023-24 (a decrease from £633 million in 2022-23).
- Expenditure relating to the use of assets held by the Department did not reach the expectations which had been set at the beginning of the 2023-24 financial year. As a result, budgets which had been allocated were underspent at the end of the financial year.

Asylum

In accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the Home Office has a statutory obligation to provide destitute asylum seekers with accommodation and subsistence whilst their application for asylum is being considered.

Asylum support spend was £4.7 billion compared to £3.6 billion in 2022-23. £3 billion was spent on hotels in 2023-24, an average of £8 million per day, compared to £2.2 billion spent on hotels in 2022-23. To meet the demand for asylum support, the Home Office has used hotels as contingency accommodation which has driven a significant increase in asylum support costs.

The Home Office is continuing to scrutinise hotel costs to ensure better value for money for the taxpayer and has also negotiated cost reductions across the pipeline. It has closed 109 hotels and fully vacated a further 21 by the end of March 2024.

Migration and Economic Development Partnership (MEDP)

The Migration and Economic Development Partnership (MEDP) with Rwanda was announced on 14 April 2022. It aims to prevent and deter unlawful migration, and in particular migration by unsafe and illegal routes, by enabling the removal of persons to the Republic of Rwanda. The Home Office has paid a total of £100 million to the Government of Rwanda as part of the MEDP in the financial year 2023-24. This payment relates to the Economic Transformation and Integration Fund (ETIF) which was created as part of the MEDP. The Home Office made an advance payment of £20 million in 2022-23 to support initial set up costs of the asylum processing arrangements under the MEDP. This amount is a credit to pay for anticipated future asylum and operational costs.

The Home Office also made an ETIF payment of £120 million in 2022-23. Therefore a total of £140 million (£120 million ETIF and £20 million advance payment) was paid to Rwanda in 2022-23 and a further £100m (ETIF) in 2023-24. Further costs have also been incurred on flights, litigation, casework and staffing.

Due to legal challenges, the government was unable to effect relocations in 2023-24. On 20 July 2023 the Illegal Migration Act received Royal Assent. The Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill received Royal Assent on 25 April 2024 and responds to the Supreme Court's concerns, allowing Parliament to confirm the status of the Republic of Rwanda as a safe third country, thereby enabling the removal of persons who arrive in the United Kingdom under the Immigration Acts.

Capital DEL

The Home Office Capital DEL net expenditure was £1.16 billion against a budget of £1.4 billion, resulting in an underspend of £0.24 billion. The table below shows the Capital DEL outturn against budget by business group.

Business segment	Budget	Actual	Variance
	£billion	£billion	£billion
Public Safety Group	0.23	0.23	0.00
Homeland Security Group	0.27	0.24	0.03
Migration and Borders Group	0.19	0.19	0.00
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	0.00	0.00	0.00
Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	0.09	0.09	0.01
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	0.20	0.20	0.00
Border Force	0.13	0.13	0.00
Immigration Enforcement	0.05	0.05	0.00
Corporate and Delivery	0.11	(0.06)	0.18
Digital, Data and Technology	0.06	0.05	0.01
Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	0.04	0.04	0.00
Strategy	0.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Advisors	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communications	0.00	0.00	0.00
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	0.02	0.02	0.01
Total capital DEL	**1.40**	**1.16**	**0.24**

The main reasons for the underspend are:

- Lower levels of activity and savings on several programmes within the Department resulted in c£110 million of underspends being recognised. Some of these programmes were related to the Department's plans to tackle illegal migration and the Illegal Migration Act, and were directly affected by court judgements during 2023-24. This led to the delay or postponement of activity which had been scheduled for 2023-24.
- Adjustments to 2022-23 capital balances relating to the IFRS16 standard for lease accounting have been revised at the end of the current financial year, leading to a c£117 million increase in the 2023-24 underspend.

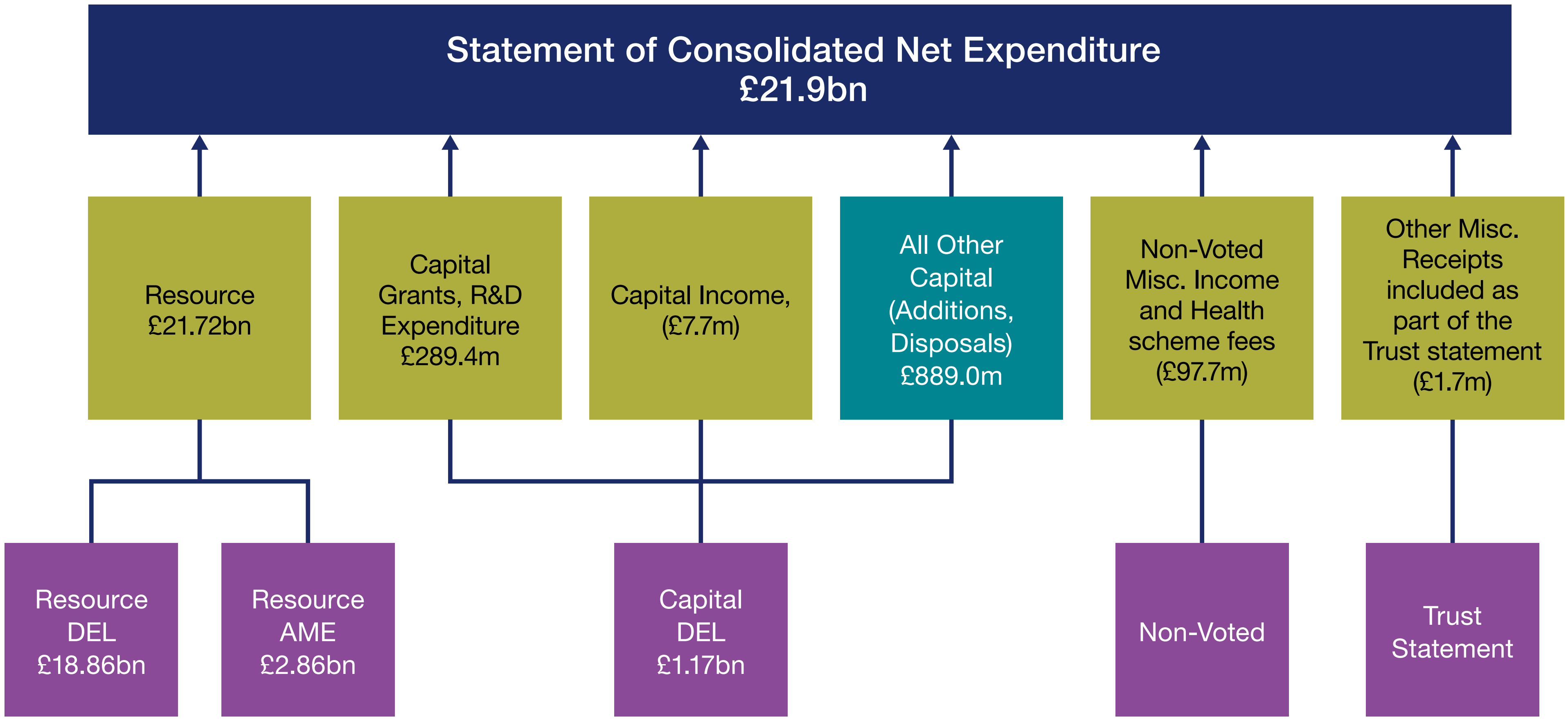
Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)

The Department's Resource AME expenditure was £2.86 billion against a budget of £3.06 billion. The largest element of the budget, payments towards pensions costs incurred by the Police and Fire and Rescue Authorities, spent to budget. A budget of £110 million for Capital AME was provided to the Department for the first time in 2023-24 in relation to provisions for leasehold dilapidations. Expenditure against this budget was £64 million.

Reconciliation of the Estimates to the Statement of Net Expenditure

The Estimates and Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply (SOPS) are compiled using the budgeting framework. The financial statements are prepared using International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The diagram below outlines how we translate the Estimates to the Statement of Net Expenditure (SoCNE) in the schedules. All green areas feed into the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure (SoCNE).

How are SOCNE and the Estimates Connected



The SOCNE is represented by all of Resource Expenditure (RDEL and RAME), specific elements of CDEL (Capital Grants, Capital Income and R&D Expenditure) and minor elements of Non-Voted expenditure and other Misc receipts which are captured under the Trust Statement.

The Department has reported net expenditure of £21.90 billion within the SoCNE. This expenditure is mainly within Resource (DEL and AME), although there are some elements of Capital DEL, non-voted income and receipts reported in the Trust Statement, which also form part of the SoCNE total.

All elements of Resource (both DEL and AME feed into the SOCNE). These represent the Resource Outturn Figure which can be seen in SOPS tables 1.1 and 2.

Capital grants (£196.7 million) and research and development expenditure (£92.7 million) although reflected as CDEL in the Department's Estimate, are treated as expenditure under IFRS. Capital income (£7.7 million) although reflected as CDEL in the Department's Estimate, is treated as income under IFRS. All three elements are included in the SoCNE and are shown in SOPS table 2 as adjustments to the Resource Outturn figure.

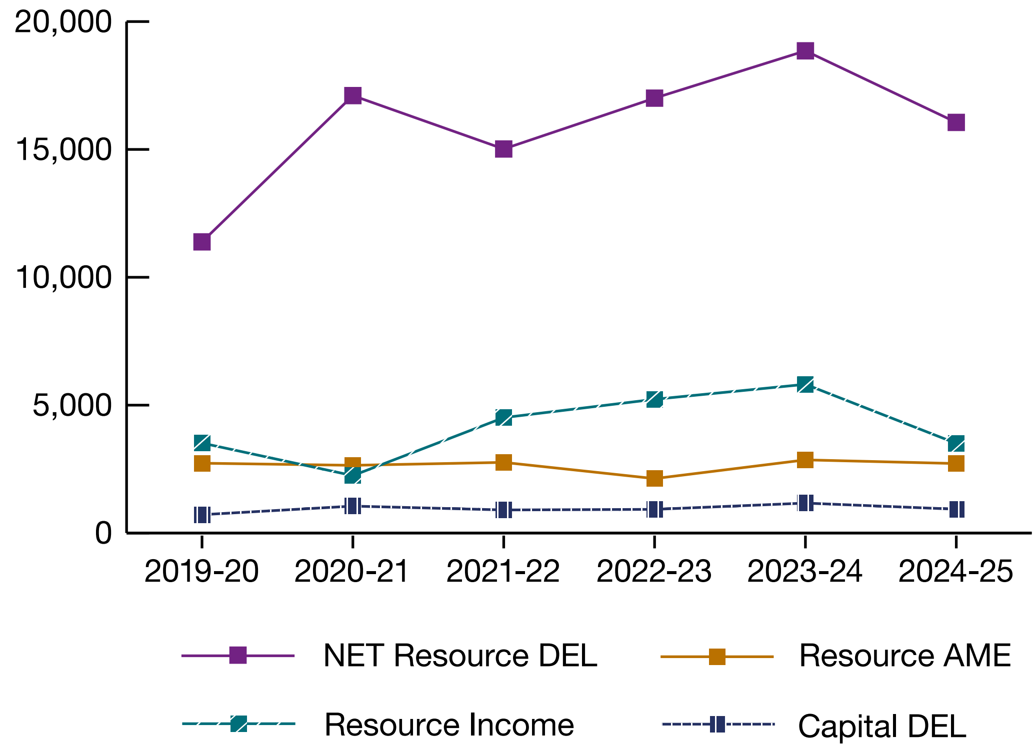
Miscellaneous income and Health Scheme fees are non-voted (and so not part of Home Office Estimate) but are treated as income under IFRS and so represent £97.7 million in the SoCNE. These are shown under income payable to the Consolidated Fund in SOPS table 2.

Miscellaneous receipts of £1.7 million reported in the Trust Statement are included in the SoCNE as they are treated as income under IFRS. This figure is shown as income payable to the Consolidated Fund in SOPS table 2. All other Trust Statement entries are excluded from the SoCNE as they are collected by Home Office in its capacity as agent rather than the principal, and are therefore not part of the Home Office Estimate.

Net expenditure trend analysis

The charts below show net expenditure in Resource, Capital, and AME over the past six years. The figures in 2024-25 relate to the Department's SR21 settlement. The figures for all previous years are the outturn figures reflected in the respective Home Office Annual Reports and Accounts. All Resource figures include depreciation.

Trend analysis - DEL and AME Net Expenditure £m



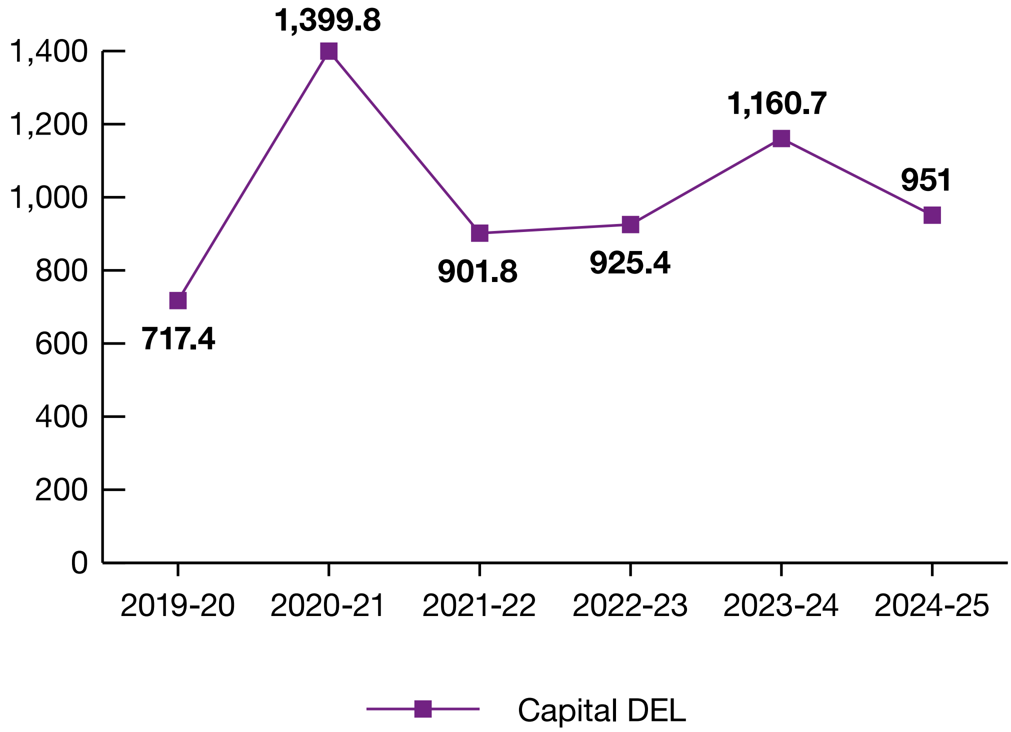
The increase in Resource DEL between 2019-20 and 2023-24 is mainly due to the rising cost of asylum support, measures to fix the UK's asylum system, and the implementation of the Department's plans to tackle illegal migration and Illegal Migration Act.

Over this period, there has also been funding required for other activity including: the cost of Afghan Resettlement schemes; the cost of preparations for exiting the EU; the recruitment of additional police officers; investment in improved border security to support the exit from the EU; preparations for the Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of HM King Charles III.

The fall in Resource DEL between 2020-21 and 2021-22 was driven by a significant increase in income from visas and passports as COVID-19 restrictions eased and international travel began to open up. Since then although income has continued to increase, so has the level of funding required to support priorities particularly around the asylum system due to unprecedented levels of arrivals, including through small boats. More asylum seekers are seeking government support and accommodation costs have increased. There has also been an increase in Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding to help mitigate pressures arising from these activities.

Capital DEL net expenditure

Trend analysis - Capital DEL net expenditure £m

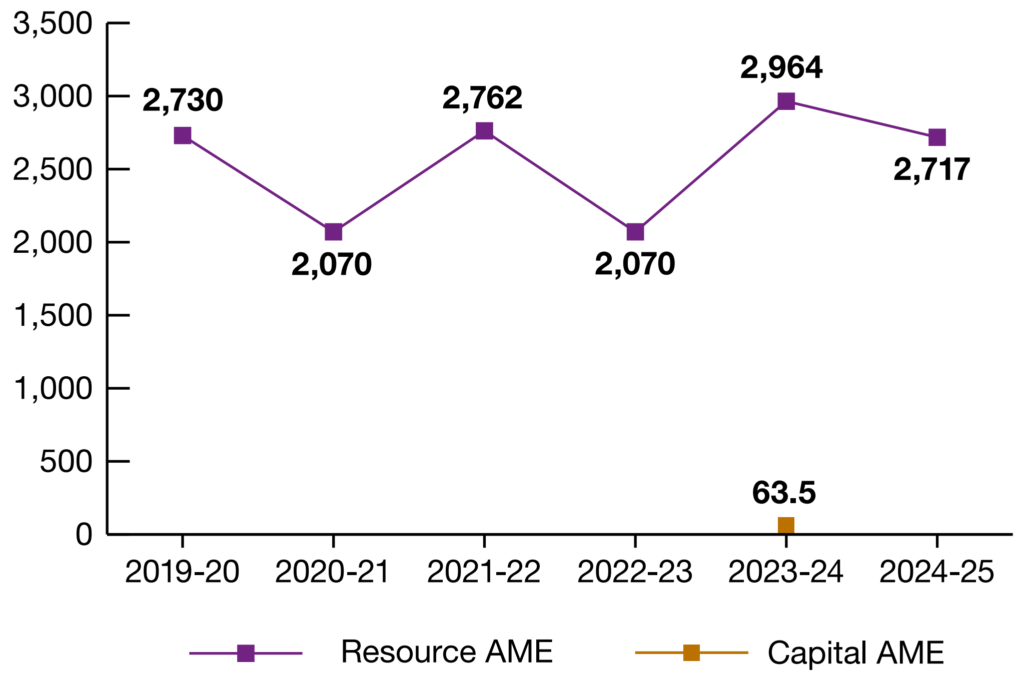


Over the past five years, capital expenditure has increased due to continued investment in programmes, particularly those to support new and improved border controls. Over some of this period, the Department has also undertaken action in relation to the UK exit from the EU with expenditure on the transition and upgrade of required systems.

Since 2022-23 the Department has also seen an increase in its capital expenditure due to changes in the accounting treatment of leases under International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS)16.

During the year, further capital expenditure has been required as part of the measures to help fix the UK asylum system.

Trend analysis - resource AME and capital AME (£m)



The Department's Resource AME budget primarily comprises top-up funding for Police pensions and Fire and Rescue Authorities pensions (£2.97 billion in 2023-24). The movement in accounting provisions also forms part of this budget. Over the past 5 years Resource AME has remained between £2.5 billion – £3.0 billion which reflects the changes in annual pensions requirements as well as movements in provisions. The increase in Resource AME in 2023-24 is the result of increased Police Pensions and Fire Pensions costs alongside increases in the value of provisions in the Major Law Enforcement Portfolio.

Capital AME has occurred for the first time in 2023-24 after a provision was created for the possible costs associated with leasehold dilapidations where costs are incurred at the end of the lease term to restore the leased property to its original condition. Capital AME is expected to reduce to zero in 2024-25.

Statement of financial position

The Home Office group has a net liability of £1.5 billion at 31 March 2024, an increase of £0.6 billion when compared to the £0.9 billion liability at 31 March 2023. The main changes in the Statement of Financial Position were:

- £0.8 billion increase in current liabilities mainly within trade and other payables. This movement is due mainly to the increase in accrued expenses for Police and Fire Pensions, liability for Local Authority claims for costs relating to those leaving care and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC).
- £0.1 billion increase in non-current liabilities, mainly relating to provisions which are c.£50 million greater than at the end of the previous financial year due mainly to an increase in the value which the Home Office is carrying for its dilapidations.
- £0.6 billion increase in non-current assets, which is due to the increase in plant, property and equipment and intangible assets (which includes assets under construction). The balance of assets under construction rose significantly in 2023-24 due to major programmes being undertaken, including the Immigration Removal Centre Expansion programmes (IRCEP). This offsets some of the overall increase in liabilities outlined above.
- £0.3 billion decrease in current assets due to a decrease of £250 million in the balance of cash and cash equivalents and a decrease of £65 million in trade receivables. The value of accrued income (for work carried out but not yet paid by the customer) and the value of prepayments were both lower at the year end March 2024.

Sustainability reporting

Environmental sustainability

The Home Office subscribes to the Greening Government Commitments (GGC) for reducing carbon, water, and paper use, reducing travel, managing waste, sustainable procurement, developing and delivering Nature Recovery Plans, adapting to climate change, and reducing the impact of information and communications technology.

Scope and data

This report has been prepared in accordance with guidelines laid down by HM Treasury in 'Sustainability Reporting Guidance' published at: [2023-24 Sustainability Reporting Guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-reporting-guidance-2023-24).[62] The Departmental data below summarises our position for the calendar year 2023 against a baseline of the financial year 2017-18, unless otherwise stated.

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Property Directorate provides shared estates services to the Home Office. MoJ is responsible for reporting and managing environmental sustainability across the Home Office estate. The data is gathered and verified by an external organisation and quality assured by Det Norske Veritas on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). Last year, the data was cleansed to improve the accuracy of data for the baseline year (2017-18) and financial year 2021-22.

There are still gaps in the data compared to the Sustainability Reporting Guidance, including buildings in the Home Office estate that we are currently unable to obtain data for. We are working to improve our data coverage, including as set out below.

62 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-reporting-guidance-2023-24

Overall Greening Government Commitments (GGC) performance

Requirement by March 2025 (against 2017-18 baseline)	Interim 2023-24 target (same as GGC Target in the penultimate year)	2023-24 performance
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 44%	-44%	-47%
Reduce direct GHG by 25%	-25%	-46%
Meet Government Fleet commitment for 25% of car fleet to be ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV) by 31 December 2022, and for 100% of the government car and van fleet to be fully zero emissions at the tailpipe by 31 December 2027	n/a	Plug-in hybrid (ULEV): 56% Full electric: 10%
Reduce the emissions from domestic business flights by at least 30% (report distance travelled; km)	-30%	-55%
Reduce overall waste by 15%	-15%	-39%
Reduce paper use by 50%	-50%	-74%
Remove consumer single use plastic (CSUP) from the central government office estate	n/a	Data not currently reported
Recycle more than 70% of waste	n/a	64%
Send less than 5% of waste to landfill	n/a	22%
Reduce water consumption by at least 8%	-8%	-20%

DEFRA recently approved re-baselining of targets to reflect the changing estate and improved granularity of data analysis.

Mitigating climate change: working towards Net Zero

The Home Office has continued to build on the progress made in 2022-23, when we developed our first green strategy. This included an estates sustainability strategy, a new Social Value Plan for sustainable procurement and a new Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) sustainability strategy. We also appointed our first board level sustainability champion and non-executive director to champion sustainability in the Department.

Greenhouse gas emissions

This section covers greenhouse gas emissions including Scope 1 (Direct), Scope 2 (Energy indirect) and Scope 3 (Official business travel). The Home Office has reduced carbon emissions from buildings and business-related travel. We achieved this largely through a programme of works to improve energy performance in our estate.

In 2023-24, the Home Office completed a programme of decarbonisation projects including seven full property LED lighting replacement projects and Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme-funded heat pump installations at two sites. (We were successful in securing a £1 million grant for the schemes, which had a total value of £1.24 million. The projects replaced ageing gas fired boilers with low-carbon, high-efficiency air-source heat pumps.) We also delivered domestic hot water system upgrades at two sites. In total, these projects will save £47,000 every year and 320 tonnes of CO_2.

We also sought local authority planning approval to install ten roof-mounted solar photovoltaic arrays on our properties. These will be implemented in 2024-25.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Scope 1 (Direct) GHG emissions (tonnes CO_2e)	18,072	12,149	12,572	11,025	12,045	7,885	8,267
Scope 2 (Energy indirect) GHG emissions	26,101	18,249	16,335	13,644	12,896	9,628	10,821
Scope 3 (Electricity T&D, Transport) GHG emissions	7,478	9,243	8,254	3,578	8,353	11,518	8,145
Total GHG Emissions - Scope 1, 2 & 3 (MWh)	**51,651**	**39,641**	**37,161**	**28,247**	**33,294**	**29,031**	**27,233**
Electricity: Non-Renewable	24,223	21,496	21,105	19,030	60,723	49,733	53,556
Electricity: Renewable	50,028[63]	42,971[63]	42,805[63]	39,498[63]	57[64]	55[64]	50[64]
Gas	58,276	43,747	45,934	44,642	38,839	33,089	33,811
Gas Oil (inc. diesel)	985	966	1,869	986	607	400	234
LPG	3,574	1,794	1,034	285	743	802	752
Fuel Oil						3	117
Burning oil	4,849	3,160	3,110	2,512	645	3,397	2,805
Total Energy Consumption	**141,935**	**114,134**	**115,857**	**106,953**	**101,614**	**87,479**	**91,325**

63 Green tariff. No self-generated electricity recorded.
64 Self-generated.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Total expenditure on energy (£'000)		**10,780**	**8,598**	**6,769**	**9,747**	**13,171**	**21,198**
Expenditure on official business travel (incl. domestic air travel)		49,405	40,435	17,416	16,651	35,735	34,622
Total expenditure on energy and business travel		**60,185**	**49,033**	**24,185**	**26,398**	**48,906**	**55,820**

Following a sharp reduction in 2020-21 in business and operational flights – contributing to Scope 3 (Official business travel) emissions – in large partly because of the pandemic, the number of flights increased again in 2021-22 but has now resumed a downward trajectory. Since 2022, Home Office travel policy has reflected Greening Government guidance requiring lower carbon options to be considered as an alternative to flying. There is currently no data on the number of flights available. We do not currently compensate for flights emissions specifically, but we require tree planting around sites under new contracts as part of our commitment to social value. (See 'Sustainable procurement' below.)

Domestic Flights	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Distance (km)	5,214,931	6,430,118	5,956,134	696,683	2,020,283	3,672,276	2,350,799
Non-Financial Indicators (tonnes CO_2e)	737				263	477	332

Although there is no target associated with international travel, this has also reduced. There is currently no breakdown of data by category and class of travel available.

International Business Travel		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Distance (km)	Flights	34,530,995	33,128,683	30,237,489	4,087,750	11,082,617	23,111,203	11,476,141
	Rail	847,062	855,170	296,630	11,649	103,593	541,611	414,976
Non-Financial Indicators (tonnes CO_2e)	Flights	4,202	3,917	3,040	424	1,054	3,139	1,156
	Rail	10	10	2	0.1	0.4	2.4	1.5
	Total	**4,212**	**3,927**	**3,042**	**424**	**1,054**	**3,141**	**1,158**

Car fleet

The Home Office met the Government Fleet Commitment for 25% of its operational car fleet to be ultra-low emission vehicle (ULEV) by 31 December 2022. Our fleet is 56% ULEV, including electric vehicles. We are continuing to increase the number of electric vehicles (fully zero emission at the tailpipe) in our fleet to meet the target of 100% of the car and van fleet by 31 December 2027. About 10% of our fleet is fully electric currently. A multi-year programme to instal electric vehicle charging points to support the fleet's transition is underway.

Waste minimisation and management

Our overall waste reduction remains off target for the second year in a row, largely because of unprecedented waste generation at the border as a result of small boats in the Channel. However, the recycling data marks an improvement on last year. We have started to widen the scope of what we reuse, repurpose and recycle. Current pilot projects range from sustainable furniture and coffee grounds in offices to portable flotation devices (PFDs) and dinghies in the Channel. In response, to the unprecedented challenge in the Channel, the pilot relating to PFDs has proved that sustainable waste management is possible, and we are now undertaking further work to improve commercial viability. As part of this work, we are also looking into reuse and recycling of dinghies, blankets and other materials.

Waste		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Total waste (tonnes)		**6,105**	**4,820**	**4,981**	**2,713**	**3,563**	**3,260**	**3715**
Non-hazardous waste	Landfill	79	177	204	62	36	293	800
	Reused/ Recycled	5,357	4,276	4,361	2,330	2,300	1,959	2202
	Composted/ anaerobic digestion	148	71	119	85	156	88	161
Incinerated with energy from waste		521	296	296	235	1,071	918	552
Incinerated without energy recovery		0	0	1	1	0	2	0.3
Total expenditure on waste Disposal (£'000)				**198**	**519**	**640**	**2,968**	**2,625**

In line with the ban on supply of single-use plastics in England from October 2023, we have taken steps to ensure removal from our supply chain. We are confident that they have been removed from our estate and facilities management supply lines, as set out in last year's report. We have also removed them from our commercial supply lines, although one product remains under review. We are working closely with our supplier to identify a greener, more affordable alternative.

The figure for total waste includes ICT waste as separate data for ICT waste is not available.

Paper use

We have reduced paper consumption again this year, already meeting the 2025 target. This has been achieved through a continuing programme of IT improvements and digitisation in addition to hybrid working.

Paper Purchased	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 Restated	2023-24
Paper Reams Procured (A4 equivalents)	251,632	186,267	150,657	53,876	79,577	79,750	66127

Finite resource consumption

To reduce our water use, we have installed water efficient systems and encouraged people to use water efficiently. To support our continued good performance against the water target, we have rolled out smart metering to our 25 highest-consuming sites and will continue the roll-out to additional sites in 2024-25. Smart metering provides meter readings at 30-minute intervals, allowing us to closely monitor trends and identify unexpected usage. We are currently developing our position on indirect water use.

Water Consumption			2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 restated	2023-24
Non-Financial Indicators (m^3)	Water consumption	Office estate	73,045	136,502	134,177	128,745	153,779	71,578	113,852
		Whole estate	399,144	176,047	176,763	145,801	245,713	297,342	320,998
Financial Indicators (£'000)	Water supply and sewage costs			1,073	454	605	417	141	291

Sustainable procurement

We are in year three of implementation of our 2025 Social Value Plan, to embed social value, including sustainability, into procurement practices and ensure compliance with Greening Government Commitments and Government Buying Standards. We have improved understanding, tools and templates throughout the procurement lifecycle, including by mandating Social Value training for staff whose roles involve procurement or contract management. For procurement, we have introduced new guidance on evaluation of bids and revised our assurance processes for procurements above £10 million to maximise Social Value benefits. For contract management, we have updated terms and conditions, requiring suppliers to provide Social Value plans to improve performance monitoring. We have standardised our approach to capturing reporting metrics using our Commercial Lifecycle System. To further increase Social Value benefits, our next steps are to set stretching short, medium and long-term goals to 2030 and to further refine our contract management processes and performance monitoring. Examples of effective delivery of Social Value in our contracts may be found at Home Office Social value and SME case studies - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).[65] Procurement of food and catering services is also fully in line with Government Buying Standards.

Nature recovery and biodiversity action planning

There has been no requirement for the Home Office to develop a nature recovery or biodiversity action plan to date as we do not hold significant natural capital or landholdings. However, we intend to develop a nature recovery plan this year.

Climate change adaption

Climate change represents a serious threat to Home Office operations and policy interests. This year, the Home Office conducted a Climate Change Risk Assessment across its estates and operations to better understand risk and to target areas that need greater resilience. In the coming year, we plan to develop an organisational Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and/or Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan that will include existing and planned actions in response to the risks identified by the risk assessment.

In addition, in 2023, the Home Office partnered with an international think tank to improve our evidence base on the security risks the UK faces as a result of climate change. We are developing a climate security action plan based on recommendations from this research. We have also set up a climate change forum for Home Office policy professionals to drive this work and improve consideration of the impacts of climate change on public safety, homeland security and migration and borders.

65 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/small-and-medium-enterprises-home-office-actions-and-case-studies

Reducing environmental impacts from ICT and digital

The Home Office completed development of a new Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) Sustainability Strategy in 2023-24. The strategy supports the government's overarching commitment to net zero, with a stretch target to deliver real zero across our DDaT by 2031. It requires delivery against three areas: our people (DDAT staff), our systems (software, hardware, networks) and our supply chain. In the first stage, our focus is on measuring the total environmental impacts across these three areas, so that we can measure our progress in reducing these impacts.

Various initiatives are in place, including use of autoscaling and products to reduce cloud consumption by about 60%, use of smart lockers to reduce the need for deliveries, and repurposing equipment or donating it to community groups where security controls allow. The smart lockers alone have reduced CO_2 emissions by 750kg. This is expected to rise to about two tonnes a year.

Sustainable construction

Sustainability has been fully embedded in a number of projects this year through adherence to the relevant standard (BREEAM). We continue to work towards embedding sustainable and net zero outcomes in all property projects, including those which do not meet BREEAM cost thresholds.

Policy objectives

The Home Office formally leads on one government policy objective related to climate change. In the third National Adaptation Programme (published July 2023), the Home Office committed to scoping a wildfire strategy and action plan.

The Home Office has ensured that lessons identified from the 2022 wildfire season, which saw extreme heat and an increase in the number of wildfire occurrence, have been addressed and incorporated into response plans. These plans are tested regularly.

In 2024-25, the Home Office will fund a new National Resilience Wildfire Advisor to assess what additional national capabilities might be needed to increase resilience to the wildfire risk and ensure co-ordination across the sector.

Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) compliance statement

The Home Office has reported on climate-related financial disclosures consistent with HM Treasury's TCFD-aligned disclosure application guidance, which interprets and adapts the framework for the UK public sector. The Home Office has complied with the TCFD recommendations and recommendations disclosures around: governance (all recommended disclosures) and metrics and targets (disclosures (b)). This is in line with the government's TCFD-aligned disclosure implementation timetable. The Home Office plans to make disclosures for Strategy, Risk Management and Metrics and Targets disclosures (a) and (c) in future reporting periods in line with the implementation timetable.

Governance

Oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities sits with two senior Home Office boards, our Executive Committee (ExCo) and Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC). ExCo discusses sustainability and climate change as required.

ARAC discusses these as a substantive agenda item once a year but receives written updates more frequently. The item at ARAC includes a review of progress against goals and targets. These two boards are supported by a number of subcommittees, working groups and fora. These include a Home Office Greening Government Commitments (GGC) Forum that meets quarterly to discuss progress against the targets in this section of this report, and the new climate change forum for policy professionals referred to above.

Several senior managers have a formal role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities. The Home Office International Director acts as Senior Responsible Office for climate security policy in the Home Office, providing a single point of contact for cross-Whitehall and international engagement on the issue. The Director of Security, Estates and Information oversees performance against our Greening Government commitments. The Strategy Director additionally acts as ExCo's climate change and sustainability champion. These senior managers or their teams report to ExCo and ARAC and other committees as above, and wider management is informed about climate-related issues through these processes.

This year, we also embedded environmental principles in Home Office policymaking to ensure policy decisions are based on sound evidence. As such, all senior managers now have a duty to ensure that relevant advice to ministers complies with the government's environmental principles policy statement. These principles are also embedded in project management, in business case templates.

Climate-related issues feature in senior officials' performance objectives. Climate change is not currently identified as a risk in the Home Office risk register, but it forms part of longer-term futures work – also known as horizon scanning – to ensure that climate-related issues inform strategy and plans.

Metrics and targets

The Home Office has disclosed its Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions, and related risks. We are currently considering whether additional metrics and targets, over and above those associated with our Greening Government Commitments, would be useful for next year's report.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs)

The Home Office is responsible for domestic delivery of several elements of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a package of goals aimed at securing an end to poverty and promoting peace and prosperity globally. Our work on modern slavery, set out above, contributes to delivery of the goals relating to gender equality and decent work and economic growth (5 and 8). Multiple Home Office workstreams also contribute to delivery of the goal relating to peace, justice and strong institutions, including our work to cut the crimes that matter most to the public. This includes the 25% reduction in serious violence, 16% reduction in homicides, significant progress in combatting drugs and work to reduce violence against women and girls and rape and other sexual offences, also all as set out above.

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

Accountability report

Corporate governance report

Lead Non-Executive Board Member's report

In 2023-24, the Home Office worked to ensure the security and economic prosperity of the UK, under the challenges of continued small boats arrivals, national protests and the legacy asylum backlog, which has been cleared, except for unworkable cases. The Department delivered key legislation in the National Security Act, Online Safety Act and Illegal Migration Act, and strengthened the UK border through the introduction of the Electronic Travel Authorisation scheme. It launched a major campaign to fight fraud and invested in the prevention of domestic abuse and the protection of Jewish and Muslim communities.

2023-24 was my first full year as Lead Non-Executive Board Member and saw a significant transformation to Departmental governance, non-executive support across various Departmental challenges, and changes to the non-executive team. The Department welcomed David Mawdsley as its newest non-executive board member and I want to extend my thanks to John Paton and Michael Fuller for their work as non-executive board members until the summer of 2023.

Non-executive board members advise on performance and operational issues, including operational and delivery implications of policy proposals. Through the Executive Talent Board, they appraise and ensure appropriate succession planning of senior executives. The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, chaired by non-executive James Cooper, plays a pivotal role in challenging the Department's management of risk, controls, and governance.

Non-executive board members also sit on other relevant ExCo sub-committees and support ministers and officials on a wide range of activities. This year non-executives have worked on developing a new Home Office Operating System; implementation of the Illegal Migration Act; cyber security; AI opportunities; and we have conducted multiple reviews for Ministers. Programmes we have supported include the Future Borders and Immigration System; Asylum Caseworking Transformation; Manston Transformation; Cerberus; and the Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme.

The Board met three times in 2023-24, welcoming a new Home Secretary and a number of new ministers to its membership. It has scrutinised the plans for and implementation of the new Home Office Operating System, as well as focusing on challenges around illegal migration, Departmental delivery and prioritisation. The Board comprises Home Office Ministers and Non-Executive Board Members, the Permanent Secretaries, the Director General (DG) for Corporate and Delivery and Director of Strategy.

At Executive level, Simon Ridley was appointed Second Permanent Secretary, having held the post on an interim basis following Tricia Hayes' departure. Stuart Skeates was appointed DG for Strategic Operations, a new command formed to implement the government's Illegal Migration Act and to ensure effective coordination of operational action on irregular migration. Phil Douglas was substantively appointed as DG for Border Force, having previously held the post in an interim capacity. Dan Hobbs took over as DG for Migration and Borders from Emma Churchill and Bas Javid was appointed DG for Immigration Enforcement, following Tony Eastaugh's interim posting to the role. Joanna Rowland became DG for Customer Services, following Abi Tierney's departure. John Ward took over from Nick Fussell as Joint Home Office Legal Adviser, the latter covering the role between Sarah Goom's departure and Ruth Tomlinson's appointment. Rebecca Ellis became Strategy Director, taking over from Emily Weighill.

In 2022-23 I reported that an independent effectiveness evaluation found that the Board is most valuable when we as Non-executive board members can use our external expertise to assure and challenge progress against Outcome Delivery Plans. In place of conducting another effectiveness evaluation this year, we built on these findings when in Spring 2023 the Home Secretary commissioned me to review the Home Office's governance model to ensure it enables optimum delivery for the British public with clear accountability. This review resulted in the introduction of the Home Office Operating System, which has transformed the Department's governance structures. It ensures that we focus on delivering the Board's highest priorities as set out in the Outcome Delivery Plan as well as creating a clear, coherent way for the department to respond to new priorities and pressures.

The system introduced the principle of accountability through the line management chain, and standardised performance reporting and presentation of data directly linked to the Department's performance objectives, culminating in monthly stocktakes with the Permanent Secretaries and their direct reports. A summary of these stocktakes is considered at the Department's Executive Committee – with any issues being escalated to the Home Secretary and Ministers as necessary by the Permanent Secretary and, where appropriate, the Board. As the system embeds, this structure will be used at all levels of the organisation to drive accountability for performance. The Operating System has also streamlined our committee governance with a material reduction in bureaucracy and time spent by officials in committee meetings; the Finance and Investment Committee was replaced by the Investment Committee, with Finance primarily managed in the Permanent Secretaries' stocktakes with oversight at the Executive Committee. The Risk and Delivery Committee and Effectiveness and Organisational Change Committee, formed in mid-2023, were also stood down.

Six months on from the Operating System's initial implementation, Home Office leaders have seen increased robustness in Departmental performance management, particularly around major programmes, commercial contracts, risk and resource management. I am confident that the System will help the Department to better serve the public and be more resilient in responding to future challenges.

Tim Robinson CBE
Home Office Lead Non-Executive Director

Statement of Accounting Officer's responsibilities

Under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (the GRAA), HM Treasury has directed the Home Office to prepare, for each financial year, consolidated resource accounts detailing the resources acquired, held, or disposed of, and the use of resources, during the year by the Department and its sponsored Non-Departmental Public Bodies designated by order made under the GRAA by Statutory Instrument 2017 No.1256. These bodies together are known as the 'Departmental group' consisting of the Department and sponsored bodies listed at note 19 to the accounts. The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Department and the Departmental group and of the net resource outturn, resources applied to objectives, recognised gains and losses and cash flows of the Departmental group for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the Accounting Officer is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) and to:

- Observe the Accounts Direction issued by HM Treasury, including relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis.

- Ensure that the Department has in place appropriate and reliable systems and procedures to carry out the consolidation process.
- Make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis, including those judgements involved in consolidating the accounting information provided by Non-Departmental Public Bodies.
- Confirm that the annual report and accounts is fair, balanced and understandable and that he or she takes personal responsibility for the annual report and accounts and the judgments required for determining that it is fair, balanced and understandable.
- State whether applicable accounting standards, as set out in the FReM have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the accounts.
- Prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

HM Treasury has appointed the Permanent Secretary of the Department as Accounting Officer of the Home Office.

The Accounting Officer of the Department has also appointed the Chief Executives of its sponsored Non-Departmental Public Bodies as Accounting Officers of those bodies. The Accounting Officer of the Department is responsible for ensuring that appropriate systems and controls are in place to ensure that any grants that the Department makes to its sponsored bodies are applied for the purposes intended and that such expenditure and the other income and expenditure of the sponsored bodies are properly accounted for, for the purposes of consolidation within the resource accounts. Under their terms of appointment, the Accounting Officers of the sponsored bodies are accountable for the use, including the regularity and propriety, of the grants received and the other income and expenditure of the sponsored bodies.

As the Accounting Officer, I have taken all the steps that I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Home Office's auditors are aware of that information. So far as I am aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware.

The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the Accounting Officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and for safeguarding the assets of the Department or non-departmental public body for which the Accounting Officer is responsible, are set out in Managing Public Money published by HM Treasury.

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE
Accounting Officer

Directors' report

Our ministers at 31 March 2024

The Rt Hon James Cleverly MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

The Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MBE VR MP
Minister of State for Security

The Rt Hon Chris Philp MP
Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Fire

Michael Tomlinson KC MP
Minister of State for Countering Illegal Migration

Lord Sharpe of Epsom OBE
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

Laura Farris MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
for Victims and Safeguarding

Tom Pursglove MP
Minister of State for Legal Migration and the Border

Our executives at 31 March 2024

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE
Permanent Secretary

Simon Ridley
Second Permanent Secretary

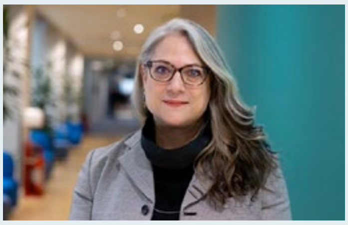
Phil Douglas
Director General, Border Force

Dan Hobbs
Director General, Migration & Borders

Bas Javid
Director General, Immigration Enforcement

David Kuenssberg
Director General, Corporate and Delivery

Joanna Rowland
Director General, Customer Services



Professor Jennifer Rubin
Director General, Science, Technology, Analysis and Research (STAR) and Chief Scientific Advisor

Jaee Samant
Director General, Public Safety

Stuart Skeates CB CBE
Director General, Strategic Operations

Chloe Squires
Director General, Homeland Security

Julie Blomley
Chief People Officer

Rebecca Ellis
Strategy Director

Rob Hall
Communications Director

Ruth Tomlinson
Home Office Legal Director

John Ward OBE
Home Office Legal Director

Our non-executives at 31 March 2024

Tim Robinson CBE
Lead Non-Executive Board Member

James Cooper
Non-Executive Board Member

Jan Gower
Non-Executive Board Member

David Mawdsley
Non-Executive Board Member

Phil Swallow
Non-Executive Board Member

Other non-executives at 31 March 2024

John Aston
Independent member
Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

Alan Hammill
Independent member
Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

Ruth Murray-Webster
Independent member
Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

Changes to our senior decision-making forums in 2023-24

The following changes took place between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024:

Role	Name	Change
Ministerial changes		
Secretary of State for the Home Department	**The Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP**	Departed on 13 November 2023
	The Rt Hon James Cleverly MP	Appointed on 13 November 2023
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Victims and Safeguarding)	**Sarah Dines MP**[66]	Departed on 13 November 2023
	Laura Farris MP[67]	Appointed on 13 November 2023
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Lords Minister)	**Lord Murray of Blidworth**	Departed 14 November 2023
Minister of State (Minister for Immigration)	**Robert Jenrick MP**	Departed on 06 December 2023
Minister of State for Legal Migration and the Border	**Tom Pursglove MP**	Appointed on 07 December 2023
Minister of State for Countering Illegal Migration	**Michael Tomlinson KC MP**	Appointed on 07 December 2023

66 Sarah Dines MP held this position as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Safeguarding).
67 Laura Farris MP was appointed to this position jointly with the Ministry of Justice.

Role	Name	Change
Executive level changes		
Second Permanent Secretary	**Tricia Hayes**	Departed on 30 April 2023
	Simon Ridley	Appointed interim Second Permanent Secretary on 18 April 2023
		Substantively appointed on 07 February 2024
Director General, Strategic Operations	**Stuart Skeates CB CBE**	Appointed 18 April 2023
Director General, Border Force	**Phil Douglas**	Substantively appointed from interim role on 12 June 2023
Strategy Director	**Emily Weighill**	Member of ExCo from 13 June 2023
		Departed on 10 January 2024
	Rebecca Ellis	Appointed on 08 January 2024
Director General, Migration and Borders	**Emma Churchill**	Departed on 29 August 2023
	Dan Hobbs	Appointed on 14 August 2023
Home Office Legal Advisers	**John Ward**	Appointed on 11 April 2023
	Sarah Goom	Departed on 08 September 2023
	Nick Fussell[68]	Appointed on an interim basis on 11 September 2023
		Departed interim role on 29 December 2023
	Ruth Tomlinson	Appointed on 02 January 2024
Director General, Immigration Enforcement	**Tony Eastaugh**	Departed interim role on 03 December 2023
	Bas Javid	Appointed 06 November 2023
Director General, Customer Services	**Abi Tierney**	Departed on 05 January 2024
	Joanna Rowland	Appointed 08 January 2023

68 Nick Fussell also held the post of interim Joint Home Office Legal Adviser from 03 January to 10 April 2023, until the appointment of John Ward.

Role	Name	Change
Non-Executive level changes		
Non-Executive Director	**John Paton**	Contract expired on 19 June 2023
Non-Executive Director	**Michael Fuller QPM**	Contract expired on 06 July 2023
Non-Executive Director	**David Mawdsley**	Appointed on 01 November 2023
Independent member, Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	**Richard Clarke**	Contract expired on 01 January 2024

The Home Office organisational structure

Our organisational structure is designed to enable us, as One Home Office, to deliver better outcomes for the public. Our three mutually supporting Missions lead the end-to-end delivery of our core outcomes, working in conjunction with our ten Capabilities to provide best in class services. The Missions and Capabilities are coordinated and supported by a strong corporate centre which sets the strategic direction for the Department, underpinned by evidence, and provides the enabling functions to deliver our objectives.

- Public Safety Mission: principally leads on developing, co-ordinating and delivering the government's strategy, policy and legislation on crime, policing and fire.
- Homeland Security Mission: reduces the risk to the UK from terrorism, state threats and economic crime and cyber crime.
- Migration and Borders Mission: principally enables the legitimate movement of people and goods, tackles illegal migration, and protects the vulnerable.
- Ten cross-cutting capabilities play an integral part in delivering these outcomes: Border Force; Customer Services; Immigration Enforcement; Strategic Operations; Corporate and Delivery; Human Resources; Science, Technology, Analysis and Research; Legal; Strategy; and Communications.

We work with over 30 agencies and public bodies to deliver this work.

Senior appointments and management of interests

Appointment of senior officials

The permanent head of the Department was appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendation of the Head of the Home Civil Service and with the agreement of the Ministerial Head of the Department. All Executive Committee appointments are permanent Civil Service appointments, the terms of which are set out in the standard Senior Civil Service contract. These appointments are for an indefinite term under the terms of the Senior Civil Service contract. The rules for termination are set out in Chapter 11 of the Civil Service Management Code.

Public appointments

All appointments to Home Office sponsored public bodies are made in accordance with the principles of merit, openness, and fairness, as set out in the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA) Code of Practice.

Business appointment rules

Senior Civil Servants (SCS) leaving the Civil Service are asked to complete a Business Appointment Rules (BAR) application. If a trigger is met, the application is processed by the SCS HR Team. The Permanent Secretary is responsible for reviewing and approving all SCS1-2 BARs cases. The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments (ACOBA) is responsible for reviewing all SCS3-4 BARs cases.

Exits from senior civil service

Number of exits from the SCS – 2023-24	
SCS2	6
SCS1	30
Number of BARs applications processed by the Department – 2023-24	
SCS2 (both Special Advisors)	2
SCS1	2
Number of BARs applications where conditions were set	
SCS2	2 (standard conditions)
SCS1	1 (standard conditions)
Number of applications that were found to be unsuitable for the applicant to be taken up by the Department – 2023-24	
SCS2	0
SCS1	1
Number of the breaches of the rules in 2023-24	
SCS2	0
SCS1	0

In compliance with BARs, the department is transparent in the advice given to individual applications for senior staff, including special advisers. Advice regarding specific business appointments has been published on GOV.UK. Home Office: business appointment rules advice.[69] Quarterly updates are also provided to the Home Office Audit and Risk Assurance Committee which are aligned with the quarterly transparency requirements set by Cabinet Office.

The BARs policy and process is highlighted in SCS contracts and leavers guidance.

Non-executive board members – appointment and terms

Independent Non-Executive Board Members are appointed through fair and open competition by the Home Secretary. Non-Executive Board Members are appointed for an initial period of three years with an option to extend for a further three years. These appointments can be terminated with one month's notice period.

Declaration of conflicts of interest

It is Home Office policy, which aligns with the Civil Service Code, that requires all staff to ensure there is no conflict of interest, or apparent conflict of interest, between their official positions and any financial or non-financial interests, which they or those close to them may have. The policy provides guidance on matters that could be construed a conflict of interest.

Register of interests

All SCS grades and Non-Executive Board Members are required each year to consider the guidance and make a declaration on whether any such conflict may exist. These details are maintained in a register of interest to ensure that any perceived or real conflicts of interest can be identified. Relevant information is held by the Department in a central register alongside mitigation measures taken.

There were no conflicts of interest to report for SCS grades.

The register of ministers' financial interests is held by Parliament and other relevant interests are held by the Cabinet Office.[70, 71]

Non-Executive Board Members' interests

Name of Company or Organisation	Position Held	Type of Interest	Other Information
Tim Robinson			
LGC	Director	Shareholding	Ended February 2023
OpenGI Ltd	Non-Executive Chairman	Pay & shareholding	

69 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-business-appointment-rules-advice
70 https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-financial-interests/parliamentary-commissioner-for-standards/registers-of-interests/register-of-members-financial-interests/
71 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-ministers-interests

Name of Company or Organisation	Position Held	Type of Interest	Other Information
Place2Be	Trustee	Unpaid	
James Cooper			
GB Railfreight Limited	Chairman	Pay	
Forth Ports Limited	Non-Executive Director	Pay	Border Force is a tenant.
Solent Stevedores Limited	Consultant	Fees	SSL does not contract with the Home Office but there is a very small risk that Border Force could be interested in its activities.
Jan Gower			
Medway Consulting	Partner	Profit share	
University of Loughborough	Member of the Strategic Advisory Board and School of Business and Economics	Unpaid	
HM Courts & Tribunals Service	Independent Advisor	Fees	
Student Loans Company	Independent Advisor	Unpaid	Paid work ended March 2022. Informal advice to Chief Executive provided until October 2023.
Intellectual Property Office	Independent Advisor	Fees	
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities	Independent Advisor	Fees	
Cabinet Office Infrastructure and Projects Authority	Independent Advisor	Fees	

Name of Company or Organisation	Position Held	Type of Interest	Other Information
Management Consultant Industry Awards	Judge	Unpaid	
David Mawdsley			
GSK	Senior Vice President	Paid	
Conservative Party	Member	Membership	Donation of £500 in 2022
Phil Swallow			
Accenture	Senior Advisor	Paid Advisor	Some work on Government team, previous on METIS
London Transport Museum	Member of Enterprise Board	Unpaid	
Taw Valley Ltd	Director	Unpaid	
Locomotive Services (TOC) Limited	Non-Executive Director	Salaried	
Department of Health and Social Care	Advisor to Secretary of State	Unpaid	Ended November 2023
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Senior Ministerial Adviser	Unpaid	Started January 2024
Michael Fuller (former Non-Executive Board Member)			
Michael Fuller Consultancy Ltd	Director	Paid Advisor	Sheku Bayou Inquiry, paid for by the Scottish Government

Name of Company or Organisation	Position Held	Type of Interest	Other Information
John Paton (former Non-Executive Board Member)			
IVA Ventures LLC	Chair	Dividend	
Independent Digital News Media Ltd	Chair	Pay	
Boat International Media Ltd	Executive Chair	Pay	
Pembroke VCT PLC	Member Investment Committee	Fee	
Fine & Rare Wines Ltd	Director	Fee	
WorldPR	Advisor	Pay	
NUBA Expediciones SL	Chairman	Paid advisor	

Mitigations have been put in place in relation to potential perceived conflicts of interest for the Department's non-executive board members. The Home Office non-executive board members are required to report any conflict of interests that arise and recuse themselves from any discussions which may give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest. There was no requirement to enact this mitigation in 2022-23.

No executive members of the board reported any significant company directorships or other interests that may conflict with their management responsibilities.

Professor Jennifer Rubin, who is a member of the Executive Committee, registered a potential conflict of interest arising from the employment of her husband with the Behavioural Insights Team. She will not be involved in any commercial relationships involving the Behavioural Insights Team and recuse herself as necessary from related discussions.

In line with the current Declaration of Interests Policy for special advisers, all special advisers have declared any relevant interests or confirmed they do not consider they have any relevant interests. The Permanent Secretary has considered these returns and the following relevant interests are set out in public:

Full Name	Details of interest
Joseph Tetlow	He is an associate at the Green Alliance Think Tank.

Personal Data Related Incidents

Table 1: summary of other personal data incidents formally reported to the Information Commissioner's Office in 2023-24

The Department notified the Information Commissioner's Office of 6 incidents during the 2023-24 reporting period.			
Category	**Nature of Incident**	**2023-24 Total**	**2022-23 Total**
I	Loss of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices or paper documents from secured government premises	0	0
II	Loss of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices or paper documents from outside secured government premises	1	1
III	Insecure disposal of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices or paper documents	0	0
IV	Unauthorised disclosure	3	5
V	Other	2	2
Total		**6**	**8**

Processes and procedures used to identify, manage, and resolve personal data breaches align with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). These processes and procedures ensure that the definition of a personal data breach used by the Department is aligned with regulatory guidance and that a robust and consistent approach to the centralised reporting of such breaches is adopted; and consequently, that the Department's approach is compliant with the legislation.

Table 2: summary of other personal data incidents recorded in 2023-24

The 17,488 incidents reported to the Office of the Data Protection Officer (ODPO) and deemed by the data controller to be personal data breaches which did not fall within the criteria for reporting to the Information Commissioner's Office, are recorded centrally within the Department, and set out in the table below.

Category	Nature of Incident	2023-24 Total	2022-23 Total
I	Loss of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices, or paper documents from secured government premises	722	426
II	Loss of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices, or paper documents from outside secured government premises	5,017	3,391
III	Insecure disposal of inadequately protected electronic equipment, devices, or paper documents	125	28
IV	Unauthorised disclosure	7,247	5,069
V	Other	4,377	2,756
Total		**17,488**	**11,670**

The number of personal data incident reports continued to increase last year alongside rising levels of data protection maturity across the Department. The increased volume of reports is an indicator of how the Department is improving its ability to recognise, report, and manage these predominantly low-risk incidents. The increase in reporting is a result of continuing efforts to educate staff on their data protection responsibilities as individuals, and as part of the development of a no-blame culture which promotes reporting as a means to improve.

Despite the increase in overall reporting, the number of ICO referrals in 2023-24 reduced further to six, consistent with the trend over a number of years: 32 in 2018-19; 25 in 2019-20; 12 in 2020-21; 13 in 2021-22 and 8 in 2022-23.

This demonstrates that the number of high-risk incidents is still on a downward trend, indicating an improvement in the Department's controls, limiting risks and the impact when such events do occur. The Office of the Data Protection Officer (ODPO) continues to encourage a culture of cooperation and engagement with the ICO and the organisation to support transparency and further reduce the risk of non-compliance.

The vast majority of reported incidents remain, as expected, in those parts of the organisation which process the greatest volumes of personal data. Improved awareness is also resulting in a shift in the types of incidents which are recognised as we continue to raise awareness of the entire Information Security (Confidentiality, Integrity & Availability) Triad.

The increase in the number of reports is indicative of the improved engagement by the business in seeking advice on identifying and responding to incidents, mitigating risks, communicating with data subjects and preventing recurrence; all positive behaviours. As the Department continues to improve, we expect the increase in incident reporting to continue into 2024-25 as we are improving the tools to simplify reporting. We hope improved efficiency of reporting will enable the business to focus more on mitigation and lessons learned to prevent recurrence for a longer-term reduction in actual incidents.

At this stage of the Department's journey the Home Office's ODPO still believes that supporting the organisation to continue identifying different incident types and areas of under-reporting is the most effective path to increasing levels of compliance and assurance.

The Home Office continues to build on the governance, information assurance and risk management structures which have developed and improved following the roll-out of UK GDPR. Efforts to increase incident reporting provide a valuable source of risk analysis, enabling targeted assurance work and otherwise supporting improvements in the organisation. To support the need for a robust reporting culture, a new data and security incident reporting tool was rolled out across the Home Office in 2022. The improved management information which the tool provides is being used to improve analysis of trends and risks to support improved assurance activity throughout the Department.

The Home Office continues to process a significant volume of personal data. Incident numbers should not be viewed in isolation but considered against the vast amount of data handling undertaken throughout the organisation on a daily basis. A significant proportion of recorded incidents involve physical documents being lost in transit to customers and there was a significant spike in these incidents in late 2023 with the move to a new delivery partner. Improvements have been made since then and, while there is no room for complacency as we still work to reduce these events, it is important to note that these form a small percentage of the applications being managed by Customer Services which undertakes a large proportion of the Department's processing.

Complaints to the Parliamentary Ombudsman

The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman received a total of 1,202 complaints against the Home Office during 2022-23, an increase of 381 (46%) compared to the 821 complaints in 2020-21. This report was published in October 2023 and is the period for which the most recently published data is available:

Complaints about UK government departments and other Public Organisations 2022-23

UK Government Departments and Agencies Table 2022-23.pdf (ombudsman.org.uk)[72]

Organisation	Complaints Received	Complaints Resolved by mediation	Decided following primary investigation	Resolved with agreement of the complainant at Initial checks or Primary investigation	Complaints accepted for detailed investigation	Detailed investigations fully upheld	Detailed investigations partly upheld	Detailed investigations not upheld	Detailed investigations resolved with the complainant	Detailed investigations discontinued	Uphold rate (only upholds)	Uphold rate (upheld or partly upheld)
Home Office	1202	-	139	14	10	3	3	4	0	0	30%	60%
Border Force	50	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Cheshire Constabulary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Derbyshire Constabulary	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
General Register Office	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Greater Manchester Police	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%

72 https://www.ombudsman.org.uk/sites/default/files/UK%20Government%20Departments%20and%20Agencies%20Table%202022-23.pdf

Organisation	Complaints Received	Complaints Resolved by mediation	Decided following primary investigation	Resolved with agreement of the complainant at Initial checks or Primary investigation	Complaints accepted for detailed investigation	Detailed investigations fully upheld	Detailed investigations partly upheld	Detailed investigations not upheld	Detailed investigations resolved with the complainant	Detailed investigations discontinued	Uphold rate (only upholds)	Uphold rate (upheld or partly upheld)
Hampshire Constabulary	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
HM Passport Office	417	-	22	5	1	-	2	2	-	-	0%	50%
Home Office	271	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Lincolnshire Police	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Metropolitan Police Service	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Police	32	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Security Industry Authority	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
The Disclosure and Barring Service	30	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
UK Visas and Immigration	377	-	75	9	8	3	1	2	-	-	50%	67%
West Midlands Police	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%

The Home Office is committed to providing a high-quality service to both internal and external customers. The Home Office is committed to take any complaints made seriously. Every complaint is investigated thoroughly by a specially trained officer at the appropriate level of authority.

The Home Office deals with two types of complaints, formal and operational:

- formal complaints are those made by outside organisations about the behaviour of members of staff, and
- operational complaints refer to the way in which a person's case is dealt with.

The Department believes that complaints are an opportunity to improve its services and looks upon complaints as opportunities for us:

- to learn about the quality of the service we give
- to improve our service, rather than just fixing a specific problem for an individual, and
- to take responsibility for complaints on our subject area. We 'own' the complaint on behalf of the organisation; the complainant 'owns' the original issue.

The Home Office has published its complaint handling procedure, so the public can understand the process. Home Office staff are requested to familiarise themselves with it before handling a complaint in the interests of consistency. Complaints procedure - Home Office - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)[73]

For more information on the Ombudsman complaints process, classification of complaints and where to find recent reports and consultations refer to: www.ombudsman.org.uk[74]

The Home Office works closely with the Independent Examiner of Complaints (IEC) which is an independent complaint investigation service for individuals who are dissatisfied with the Home Office's final response to a complaint. The IEC was introduced in October 2022. Its first annual report covering 22-23 was published in April 2024. We have continued to build a positive working relationship with the IEC through a programme of visits, regular conversations with the Directors General and the senior team. Their recommendations have supported the department in reviewing our approaches to complaints handling and have provided us with insights on systemic issues.

The IEC Annual Report can be found at Independent Examiner of Complaints Annual Report 2022 to 2023[75]

Performance in responding to correspondence from the public

In 2023-24, Home Office headquarters received 7,938 letters and emails which required an official response. We replied to 92% of this correspondence within 20 working days against a target of 95%.

Compared to 2022-23 with 6,309 letters and emails, this year's performance in responding to correspondence from the public improved by 7% though the volume received was 26% higher.

73 https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/complaints-procedure
74 https://www.ombudsman.org.uk/
75 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-examiner-of-complaints-annual-report-2022-to-2023

Governance statement

How we are governed

The Home Office operates and follows the principles of good governance in accordance with HM Treasury and Cabinet Office guidance. We continue to evaluate our governance and introduce changes to support more effective management of the Department, enhance collective decision making and improve the effectiveness of our systems of internal control, risk management and accountability.

The Home Office vision for corporate governance is to create an efficient and effective decision-making structure that is inclusive, accountable, and transparent. Committees are empowered to take decisions at the lowest appropriate level to enable senior boards to focus time on the issues only they can manage. It enables the Department's senior leadership to:

- Set the strategic direction of the Department and deliver on its vision and mission.
- Manage performance, risk, delivery, and allocation of resources against the Department's key priorities.
- Horizon scan for long-term trends that may influence these priorities, policies and services, and capitalise on emerging opportunities.
- Encourage cultural change and uphold the values that will enable the Department to deliver effectively.
- Have oversight of the work of the Department's arm's length bodies.

Corporate governance, management, and controls

Governance

System of control

We are governed by:

- The Secretary of State's overall responsibility for governance of the Home Office and its arm's length bodies.
- The Permanent Secretary's responsibility both to the Secretary of State and directly to Parliament as the Principal Accounting Officer both for management and expenditure.
- The Departmental Board's collective responsibility for advice on strategic and operational issues and overseeing the work of the Department. Its sub-committees provide layers of control, scrutiny, and assurance to ensure that the Department has been achieving its aims and objectives.

Further information on accountability relationships and processes within the Department, and how the Home Office works to deliver for customers, can be found in the latest Accounting Officer System Statement at Accounting officer system statements[76]

76 https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/accounting-officer-system-statements

Home Office governance structure at 31 March 2024

The following table sets out the structure of the top-level committees that operate in the Department and the chair of each committee.

Quarterly

Departmental Board

Chair: Home Secretary

Provides the collective strategic and operational leadership of the department and is supported by its committees.

Quarterly

Audit & Risk Assurance Committee

Chair: James Cooper (NED)

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) is chaired by our Non-Executive Board Member James Cooper and supports the Board and Accounting Officer in their responsibilities for issues of risk, control, assurance, and governance. It provides an independent view of the adequacy of the Department's risk, control, and governance arrangements. It meets quarterly and holds an additional meeting to review and make a recommendation on the approval of the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts.

Quarterly

Home Office Executive Talent Board

Chair: Permanent Secretary

The Executive Talent Board is chaired by the Permanent Secretary and provides a forum for strategic discussions on talent, pay and performance of our most senior staff.

It is attended by the Second Permanent Secretary, Lead Non-Executive Board Member, and Chief People Officer. It is supported by the Senior Leadership Committee which fulfils the same purpose for SCS PB1 and PB2 roles.

Senior Leadership Committee

Twice a month

Executive Committee (ExCo)

Chair: Permanent Secretary

ExCo is chaired by the Permanent Secretary and provides direction on the significant strategy decisions and cross-departmental issues to ensure the Department is equipped to deliver its objectives. It is supported by the People Committee on cross-departmental people strategies, programmes and performance across people issues, and the Investment Committee which provides governance, assurance and oversight of the department's significant investment decisions and portfolio delivery.

People Committee

Investment Committee

Departmental Board

The Departmental Board (the Board) is chaired by the Home Secretary, and includes Ministers, Non-Executive Board Members, the Permanent Secretaries, DG Corporate & Delivery and the Director of Strategy. It forms the collective strategic leadership of the Home Office with a broad purpose to steer and scrutinise the Department's strategy, performance, and capability. Its remit is wide-ranging with the top-level committees and timebound boards reporting directly or indirectly into it.

Responsibilities

- Provide long-term strategic direction for the Department that supports delivery of the Department's performance objectives.
- Scrutinise, advise, and assure the Department's performance against its delivery of strategic objectives, major programmes, and priority policy initiatives.
- Ensure the design, capability and capacity of the organisation matches current and future commitments and plans.
- Shape, test and assure strategic engagement across government.
- Provide leadership by defining and supporting the Department's purpose, values, and approach to delivery.

Policy will be decided by Ministers alone, with advice from officials. The Board will give advice and support on the operational implications and effectiveness of policy proposals, focusing on getting policy translated into results. The established accountability of Ministers and Accounting Officers to Parliament is unchanged.

The Departmental Board meets quarterly. However, the third quarter meeting was cancelled due to ministerial resignation.

Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) is chaired by our Non-Executive Board Member, James Cooper. It provides an independent view of the adequacy of the Department's risk, control, and governance arrangements. It met five times focusing on risk management, health and safety and cyber security. The committee also looked at the implementation of the Home Office Operating System, climate change and assurance activity, and held an additional meeting to review and make a recommendation on the approval of the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts.

Responsibilities

- Review the strategic process for risk, control, and governance.
- Approve the Home Office's Governance Statement, Annual Report and Accounts, other accounts within the Committee's scope, and management's letter of representation to the NAO.
- Review the planned activity and results of both internal and external audit.
- Review the adequacy of management response to issues identified by audit activity, including NAO's management letter.
- Assure management of risk and corporate governance requirements for the organisation including its major projects.
- Provide assurance on information handling, health & safety, and cyber security arrangements.

Executive Talent Board

The Executive Talent Board is chaired by the Permanent Secretary and provides a forum for strategic discussions on talent, pay and performance of our most senior staff. It is attended by the Second Permanent Secretary, the Lead Non-Executive Board Member, and Chief People Officer. It met four times this year, holding discussions on the full range of its responsibilities set out below. Itis supported by the Senior Leadership Committee which fulfils the same purpose for SCS PB1 and PB2 roles. These Boards fulfil the role of a nominations committee as set out in the Corporate Code of Governance.

Responsibilities:

- Oversee and lead on the Department's processes for developing talent in the director general (SCS PB3) population.
- Decide reward and incentive strategies for the director general (SCS PB3) population.
- Oversee succession planning and pipeline into these roles.
- Take overall responsibility for decisions on the implementation of the SCS pay award.

Executive Committee (ExCo)

The Executive Committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary and attended by Director Generals and senior leaders across the Home Office. It provides direction on the significant strategy decisions and cross-Departmental issues to ensure the Department is equipped to deliver its objectives. The Committee scrutinises Departmental performance, finance and risk and assesses the portfolio of major programmes on a quarterly cycle as part of the Home Office Operating System.

It met twenty-one times.

Responsibilities:

- Review the portfolio, financial performance, and Departmental delivery.
- Direction setting and approval of Home Office strategy and policy, including aligning Home Office activity with ministerial priorities.
- Approval of significant process changes across Home Office (e.g. Performance Management System).
- As necessary, approve approach to Department-wide stakeholder engagement and negotiations.
- Review overall Home Office delivery performance against Departmental objectives as the apex to the monthly stocktake rhythm under the Home Office Operating System.
- Agree mitigating actions to address issues of significant reputational and strategic importance.
- Approve annual pay award for delegated grades.

ExCo is supported by the following subcommittees:

The **People Committee**, chaired by the DG Immigration Enforcement, leads on the implementation of cross-Departmental people strategies, manages cross-cutting programmes, and oversees performance across people issues.

The **Investment Committee**, chaired by the DG Corporate and Delivery, provides governance, assurance and oversight of the Home Office's significant investment decisions and portfolio delivery.

Board and committee attendance during 2023-24 (up until 31 March 2024)

Name of board member	Departmental Board	Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	Executive Talent Board	Executive Committee
Ministers				
The Rt Hon James Cleverly MP	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
The Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MP	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
The Rt Hon Chris Philp MP	3/3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lord Sharpe of Epsom OBE	0/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laura Farris MP	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tom Pursglove MP	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Michael Tomlinson KC MP	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Former Ministers				
The Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP	1/1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sarah Dines MP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lord Murray of Blidworth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Robert Jenrick MP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Executive Directors				
Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE	3/3	4/5	4/4	21/21
Simon Ridley	3/3	N/A	4/4	16/21
Phil Douglas	N/A	2/2	N/A	19/21
Dan Hobbs	N/A	N/A	N/A	7/13
Bas Javid	N/A	N/A	N/A	9/9
David Kuenssberg	2/2	5/5	N/A	21/21
Joanna Rowland	N/A	N/A	N/A	5/5
Professor Jennifer Rubin	N/A	5/5	N/A	19/21
Jaee Samant	N/A	1/1	N/A	18/21

Name of board member	Departmental Board	Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	Executive Talent Board	Executive Committee
Stuart Skeates CB CBE	N/A	N/A	N/A	17/20
Chloe Squires	N/A	1/1	N/A	17/21
Julie Blomley	N/A	N/A	3/4	12/21
Rebecca Ellis	2/2	N/A	N/A	3/4
Rob Hall	1/1	N/A	N/A	16/21
Ruth Tomlinson	N/A	N/A	N/A	2/2
John Ward OBE	N/A	N/A	N/A	12/13
Former Executive Directors				
Tricia Hayes CB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emma Churchill	N/A	N/A	N/A	6/8
Tony Eastaugh CBE	N/A	1/1	N/A	8/12
Abi Tierney	N/A	N/A	N/A	10/15
Nick Fussell	N/A	N/A	N/A	4/5
Sarah Goom	N/A	N/A	N/A	5/5
Emily Weighill	1/1	N/A	N/A	8/13
Non-Executive Board Members				
Tim Robinson CBE	3/3	N/A	3/4	N/A
James Cooper	3/3	5/5	N/A	N/A
Jan Gower	3/3	N/A	N/A	N/A
David Mawdsley	1/2	1/2	N/A	N/A
Phil Swallow	3/3	N/A	N/A	N/A

Name of board member	Departmental Board	Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	Executive Talent Board	Executive Committee
Former Non-Executive Board Members				
Michael Fuller QPM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Paton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Independent Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Members				
John Aston	N/A	4/5	N/A	N/A
Alan Hammill	N/A	5/5	N/A	N/A
Ruth Murray-Webster	N/A	5/5	N/A	N/A
Independent Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Members				
Richard Clarke	N/A	3/5	N/A	N/A

Not all members were invited to every meeting held.

Apologies had been received from all members who were unable to make any of the meetings to which they were invited.

Only Non-Executive Board Members and Independents are members of the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee. Everyone else who attends does so when invited.

Our approach to risk

While we continue to iterate the new Enterprise Risk Management Framework first introduced in 2021, our focus has now switched to evaluation and improvement. In 2023 we began to explore how to further enhance our approach to understanding risks across the 'Departmental family' with Arms Length Bodies, Arms Length Entities and statutory and non-statutory inquiries. We also designed and launched a risk maturity model and self-assessment tool to allow core Home Office Groups and Directorates to assess and continuously improve their risk management effectiveness. These self-assessments inform the Department's wider annual assurance framework and confirm that, overall, risk management practices do not fully comply with the requirements of our Framework or the high-level Orange Book principles. Efforts have been made across the Department to align risk management practices, which are assessed as "progressing" (level 2 in our maturity model), but application in some areas has been inconsistent. In 2024-25, rolling assessments and a programme of interventions will allow the Home Office central risk team to identify and understand specific gaps in compliance, and prioritise improvement actions through local and cross-cutting policy, process and training.

In 2023-24 we also focused on facilitating risk management at the top of the Home Office. We prioritised providing senior boards and committees within the Home Office Operating System (HOOS) with additional risk management information, insight, and opportunities to exercise these tools, to support better decision making around escalation, mitigation and resourcing. Key beneficiaries have been the monthly performance stocktakes now held between Permanent Secretaries and individual Director Generals, and the Executive Committee, who are now managing a new set of principal risks, identified through our annual refresh process and in-year escalation. The profile outlined by the most significant of these risks is set out in the Performance Report, above.

We have continued to engage with the Home Office Audit and Risk Assurance Committee to provide assurance and seek feedback on the effectiveness of our risk management approach. We have continued to provide the committee with regular deep dives on how risks are handled in individual Groups, while extending our regular presentation of analysis on recent risk events and lessons learnt. We have also addressed feedback to further improve the detail and quality of risk management information, particularly of the Home Office-level Strategic Risks as ultimately presented to the Executive Committee and Departmental Board.

Better regulation

The Home Office is fully committed to ensuring the proper balance between its responsibility to protect the public, preserve national security measures and ensure its firm commitment to support wider government principles of better regulation. It does this through the careful examination of policy initiatives to ensure that regulations on business and civil society are both proportionate and introduced only where there is a clear case for doing so.

The Home Office has continued to promote effective policymaking through well-evidenced economic appraisals.

Machinery of government changes

There have been no such changes in 2023-24.

Political and charitable donations

The Home Office has not made any political or charitable donations during 2023-24.

Financial governance, management, and controls

Financial governance

The Department's Finance and Risk functions are responsible for planning, reporting, management and monitoring of allocated budgets, as well as driving the productivity and efficiency agenda, and leading the risk management function across the Home Office.

The Department's business planning process allocates the budget voted by Parliament to all parts of the organisation. The functions within business planning have been developed and expanded to include specific focus on productivity and efficiency in line with government and ministerial objectives.

The Departments risk framework has been developed (as outlined in the previous section) and aims to better identify the impact of risk, where this sits across the Department to enable better management of risks within each DG area.

The finance directorate monitors budgets to ensure they have been spent in accordance with decisions made by ministers and the Board, and reviews the actual and forecast outturns each month to check that expenditure is managed in line with approved budgets.

This monitoring is designed to ensure that the Department does not breach any of the parliamentary control totals, whilst also providing advice on options to ensure best use of available resources.

The Department continues to work closely with HM Treasury with weekly meetings held at directorial and working level between the finance teams at Home Office and HMT. There is frequent engagement between the Department and Treasury across major or new policy areas and regular meetings with HMT at ministerial level.

Ministerial direction

A ministerial direction on the grounds of propriety and value for money was issued by the Home Secretary in relation to the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant (JCPSG) on 28 February 2024. The Permanent Secretary noted that the JCPSG plays a vital role in the protection of the Jewish community from antisemitic attacks. The need for a ministerial direction stemmed from the extension of the grant to the Community Security Trust for three years by direct award. This did not meet the propriety or value for money tests because it did not meet the 'competition by default' requirements set out in the Grants Standard. The Home Secretary felt that securing continuity of service over the period was justified in the circumstances. This is reflected in the exchange of letters between the Permanent Secretary and the Home Secretary, which are published on GOV.UK. Jewish Community Protective Security Grant: ministerial direction.[77]

77 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jewish-community-protective-security-grant-ministerial-direction

Financial and corporate planning

This year's Business Planning process confirmed budgets for 2023-24 aimed at aligning people and financial resources to the Department's objectives.

Alongside the confirmation of budgets for the 2023-24 financial year, future year budgets were also discussed. As a result, we have been able to prioritise decisions to take account of the challenging fiscal landscape, and respond quickly to changes.

The budget allocation for 2023-24 was discussed by the Department's Executive Committee in the first week of December 2022 and then again in January 2023 when a recommendation for approval by ministers was given. Home Secretary approval was received on 28th February 2023. It was noted that the Department would need access to the Reserve during the year. 2023-24 budgets were finalised well in advance of the beginning of the financial year to enable financial management by director general areas to commence from the beginning of the financial year. It also allowed any further inter-departmental changes to be fully reflected before the start of the financial year.

Whistleblowing

The Home Office 'Whistleblowing and Raising a Concern' policy aligns with the principles of the model policy recommended by Cabinet Office.

The Home Office policy allows staff to raise legitimate issues of public interest via their manager, a confidential central reporting hotline and email address, and through a network of Nominated Officers embedded within Director General commands. This is complemented by a board-level Senior Responsible Officer.

The Home Office Professional Standards Unit provides an independent team of investigators, separate from business areas, to investigate thoroughly concerns that are raised. Their role is also to consider and, where deemed necessary, recommend improvements in Departmental procedures and new safeguards, and monitor that any such agreed improvements are implemented.

Fraud and bribery

The Home Office assesses anti-fraud performance against the Cabinet Office Counter Fraud Functional Standard, measuring performance against the metrics set out in the standard, monitoring effectiveness through the reporting of fraud and error losses to the Cabinet Office. The Home Office fraud action plan sets out key priorities to support continuous improvements against the standards required.

The Home Office works closely with the Public Sector Fraud Authority to demonstrate an increase in effectiveness through detected, prevented and recovered fraud as well as applying upfront fraud expertise to minimise fraud risk.

The Home Office operates a federated approach to managing counter fraud response, with each director general held accountable. The Director General for Corporate and Delivery is the accountable board member for counter fraud and is responsible for ensuring effective governance and assurance methods are in place.

The Home Office counter fraud strategy, policy and response plan focuses on mitigating against the threat of fraud and linked offences. A new two-year strategy is being developed by the Home Office Counter Fraud Team to reduce risk, and raise awareness within the Home Office. The launch is planned to take place in 2024-25.

Fraud risk assessments are pivotal in fraud risk management. The Department is seeking to embed fraud risk management into wider Home Office risk management practices and any new major spend requires an initial fraud impact assessment.

The Grants Function is taking steps to prevent fraud. Fraud risk assessments are carried out during the Legislative Authority application. Fraud reporting is embedded as a condition of funding in standard grant agreements to ensure ongoing monitoring throughout the life of a scheme. Fraud risks and due diligence assessments are checked annually for multi-year schemes. The Grants Function plans to further enhance its processes to align with the refreshed Minimum Requirement 7 of the Grants Functional Standard which covers risk, control and assurance, the new Due Diligence Framework, and continue to improve assurance practices in the post-award landscape as its capability develops further.[78]

Commercial approval is required for all Home Office general grants prior to grant award, which includes a requirement for policy teams to carry out due diligence and fraud risk assessments for every scheme on a proportionate basis. They must also set out the key performance indicators (KPIs) and their grant monitoring and management plans within the business case.

Any high-risk or politically sensitive scheme is subject to our Grants Challenge Panel Governance Board which tests the grant management plan and reviews fraud and other risks within each scheme. All new high-value, novel or contentious schemes and schemes that link to manifesto commitments are referred to the Complex Grants Advisory Panel within Cabinet Office at the design and development stage.

Assurance

Operational assurance

The Permanent Secretary is satisfied that directors general have effective control over governance, risk, internal control and assurance processes within their areas of operations. The finance directorate oversees assurance and risk across the Department.

The Department relies on assurance from multiple sources, consistent with good practice. Assurance activity is structured around three lines of defence, ranging from front line operational assurance (first line of defence) to independent assurance such as Internal Audit (third line of defence).

78 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/grants-standards

The Assurance Team continues to embed a new compliance framework set up to help instil a process of continuous improvement. The framework clarifies and structures the Department's approach to management assurance and sets out the common principles and standard assurance activities that the Department expects to be in place, and how these should be assessed and reported. Assurance reporting is completed at director level with the aim of embedding good assurance practice, and to facilitate organisational learning. Reporting from the Director compliance framework will feed into the Permanent Secretaries' stocktake process, supporting the aim of ensuring accountability for performance at all levels.

The assurance team has rolled out a programme to build assurance and risk capability across the Department, working with the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors (CIIA) to build a bespoke accredited assurance course with a focus on the first and second lines of defence.

The Central Audit Recommendation and Risk Tracking Team manages the IT system which enables management of the Department's most significant risks, and tracks recommendations made from external and internal sources of scrutiny in a single easy-to-use online platform.

Functional standards

Since September 2021 functional standards have set expectations for the consistent management of 13 central functions across government departments and their arm's length bodies, and governance over them: Digital, Data and Technology, Project Delivery, Human Resources, Property, Finance, Security, Commercial, Internal Audit, Analysis, Communication, Counter Fraud, Debt and Grants. The Home Office's corporate functions have focused effort this year to embed mandatory elements of each functional standard, with some areas reaching significantly higher levels of compliance as they strive to continuously improve. Functions have utilised the development of the new Home Office compliance framework to establish data sets enabling them to better understand the Department's compliance with parts of their standard. Work continues to increase the oversight of the proportionate incorporation of standards in plans by our arm's length bodies, with progress discussed at governance board meetings, and plans underway for further activity during the coming year.

Analytical assurance

The Home Office has a process for ensuring that all business-critical models are subject to proportionate quality assurance, and that risks and limitations are communicated and acknowledged by the users of the modelled outputs.

The Department's register of business-critical models is updated annually, including all analytical models where the financial risks are in excess of £25 million, where errors could result in substantial reputational damage, or where the model is a major part of delivering the Department's capabilities.

Business critical models must have a Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) who commissions the model and uses the outputs, a Model Responsible Owner (MRO) in charge of delivering the analysis, and an Analytical Quality Assurance (AQA) Reviewer who gives their opinion on the level of AQA and the robustness of the model during a formal sign off process. The MRO and SRO must then acknowledge that they have understood these risks, limitations, and uncertainties.

The process is overseen by the AQA Model Board, which meets once the model team is ready. These boards are composed of panel of senior staff members, independent from the model's creation, who have an appropriate knowledge of the relevant subject area or surrounding issues. Panellists are drawn from across the Home Office, bringing in expertise from a wide range of areas including, but not limited to, policy, legal, finance, commercial and operations.

A full-time Head of Analytical Quality Assurance supports the board, as well as running a programme of work to deliver training, guidance, and advice to analysts on quality assurance.

An iterative process is in place to regularly review and update the models classed as business critical. All existing business-critical models have now been reviewed, with new models developed and scheduled for review once complete. We will continue to review the approach to strengthen our management of risks as needed.

Project assurance

The Portfolio and Project Delivery Directorate (PPD) is responsible for leading, managing and co-ordinating assurance across the Home Office change portfolio with the Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA) providing the assurance of those projects which also form part of the Government Major Projects Portfolio (GMPP).

Home Office programmes and projects are delivered in accordance with the Home Office Project Delivery Framework, which is compliant with the Government Functional Standard GovS 002: Project Delivery owned by the IPA. All projects categorised as either GMPP or HO (Home Office) Critical are required to have an integrated assurance and approval plan. These plans help to ensure that individual projects are subject to an appropriate approval and assurance regime and that assurance interventions align with approval points.

Over 2023-24, the IPA and PPD between them carried out 37 assurance reviews on Home Office projects. PPD collates, tracks and analyses the recommendations arising from these interventions to ensure that they are addressed and to help identify recurring topics for both the Project Delivery Community Learning Events that PPD runs and for future Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA) thematic reviews. PPD also provides advice to projects through its Portfolio Business Partners, including on the action needed to address recommendations arising from assurance and audit reviews.

Projects that are deemed 'Home Office Critical' report monthly to PPD who provide monthly and quarterly reports on portfolio delivery to the Home Office Portfolio Delivery Board. Additionally, a subset of these projects is categorised as either 'A' or 'B' on the GMPP and are reported quarterly to the IPA. The IPA will publish data on these programmes as part of the IPA Annual Report in summer 2024. This publication will be based upon 2023-24 Q4 GMPP project data, including the IPA delivery confidence rating for each.

Independent assurance

The Department is subject to independent oversight in several areas and implements many of the recommendations made. This oversight includes:

- National Audit Office reports (including Value for Money) and the audit report for the Annual Report and Accounts.
- Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration.
- HM Inspectorate of Prisons publications and annual report.
- Reviews by the IPA.
- Government Internal Audit Agency programme.

Summary of Government Internal Audit Agency opinion

As Head of Internal Audit, I am required by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards to deliver an annual opinion to the Accounting Officer on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control. I am providing an overall Limited opinion which is consistent with the previous six years assessment.

Our work continues to emphasise the benefits of developing an effective assurance framework, structured around reliable evidence, which will offer the Department the ability to assess whether effective mitigation of risk is being realised through its wider governance framework.

Capacity and capability and competing priorities within the Department continue to pose a threat and increase risk. Access to good quality data to inform decision-making and support service delivery is also critical to most processes. Our work highlights the need to secure a culture of attaining high standards in data quality throughout the Department.

We have seen in some areas an improved understanding and ownership in terms of developing an effective risk management and control approach. However, where we have found weaknesses in accountability, oversight and quality management, our work has highlighted how this can increase exposure to risk. We have also found that the establishment of effective controls, and developing an understanding of comprehensive and reliable assurance is more challenging in areas where operational effectiveness and decision making requires co-ordination across different teams and functions.

The Department remains resolute in its ambition to move from an annual limited assurance opinion, and it has taken steps towards pursuing this by making changes to its governance, accountability, and risk management arrangements in-year. However, development of a comprehensive and reliable assurance framework is slow paced and requires greater emphasis and buy-in to the importance and benefit of this at all levels across the Department.

Rachel Wrathall
Chief Internal Auditor
Government Internal Audit Agency

Year-end governance assurance process

As the Principal Accounting Officer, I am responsible for ensuring there is an effective process in place for monitoring and reporting governance issues during the year. I am supported by Directors General and Directors who have delegated financial and risk management authority appropriate to their responsibilities.

To prepare the Department's governance statement I am provided with feedback and assurance from across the Department.

This includes:

- Assessment against functional standards and Orange Book Risk Control Framework.
- Completion of the quarterly compliance maturity matrix to summarise the objectives, controls and risks within each director's operations and provide an assessment of the level of assurance with business processes.

Conclusion and compliance with Code of Good Practice

Government policy on Departmental governance is outlined in Corporate Governance in Central Departments: Code of Good Practice. This code operates on a ‘comply or explain’ basis, whereby Departments are asked to disclose any element of the code with which they are not fully compliant, explaining their rationale and any alternative measures which have been put in place to meet the objectives of the code. The Home Office meets the provisions outlined in the code through the operation of its Departmental Board and sub-committees.

The Departmental Board has oversight of delivery of the Department’s priorities. Through its operation, it sets the Department’s risk appetite and ensures appropriate controls are in place to manage risk; has oversight of the performance of the Department’s sponsored bodies; reviews financial management; and ensures the Department has the capacity to deliver against current and future needs.

Remuneration and staff report

Service contracts

The Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 requires Civil Service appointments to be made on merit, based on fair and open competition. The Recruitment Principles published by the Civil Service Commission specify the circumstances when appointments may be made otherwise.

Unless otherwise stated below, the officials covered by this report hold appointments which are open-ended. Early termination, other than for misconduct, would result in the individual receiving compensation as set out in the Civil Service Compensation Scheme.

Further information about the work of the Civil Service Commission can be found at www.civilservicecommission.org.uk[79]

Remuneration policy

The remuneration of senior civil servants is set by the Cabinet Office following independent advice from the Review Body on Senior Salaries.

In reaching its recommendations, the Review Body has regard to the following considerations:

- The need to recruit, retain and motivate, and where relevant, promote suitably able and qualified people to exercise their different responsibilities.
- Regional/local variations in labour markets and their effects on the recruitment, retention and, where relevant, promotion of staff.
- Government policies for improving the public services including the requirement on Departments to meet the output targets for the delivery of Departmental services.
- The funds available to Departments as set out in the Government's Departmental Expenditure Limits.
- The Government's inflation target.

The Review Body will take account of the evidence it receives about wider economic considerations and the affordability of its recommendations.

Further information about the work of the Review Body can be found at GOV.UK.

Single total figure of remuneration for each minister and director

This section is audited.

The following sections provide details of the remuneration and pension interests of the ministers and most senior management (i.e. board members) of the Department.

79 http://www.civilservicecommission.org.uk

Ministers

Ministers' salaries and pension benefits in 2023-24 and 2022-23 were as follows. Figures in brackets represent full year equivalents.

Ministers	Salary (£)[1]		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits (to nearest £000)[2]		Total (to nearest £000)	
	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Rt Hon James Cleverly MP (from 13 November 2023)	22,502 (67,505)	- -	-		7,000	-	30,000	-
Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MP	31,680 (31,680)	18,040 (31,680)	-	-	8,000	5,000	40,000	23,000
Chris Philp MP	31,680 (31,680)	13,200 (31,680)	-	-	8,000	3,000	40,000	16,000
Laura Farris MP (from 13 November 2023)	8,515 (22,375)		-		2,000	-	11,000	
Thomas Pursglove MP (from 7 December 2023)	7,920 (31,680)		-		3,000	-	11,000	
Andrew Lord Sharpe[3]	128,798 (70,969)	35,484	-	-	19,000	9,000	148,000	44,000
Michael Tomlinson MP (from 7 December 2023)	7,920 (31,680)		-		3,000	-	11,000	

1. The salary shown for MP ministers only relates to the difference between their MP's salary and their Minister's salary, as the MP element is paid via the Houses of Parliament and not the Home Office.
2. The value of pension benefits accrued during the year is calculated as the real increase in pension multiplied by 20 less the contributions made by the individual. The real increase excludes increases due to inflation or any increase or decrease due to transfer of pension rights.
3. Andrew Lord Sharpe salary includes Lords Office Holder's Allowance.

Former ministers

	Salary (£)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
Former ministers	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP[1] (until 12 November 2023)	58,504 (67,505)	32,845 (67,505)	-	-	10,000	11,000	69,000	44,000
Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP[2] (until 6 December 2023)	29,551 (31,680)	13,200 (31,680)	-	-	5,000	3,000	35,000	16,000
Sarah Dines MP[3] (until 12 November 2023)	19,516 (22,375)	9,323 (22,375)	-	-	3,000	2,000	23,000	11,000
Simon Lord Murray[4] (until 14 November 2023)	99,876 (70,969)	34,333 (70,969)	-	-	10,000	9,000	110,000	43,000

1. Suella Braverman salary includes a non-taxable exit payment of £16,876.25.
2. Robert Jenrick salary includes a non-taxable exit payment of £7,920.
3. Sarah Dines salary includes a non-taxable exit payment £5,593.75.
4. Lord Murray salary includes a non-taxable exit payment of £17,742.25 and a Lords Office Holders Allowance of £37,975.75.

Officials

Senior officials are defined as members of the Home Office Departmental Board. Senior officials' salaries and pension benefits in 2023-24 and 2022-23 are set out on the following page. Figures in brackets represent full year equivalents.

	Salary (£000)		Bonus payments (£000)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits[8] (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
Board members	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Sir Matthew Rycroft[1] Permanent Secretary	205-210 (195-200)	185-190 (185-190)	5-10	-	-	-	-	7	215-220	190-195
Phil Douglas[2] Director General, Border Force	130-135 (135-140)	110-115 (110-115)	15-20	0-5	-	-	-	85	150-155	200-205
David Kuenssberg Director General, Corporate and Delivery	155-160 (155-160)	145-150 (145-150)	0-5	10-15	-	-	-	56	160-165	215-220
Prof. Jennifer Rubin Home Office Chief Scientific Adviser, Director General, STARS (Science, Technology, Analysis, Research and Strategy)	160-165 (160-165)	150-155 (150-155)	0-5	-	-	-	-	58	160-165	210-215
Jaee Samant Director General, Public Safety Group	140-145 (140-145)	140-145 (135-140)	15-20	0-5	-	-	-	9	160-165	135-140

	Salary (£000)		Bonus payments (£000)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits[8] (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
Board members	**2023-24**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2022-23**
Chloe Squires Director General, Homeland Security Group	145-150 (145-150)	135-140 (135-140)	15-20	15-20	-	-	-	25	160-165	175-180
Rob Hall[2] Director, Communications	110-115 (110-115)	90-95 (90-95)	10-15	5-10	-	-	-	31	125-130	130-135
Julie Blomley[7] Chief People Officer	140-145 (140-145)	130-135 (130-135)	0-5	0-5	5,500	4,400	-	52	150-155	185-190
Bas Javid Director General of Immigration Enforcement (from 6 November 2023)	65-70 (170-175)	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	65-70	-
Simon Ridley[3] Second Permanent Secretary (from 18 April 2023)	110-115 (165-170)	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	110-115	-
Daniel Hobbs[4] Director General, Migration and Borders Group (from 14 August 2023)	80-85 (125-130)	- -	0-5	-	-	-	-	-	85-90	-

Board members	Salary (£000)		Bonus payments (£000)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits[8] (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Stuart Skeates[5] Director General, Strategic Operations (from 18 April 2023)	110-115 (165-170)	- -	0-5	-	-	-	-	-	115-120	-
Joanna Rowland Director General, Customer Services Group (from 8 January 2024)	35-40 (155-160)	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	35-40	-
Rebecca Ellis[6] Strategy Director (from 8 January 2024)	25-30 (105-110)	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	25-30	-

1. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £7,494.83.
2. Salary increase following status change from interim to permanent Director General
3. Salary between April and July 23 covered by Cabinet Office
4. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £1,459.77.
5. Salary between April and July 23 covered by Ministry of Defence
6. Salary includes Private Secretary Allowance
7. A late return of information has resulted in disclosure of benefits in kind of £4,400 for 2022-23 relating to taxable travel to a dual workplace.
8. Accrued pension benefits for directors are not included in this table for 2023-24 due to an exceptional delay in the calculation of these figures following the application of the public service pension remedy.

Former officials

Former Officials	Salary (£000)		Bonus payments (£000)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits[7] (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Tricia Hayes[1, 2] Second Permanent Secretary (until 30 April 2023)	60-65 (150-155)	150-155 (150-155)	-	-	-	-	-	3	60-65	155-160 -
Emma Churchill Director General, Migration & Borders (until 29 August 2023)	50-55 (130-135)	130-135 (130-135)	-	15-20	-	-	-	47	50-55	190-195
Tony Eastaugh[3] Interim Director General, Immigration Enforcement (until 3 December 2023)	110-115 (130-135)	130-135 (130-135)	-	-	-	-	-	-	110-115	130-135
Dr. Abigail Tierney[4] Director General, Customer Services (until 5 January 2024)	135-140 (175-180)	175-180 (165-170)	10-15	10-15	-	-	-	64	150-155	250-255
Emily Weighill[5, 6] Deputy Director - Strategy (from 13 June 2023 until 10 January 2024)	70-75 (105-110)	- -	5-10	-	-	-	-	-	80-85	-

1. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £9,276.72.
2. Salary includes a payment of £38,250 relating to a waiting period imposed under the Business Appointment Rules.
3. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £15,903.36.
4. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £2,945.64.
5. Salary includes buy-out of annual leave, which is a non-consolidated payment of £3,149.19.
6. Salary includes Private Secretary Allowance.
7. Accrued pension benefits for directors are not included in this table for 2023/24 due to an exceptional delay in the calculation of these figures following the application of the public service pension remedy.

Non-executive directors

The non-executive directors listed below are those who sat on the Home Office Departmental Board and the Executive Committee. Non-executive directors do not receive bonuses. Other non-executive directors are employed by the Home Office's NDPBs and their details can be found in the accounts of those bodies.

	Salary[1] (£000)		Bonus payments (£000)		Benefits in kind (to nearest £100)		Pension benefits (to nearest £000)		Total (to nearest £000)	
Non Executive Directors	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Timothy Robinson	10-15	10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	10-15	10-15
James Cooper	20-25	15-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	20-25	15-20
Janet Gower	10-15	10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	10-15	10-15
David Mawdsley (Started 1 November 2023)	5-10 (10-15)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5-10	-
Phil Swallow	10-15	10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	10-15	10-15
Former Non-Executive Directors										
Michael Fuller QPM (Until 6 July 2023)	5-10 (10-15)	10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	5-10	10-15
John Paton (Until 19 June 2023)	5-10 (10-15)	10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	5-10	10-15

1. Salary in brackets is for the full year salary

Salary

'Salary' includes gross salary; overtime; reserved rights to London weighting or London allowances; recruitment and retention allowances; private office allowances and any other allowance to the extent that it is subject to UK taxation, and any severance or ex-gratia payments. This report is based on accrued payments made by the Department and thus recorded in these accounts. In respect of ministers in the House of Commons, Departments bear only the cost of the additional ministerial remuneration; the salary for their services as an MP £86,584 (from 1 April 2023) and various allowances to which they are entitled are borne centrally. However, the arrangement for ministers in the House of Lords is different in that they do not receive a salary but rather an additional remuneration, which cannot be quantified separately from their ministerial salaries. This total remuneration, as well as the allowances to which they are entitled, is paid by the Department and is therefore shown in full in the figures above.

Benefits in kind

The monetary value of benefits in kind covers any benefits provided by the Department and treated by HM Revenue and Customs as a taxable emolument.

Bonuses

Bonuses are based on performance levels attained and are made as part of the appraisal process. Bonuses relate to the performance in the year in which they become payable to the individual. The bonuses reported in 2023-24 relate to performance in 2023-24 and the comparative bonuses reported for 2022-23 relate to the performance in 2022-23.

Ministers' and executive directors' pensions

This section is audited.

The table below shows the pension entitlements for each minister:

Ministers	Accrued pension at age 65 as at 31/3/24 £000	Real increase in pension at age 65 £000	CETV at 31/3/24 £000	CETV at 31/3/23 £000	Real increase in CETV £000
Rt Hon James Cleverly MP	0-5	0-5	66	56	5
Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MP	0-5	0-5	15	5	6
Chris Philp MP	0-5	0-5	34	23	5
Laura Farris MP	0-5	0-5	2	-	1
Thomas Pursglove MP	0-5	0-5	26	24	1
Andrew Lord Sharpe	0-5	0-5	37	12	16
Michael Tomlinson MP	0-5	0-5	37	34	2
Former Ministers					
Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP	5-10	0-5	91	78	5
Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP	0-5	0-5	58	50	3
Sarah Dines	0-5	0-5	8	3	3
Simon Lord Murray	0-5	0-5	21	9	7

Where a minister joined or left the Department part way through the year, the 'cash equivalent transfer value' column refers to those dates and not 31 March.

The table showing accrued pension entitlements for directors is not included for 2023/24 due an exceptional delay in the calculation of these figures following the application of the public service pension remedy.

Ministerial pensions

Pension benefits for ministers are provided by the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund (PCPF). The scheme is made under statute and the rules are set out in the Ministers' - 2015 Pension Scheme, available at

http://qna.files.parliament.uk/ws-attachments/170890/original/PCPF%20MINISTERIAL%20SCHEME%20FINAL%20RULES.doc

Ministers who are Members of Parliament (MP) may also accrue an MP's pension under the PCPF (details of which are not included in this report). A new MPs pension scheme was introduced from May 2015, although members who were MPs and aged 55 or older on 1 April 2013 have transitional protection to remain in the previous MP's final salary pension scheme.

Benefits for ministers are payable from State Pension age under the 2015 scheme. Pensions are re-valued annually in line with Pensions Increase legislation both before and after retirement. The contribution rate from May 2015 is 11.1% and the accrual rate is 1.775% of pensionable earnings.

The figure shown for pension value includes the total pension payable to the member under both the pre- and post-2015 Ministerial pension schemes.

Executive directors' pensions

Pension benefits are provided through the Civil Service pension arrangements. From 1 April 2015 a new pension scheme for civil servants was introduced – the Civil Servants and Others Pension Scheme or alpha, which provides benefits on a career average basis with a normal pension age equal to the member's State Pension Age (or 65 if higher). From that date all newly appointed civil servants and the majority of those already in service joined alpha. Prior to that date, civil servants participated in the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS). The PCSPS has four sections: 3 providing benefits on a final salary basis (classic, premium or classic plus) with a normal pension age of 60; and one providing benefits on a whole career basis (nuvos) with a normal pension age of 65.

These statutory arrangements are unfunded with the cost of benefits met by monies voted by Parliament each year. Pensions payable under classic, premium, classic plus, nuvos and alpha are increased annually in line with pensions increase legislation. Existing members of the PCSPS who were within 10 years of their normal pension age on 1 April 2012 remained in the PCSPS after 1 April 2015. Those who were between 10 years and 13 years and 5 months from their normal pension age on 1 April 2012 switched into alpha between 1 June 2015 and 1 February 2022.

All members who switched to alpha have their PCSPS benefits 'banked', with those with earlier benefits in one of the final salary sections of the PCSPS having those benefits based on their final salary when they leave alpha. (The pension figures quoted for officials show pension earned in PCSPS or alpha, as appropriate. Where the official has benefits in both the PCSPS and alpha, the figure quoted is the combined value of their benefits in the two schemes.) Members joining from October 2002 may opt for either the appropriate defined benefit arrangement or a 'money purchase' stakeholder pension with an employer contribution (partnership pension account).

Contribution rates

Employee contributions are salary-related and range between 4.6% and 8.05% for members of classic, premium, classic plus, nuvos and alpha.

Benefits in classic accrue at the rate of 1/80th of final pensionable earnings for each year of service. In addition, a lump sum equivalent to three years initial pension is payable on retirement. For premium, benefits accrue at the rate of 1/60th of final pensionable earnings for each year of service. Unlike classic, there is no automatic lump sum. Classic plus is essentially a hybrid with benefits for service before 1 October 2002 calculated broadly as per classic and benefits for service from October 2002 worked out as in premium. In nuvos a member builds up a pension based on their pensionable earnings during their period of scheme membership. At the end of the scheme year (31 March) the member's earned pension account is credited with 2.3% of their pensionable earnings in that scheme year and the accrued pension is uprated in line with Pensions Increase legislation.

Benefits in alpha build up in a similar way to nuvos, except that the accrual rate is 2.32%. In all cases members may opt to give up (commute) pension for a lump sum up to the limits set by the Finance Act 2004.

The accrued pension quoted is the pension the member is entitled to receive when they reach pension age, or immediately on ceasing to be an active member of the scheme if they are already at or over pension age. Pension age is 60 for members of classic, premium and classic plus, 65 for members of nuvos, and the higher of 65 or State Pension Age for members of alpha. (The pension figures quoted for officials show pension earned in PCSPS or alpha, as appropriate. Where the official has benefits in both the PCSPS and alpha the figure quoted is the combined value of their benefits in the two schemes but note that part of that pension may be payable from different ages.

The partnership pension account is an occupational contribution pension arrangement which is part of the Legal & General Mastertrust. The employer makes a basic contribution of between 8% and 14.75% (depending on the age of the member) into a stakeholder pension product chosen by the employee from a panel of providers. The employee does not have to contribute, but where they do make contributions, the employer will match these up to a limit of 3% of pensionable salary (in addition to the employer's basic contribution). Employers also contribute a further 0.5% of pensionable salary to cover the cost of centrally provided risk benefit cover (death in service and ill health retirement).

Further details about the Civil Service pension arrangements can be found at the website www.civilservicepensionscheme.org.uk

Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) – ministers and executive directors

This is the actuarially assessed capitalised value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits and any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme.

A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the pension benefits they have accrued in their former scheme.

The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total service. For ministers that is all their time as a minister, not just their current employment. For executive directors, that is all the time they have been a member of that pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which the disclosure applies.

The figures include the value of any pension benefit in another scheme or arrangement which the member has transferred to the Civil Service pension arrangements. They also include any additional pension benefit accrued to the member as a result of their buying additional pension benefits at their own cost.

CETVs are calculated in accordance with The Occupational Pension Schemes (Transfer Values) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 and do not take account of any actual or potential reduction to benefits resulting from Lifetime Allowance Tax which may be due when pension benefits are taken.

CETV figures are calculated using the guidance on discount rates for calculating unfunded public service pension contribution rates. HM Treasury published updated guidance on 27 April 2023 which is used in the calculation of 2023-24 CETV figures.

The real increase in the value of the CETV

This is the element of the increase in accrued pension funded by the Exchequer. It excludes increases due to inflation and contributions paid by the minister. It is worked out using common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

Compensation on early retirement or for loss of office

This section is audited.

Officials

Compensation payments for redundancy made to officials who were board members are detailed in annotations to the table of the single total figure of remuneration for officials above.

Ministers

Compensation payments for loss of office made to ministers are detailed in annotations to the table of the single total figure of remuneration for ministers above.

Fair pay disclosures

This section is audited.

Salary and allowances

The percentage change in respect of the highest paid director's salary and allowances was 10.7%. In 2022-23 the band was £185,000 - £190,000 and in 2023-24 the band is £205,000 - £210,000. The increase is due to the combination of an annual pay award and a payment in respect the buy-out of annual leave.

The average percentage change in respect of all other employees' salary and allowances increased by 4.8% in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.

Performance pay and bonuses

In 2023-24, the highest paid director received a bonus payment of £10,000 (£nil in 2022-23).

For other employees, the average performance pay and bonuses increased by 6.3% between 2023-24 (£571) and 2022-23 (£537).

Pay ratios

Reporting bodies are required to disclose the relationship between the remuneration of the highest-paid director in their organisation and the median remuneration of the organisation's workforce.

Total pay remuneration includes salary, non-consolidated performance related pay and benefits-in-kind. It does not include severance payments, employer pension contributions and the cash equivalent transfer value of pensions.

Pay remuneration bands ranged from £20,000 - £25,000 to £215,000 - £220,000.

The banded pay remuneration of the highest paid director in the Home Office in the financial year 2023-24 was £215,000 - £220,000 (2022-23, £185,000 - £190,000). This was 6 times (2022-23, 5.3 times) the median remuneration of the workforce, which was £36,010 (2022-23, £35,372).

In 2023-24, no employees received pay remuneration more than the highest paid director.

The following table shows the median earnings of the Department's workforce and the ratio between this and the earnings of the highest paid director. Matthew Rycroft is the highest paid director for 2023-24 and was also the highest paid director in 2022-23.

	2023-24	2022-23
Band of highest paid director's total remuneration (£000)	215-220	185-190
25th percentile pay (£)	28,952	27,014
25th percentile remuneration ratio	7.5	6.9
Median pay (£)	**36,010**	**35,372**
Median remuneration ratio	**6.0**	**5.3**
75th percentile pay (£)	44,101	43,000
75th percentile remuneration ratio	4.9	4.4

During 2023-24 the highest paid director's pay remuneration band increased by £30,000 from a band of £185,000 - £190,000 to £215,000 - £220,000 as a result of a bonus and annual leave buy-out that were not included in the previous year's remuneration package. The median total for staff has increased by £638. These differences result in the 0.7 increase of the Remuneration Ratio.

Salary component only

	2023-24	2022-23
Band of highest paid director's salary (£000)	205-210	185-190
25th percentile pay (£)	28,000	25,875
25th percentile remuneration ratio	7.4	7.2
Median pay (£)	29,400	27,650
Median remuneration ratio	7.1	6.8
75th percentile pay (£)	38,350	36,176
75th percentile remuneration ratio	5.4	5.2

Mandatory reporting of spending on consultancy and temporary staff

The Home Office has a robust consultancy and contingent labour expenditure control process, which has been the subject of continuous improvement and review to ensure it is fit for purpose. This process requires appointments or extensions of existing engagements for temporary labour and external consultancy services to be approved by the External Resources Governance Board (ERG Board). The ERG Board is made up of relevant Heads of Profession and members of the Tax Centre of Excellence. This control covers the Home Office core and its arm's length bodies (ALBs).

The Consultancy and Contingent Labour approvals process is owned and managed by the Chief Commercial Officer and was established in October 2010. Consultancy requests over £20,000, if approved by the ERG Board, are submitted to the Director General for Corporate and Delivery and Director General for Science, Technology, Analysis and Research (STAR), who operates under delegation from the Home Secretary for requirements up to the value of £200,000. Requests above this value also go to the Permanent Secretary for approval and then onwards to the Home Secretary and the relevant minister. All Consultancy requests over £10 million in value are also submitted to the Cabinet Office Spending Controls Team for additional scrutiny and approval.

Temporary Labour requirements are subject to review against business resource plans and Departmental engagement criteria, based on Cabinet Office, Crown Commercial Service and HMRC guidance and good practice. Additional approval by the Director General for Corporate and Delivery is also required for any engagements for SCS equivalent roles, durations likely to exceed two years and engagements with a charge rate (day rate inclusive of VAT) of greater than £1,000 per day.

Full year spend in 2023-24 on Consultancy Services and Contingent Labour by the Home Office, including ALBs, was £524.3 million, (2022-23, £375.1 million), an increase of £149.2 million over the 2022-23 spend. The spend on consultancy services of £237.3 million (2022-23, £120.9 million), was £116.4 million higher than in 2022-23. The spend on Contingent Labour/Agency costs of £286.9 million (2022-23, £254.2 million), was £32.7 million higher than in 2022-23.

The Home Office monitors Temporary Staff costs to ensure that the continuing expenditure represents the best value for money for the organisation.

Agency staff have been retained primarily as a flexible resource to deal with backlogs in migrant casework, passport application/examination, and asylum applications. In addition, the announcement of the Legal Migration Package, fluctuating seasonal demand for HMPO and Visas has contributed to the requirement for consultancy services and temporary staff. The increase in spend is predominantly due to continued support on the following objectives:

- Dealing with illegal immigration from boat arrivals, including the Rwandan Migration Economic Development Partnership (MEDP).
- Support the police to cut crime and make the UK safer for women and girls.
- Protect the people of the UK.

The remainder of the Temporary Labour spend was associated with the engagement of specialist contractors and interim managers, primarily to assist the Home Office with our transformation plans and to deliver our digital strategy, and an increased demand for contingent labour to cover a vacancy or supplement internal capacity.

Consultancy Services	2023-24 total expenditure (£000)	2022-23 total expenditure (£000)
Home Office Core Department	233,748	117,444
Disclosure and Barring Service	116	548
College of Policing*	2,195	2,195
Security Industry Authority	323	165
Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority	770	437
Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner	-	142
Independent Office for Police Conduct	180	-
Total	**237,332**	**120,931**

Contingent Labour/Agency Costs	2023-24 Total expenditure (£000)	2022-23 Total expenditure (£000)
Home Office Core Department	277,151	244,183
Disclosure and Barring Service	3,342	1,969
College of Policing*	5,881	5,881
Security Industry Authority	587	1,558
Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority	-	-
Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner	-	79
Independent Office for Police Conduct	36	561
Total	**286,997**	**254,231**

Total Consultancy Services and Contingent Labour/Agency Costs	2023-24 Total expenditure (£000)	2022-23 Total expenditure (£000)
Home Office Core Department	510,900	361,627
Disclosure and Barring Service	3,458	2,517
College of Policing*	8,076	8,076
Independent Office for Police Conduct		561
Security Industry Authority	909	1,723
Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority	770	437
Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner	-	221
Independent Office for Police Conduct	216	-
Total	**524,329**	**375,162**

* College of Policing, an arms length body (ALB) of the Home Office, was unable to submit audited figures for the year ended 31 March 2024 owing to an IT systems failure. The comparative figures for this ALB have been replicated for 2024 to make the current figures more comparable.

Reporting of off-payroll appointments

Following the Review of Tax Arrangements of Public Sector Appointees published by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury on 23 May 2012, Departments and their ALBs must publish information on their highly paid and/or senior off-payroll engagements.

The tables 1 and 2 below provide the total number of off-payroll engagements earning more than £245 per day and new engagements during the year. Table 3 shows off-payroll engagements who were board members or senior officials during the year.

Table 1: This table shows the number of off-payroll engagements as of 31 March 2024, for more than £245 per day and that last for longer than six months

	Main Department	ALBs	Departmental group
Number of existing engagements as of 31 March 2024	732	34	766
Of which:			
Number that have existed for less than one year at time of reporting	416	20	436
Number that have existed for between one and two years at time of reporting	174	8	182
Number that have existed for between two and three years at time of reporting	97	4	101
Number that have existed for between three and four years at time of reporting	23	2	25
Number that have existed for four or more years at time of reporting	22	-	22

All existing off-payroll engagements outlined above have at some point been subject to a risk-based assessment as to whether assurance is required that the individual is paying the right amount of tax and, where necessary, that assurance has been sought.

Table 2: For all off-payroll appointments engaged at any point during the year ended 31 March 2024, earning at least £245 per day or greater.

	Main Department	ALBs	Departmental group
The number of appointments in force during the time period	1,017	62	1,079
Of which:			
The number of these appointments to which the off-payroll legislation does not apply	26	4	30
Number of these appointments to which the off-payroll legislation does apply and which were assessed as within scope of IR35;	988	58	1,046
The number of these appointments to which the off-payroll legislation does apply and which were assessed as not within scope of IR35;	3	-	3
The number of appointments that were reassessed for consistency/assurance purposes during the year; and	605	43	648
The number that saw a change to IR35 status following the assurance review.	3	-	3

Table 3: For any off-payroll engagements of board members, and/or, senior officials with significant financial responsibility, between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024

	Main Department	ALBs	Departmental group
Number of off-payroll engagements of board members and/or senior officials with significant financial responsibility, during the financial year	-	-	-
Number of individuals that have been deemed 'board members and/or, senior officials with significant financial responsibility', during the financial year. This figure should include both off-payroll and on-payroll engagement	19	-	19

Staff report

Number of senior civil service staff (or equivalent) by band

Distribution of headcount of senior civil service (SCS) pay remuneration as at end of March 2024

Pay Remuneration Bands	SCS within the range as at end of March 2024	Percentage
£75,000 - £80,000	25	7.08%
£80,000 - £85,000	63	17.85%
£85,000 - £90,000	67	18.98%
£90,000 - £95,000	57	16.15%
£95,000 - £100,000	21	5.95%
£100,000 - £105,000	21	5.95%
£105,000 - £110,000	16	4.53%
£110,000 - £115,000	15	4.25%
£115,000 - £120,000	8	2.27%
£120,000 - £125,000	13	3.68%
£125,000 - £130,000	12	3.40%
£130,000 - £140,000	6	1.70%
£140,000 - £150,000	7	1.98%
£150,000 - £155,000	4	1.13%
£155,000 - £160,000	5	1.42%
£160,000 - £165,000	7	1.98%
£165,000 - £170,000	2	0.57%
£170,000 - £175,000	2	0.57%
£190,000 - £195,000	1	0.28%
£215,000 - £220,000	1	0.28%
Grand Total	**353**	**100.00%**

This information has been extracted from METIS - Home Office Human Resources Record System as at the end of March 2024.

Numbers are headcount of current, paid, civil servants at SCS grade.

Remuneration Bands include Salary, Allowances, non-consolidated performance related pay and Benefits in kind. It does not include severance payments, employer pension contributions and the cash equivalent transfer value of pensions.

Salary and all pay-related (regular) relevant allowances are the Full Time equivalent annual rate. All other payments such as irregular allowances, non-consolidated performance related pay and Benefits in kind, are payments received in 2023-24.

Where individual £5,000 remuneration bands contain less than five individuals, bands have been combined as per ONS statistical disclosure controls. Those earning above £150,000 are subject to full disclosure.

2022-23 comparison table

Distribution of headcount of senior civil service (SCS) pay remuneration as at end of March 2023

Pay Remuneration Bands	SCS within the range as at end of March 2023	Percentage
£70,000 - £75,000	17	4.93%
£75,000 - £80,000	53	15.36%
£80,000 - £85,000	72	20.87%
£85,000 - £90,000	55	15.94%
£90,000 - £95,000	27	7.83%
£95,000 - £10,0000	27	7.83%
£100,000 - £105,000	15	4.35%
£105,000 - £110,000	15	4.35%
£110,000 - £115,000	11	3.19%
£115,000 - £120,000	16	4.64%
£120,000 - £130,000	7	2.03%
£130,000 - £135,000	7	2.03%
£135,000 - £145,000	7	2.03%
£145,000 - £150,000	8	2.32%

Pay Remuneration Bands	SCS within the range as at end of March 2023	Percentage
£150,000 - £155,000	4	1.16%
£170,000 - £175,000	1	0.29%
£175,000 - £180,000	1	0.29%
£180,000 - £185,000	1	0.29%
£185,000 - £190,000	1	0.29%
Grand Total	**345**	**100.00%**

This information has been extracted from METIS - Home Office Human Resources Record System as at the end of March 2023.

Numbers are headcount of current, paid, civil servants at SCS grade.

Remuneration Bands include Salary, Allowances, non-consolidated performance related pay and Benefits in kind. It does not include severance payments, employer pension contributions and the cash equivalent transfer value of pensions.

Salary and all pay-related (regular) relevant allowances are the Full Time equivalent annual rate. All other payments such as irregular allowances, non-consolidated performance related pay and Benefits in kind, are payments received in 2022-23.

Where individual £5,000 remuneration bands contain less than five individuals, bands have been combined as per ONS statistical disclosure controls. Those earning above £150,000 are subject to full disclosure.

This table is audited:

	Permanently employed staff	Others	Ministers	2023-24 Departmental Group Total	2022-23 Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,905,128	366,164	410	2,271,702	1,824,050
Social security costs	216,464	-	47	216,511	176,728
Other pension costs	485,271	549	10	485,830	392,286
	2,606,863	**366,713**	**467**	**2,974,043**	**2,393,064**
Less recoveries in respect of outward secondments	(1,046)	-	-	(1,046)	(862)
Total net costs	**2,605,817**	**366,713**	**467**	**2,972,997**	**2,392,202**
Of which:					
Core Department	2,428,616	350,848	467	2,779,931	2,212,435
Arm’s length bodies	177,201	15,865	-	193,066	179,767
Total net costs	**2,605,817**	**366,713**	**467**	**2,972,997**	**2,392,202**

Staff pension

Civil Service pensions

The Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS) and the Civil Servant and Others Pension Scheme (CSOPS) – known as "Alpha" – are unfunded and contributory multi-employer defined benefit schemes but the Home Office is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out of the Civil Service Pension Scheme. The Scheme Actuary valued the PCSPS as at 31 March 2020. You can find details in the resource accounts of the Cabinet Office: Civil Superannuation.

For 2023-24, employers' contributions of £482 million were payable to the PCSPS (2022-23 £359 million) at one of four rates in the range 26.6% to 30.3% of pensionable earnings, based on salary bands.

The Scheme Actuary reviews employer contributions usually every four years following a full scheme valuation. The contribution rates are set to meet the cost of the benefits accruing during 2023-24 to be paid when the member retires and not the benefits paid during this period to existing pensioners.

Partnership pensions

Employees can opt to open a partnership pension account, a stakeholder pension with an employer contribution. Employers' contributions of £4.3 million were paid to one or more of the panel of three appointed stakeholder pension providers. Employer contributions are age-related and ranged from 8% to 14.75% of pensionable earnings.

Employers also match the rate of employee contributions up to a maximum 3% of their pensionable earnings. In addition, employer contributions of £439,594, 0.5% of pensionable pay, were payable to the PCSPS to cover the cost of the future provision of lump sum benefits on death in service or ill health retirement of these employees.

Contributions due to the partnership pension providers as at 31 March 2024 were £1.8 million (£2.6 million in 2022-23). Contributions prepaid at that date were £nil (£nil in 2022-23).

37 individuals retired early on ill-health grounds in 2023-24. The total additional accrued pension liabilities in the year have not been disclosed due to an exceptional delay in the calculation of these figures following the application of the public service pension remedy.

Staff numbers

This section is audited.

The average number of full-time equivalent persons employed during the year was as follows.

Business Segment	Permanently employed staff	Others	Ministers	Special advisers[1]	2023-24 Departmental Group Total	2022-23 Departmental Group Total
Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	4,322	208	-	-	4,530	4,509
Homeland Security Group	1,236	35	-	-	1,271	1,266
Public Safety Group	1,920	212	-	-	2,131	2,152
Migration and Borders Group	1,022	62	-	-	1,084	910
Customer Services (Visas and Passports)	16,459	3,551	-	-	20,011	13,275
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	2,107	579	-	-	2,686	6,293
Border Force	11,399	345	-	-	11,744	15,227
Immigration Enforcement[2]	5,277	104	-	-	5,382	-
Corporate and Delivery	1,602	182	7	8	1,799	2,377
Digital, Data and Technology	2,004	338	-	-	2,343	1,972
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	530	269	-	-	800	-

Business Segment	Permanently employed staff	Others	Ministers	Special advisers[1]	2023-24 Departmental Group Total	2022-23 Departmental Group Total
Strategy	467	55	-	-	523	-
Communications	125	-	-	-	125	130
Total Staff	**48,470**	**5,940**	**7**	**8**	**54,429**	**48,109**
Of which:						
Core Department and Agencies	45,100	5,766	7	8	50,881	44,522
Departmental Group	48,470	5,940	7	8	54,429	48,109

1. Special adviser numbers are taken on a snapshot date of 31 March 2024.
2. Immigration Enforcement previously reported under Border Force.

Staff composition

Number of male and female employees 31 March 2024

	Female	Male	Total as at 31 March 2024[1]	Female representation by %
Directors[2]	6	8	14	42.9%
Senior Managers[3]	165	188	353	46.7%
Employees[4]	26,657	24,365	51,022	52.2%

Number of male and female employees 31 March 2023

	Female	Male	Total as at 31 March 2023[1]	Female representation by %
Directors[2]	7	5	12	58.3%
Senior Managers[3]	166	179	345	48.1%
Employees[4]	22,225	20,183	42,408	52.4%

1. Based on headcount (not full-time equivalent). Includes permanent employees.
2. Members of the Executive Committee.
3. All managers at Senior Civil Service (SCS) level.
4. Employees - all grades (AA to SCS)

Coverage for directors, senior managers and employees is based on current, paid civil servants.

Sickness absence data

The average working days lost to sick absence for the Home Office as of 31 March 2024 is 6.62 days (7.35 days in 2022-23). This is a decrease of 0.73 days per employee. This figure is per staff year for paid civil servants only, which is in line with cross-Government guidelines from Cabinet Office.

Staff turnover percentage

	2023-24	2022-23
Departmental Turnover Percentage	7.80%	8.93%

Data Source: Metis – Home Office Human Resources Record System.

Leavers Coverage: Paid and unpaid civil servants (excluding Border Force Flexible Workers) who left the Home Office/Average Headcount.

Turnover rate calculation: Number of Leavers/12 months average headcount of paid and unpaid civil servants (excluding Border Force Flexible Workers).

Staff engagement percentage scores from the latest Civil Service people survey

The annual Civil Service People Survey looks at civil servants' attitudes to and experience of working in government Departments. The Home Office uses its annual staff survey results as an indicator of where to focus efforts in its People Plan.

The 2023 People Survey had a 61% response rate, an increase of 4% since the 2022 survey (57% in 2022). The Departmental results show the staff engagement level measured by the Employee Engagement Index, the key indicator of staff opinion - this increased to 58% (57% in 2022).

Full results of the Civil Service People Survey are published on GOV.UK. This includes a technical guide detailing the questionnaire civil servants are asked to complete, the data collection methodology and the framework underpinning the analysis of the results.

Trade Union facility time data

The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 require certain public sector employers to publish information on facility time used by Trade Union representatives. This document sets out the relevant Trade Union facility time data for the Home Office covering the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Number of Trade Union representatives

This data gives the total number of employees who were Trade Union representatives during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Number of employees who were Trade Union representatives	Number of employees who were Trade Union representatives expressed as a Full Time Equivalent number
391	331

Percentage of time spent on facility time

This data shows how many of the employees who were Trade Union representatives employed during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 spent a) 0%, b) 1%-50%, c) 51%-99% or d) 100% of their working hours on facility time.

Percentage of time spent on facility time	Number of employees
0%	121
1-50%	270
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

This data shows the percentage of the total pay bill spent on Trade Union facility time during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Total cost of facility time	£1,134,980
Total pay bill	£2,489,794,397
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	0.05%

Paid Trade Union activities

This data shows, as a percentage of total paid facility time hours, the number of hours spent by employees who were Trade Union representatives during the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, on paid trade union activities.

Time spent on paid TU activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	0

Exit packages

This section is audited.

	Core Department & Agencies			Departmental Group		
Exit package cost band	Number of compulsory redundancies	Number of other departures agreed	Total number of exit packages by cost band	Number of compulsory redundancies	Number of other departures agreed	Total number of exit packages by cost band
Less than £10,000	0 (0)	0 (3)	0 (3)	0 (0)	0 (3)	0 (3)
£10,000 - £25,000	0 (0)	23 (9)	23 (9)	0 (0)	25 (10)	25 (10)
£25,000 - £50,000	0 (0)	16 (12)	16 (12)	0 (0)	34 (16)	34 (16)
£50,000 - £100,000	0 (0)	123 (1)	123 (1)	0 (0)	128 (2)	128 (2)
£100,000 - £150,000	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	1 (1)
Total number of exit packages by type	**0 (0)**	**162 (25)**	**162 (25)**	**0 (0)**	**188 (32)**	**188 (32)**
Total resource cost (£000)	**0 (0)**	**9,576 (684)**	**9,576 (684)**	**0 (0)**	**10,754 (1,074)**	**10,754 (1,074)**

Comparative figures for the prior year are shown in brackets.

Redundancy and other departure costs have been paid in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service Compensation Scheme, a statutory scheme made under the Superannuation Act 1972 and as amended by the Superannuation Act 2010. Exit costs are accounted for in full in the year of departure. Where the Department has agreed early exits, the additional costs are met by the Department and not by the Civil Service pension scheme. Ill-health retirement costs are met by the pension scheme and are not included in the table.

Diversity and inclusion

The Home Office is committed to being a diverse and inclusive employer, representative of the communities we serve.

Our approach to diversity and inclusion closely aligns to the Civil Service Strategy. We draw on the skills knowledge and backgrounds of the communities we serve, while creating a culture where all our people working in the Home Office can flourish.

We know that establishing teams with differing perspectives, experiences and insight is integral to tackling complex problems, promoting innovation, and delivering stronger decision making. Our approach is to have an organisation where people feel safe and supported to provide their perspective, and positively recognised for doing so.

Our continuing focus is to attract, retain and invest in talent, drawing on the talents of the widest possible range of geographical, social and career backgrounds.

We have updated our representation targets this year to reflect the census 2021 economically active population in England and Wales. We have aligned the targets for SCS disabled representation to our all-staff target of 12%, We have increased our SCS Ethnic Minority Target to 2025 to 15% to highlight the increase in overall economically active population. For "all staff" our female representation target has increased from 47% to 48%. We have retained the principle that our targets will reflect the economically active population, or the existing Home Office representation, whichever is higher.

Progress against Home Office workforce diversity targets

Characteristic	Grade	Target	2022	2023	2024
Ethnic Minority	All Staff	24%	24%	24%	24%
	SCS	15%	8%	10%	9%
Disability	All Staff	12%	11%	12%	14%
	SCS	12%	9%	13%	13%
Woman	All Staff	52%	52%	52%	52%
	SCS	47%	45%	48%	47%
Lesbian, Gay and Bi	All Staff	6%	4%	5%	5%
	SCS	3%	5%	6%	6%

Data Source: Metis – Home Office Human Resources Record System (2021 to 2024).

Employee Coverage: The data is based on current paid civil servants.

Positive Declaration: % calculated using positive statements only, 'not surveyed' and 'prefer not to say' have not been included.

The last twelve months have seen the Home Office maintain representation levels across our all-staff targets, with female, ethnic minority, and disability now at or exceeding our revised targets. LGB (Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual) representation continues to be maintained at 5%. Following changes to data collection systems, the level of diversity declaration rate for ethnic minority, LGB and Disability has fallen within the organisation, and this will be is a key area of focus in coming months.

In 2023 our SCS female representation increased sharply, both numerically and in percentage terms, to 48%, finally exceeding our target of 47%. We have seen a slight reduction in percentage this year falling to 47% this year. Our data shows that the number of female SCS has been maintained, but more men were recruited into additional SCS posts which were created this year.

In 2023 we also saw an increase in our ethnic minority SCS representation from 7% to 10%. Although we have maintained the number of SCS who declare being from an ethnic minority this year, the reduction in percentage, as with female representation, reflects the increased size of our SCS cohort.

During this year a key focus has continued to be developing our attraction strategy for jobs at all levels in the organisation, in particular at SCS level. We have continued to develop our careers and related websites to ensure that these are inclusive, attracting talent from all the communities we serve. This has supported and maintained our all-staff representation while our workforce has continued to grow over the last 12 months. Of note has been our success in recruiting those who are disabled. Our representation at all levels in the organisation is now at, or exceeds, the economically active population, with a consistent level of representation at all grades. Our recruitment data shows 11% of all applicants of roles in the Home Office declared that they were disabled and 10% of all applicants we hired were disabled.

We have continued to focus on developing our people internally, with a focus on those groups where there is identification of underrepresentation. Our central talent development programmes have a focus on developing and supporting colleagues in developing their careers. In 2024 we saw reductions in the percentage of our people joining schemes from ethnic minority, LGB, female and disabled, although both Disabled and female joiners were both significantly above the all-staff representation rates.

Access Talent Programme – Diversity Breakdown

Access (AA-EO)	2022	2023	2024
Ethnic Minority	30%	28%	28%
Female	52%	63%	61%
Disability	21%	19%	17%
LGB	11%	9%	9%

Advance Talent Programme – Diversity Breakdown

Advance (HEO -SEO)	2022	2023*
Ethnic Minority	20%	24%
Female	60%	64%
Disability	8%	13%
LGB	11%	11%

*The current Advance Programme started in Sept 2023 and is still running, so figure covers 2023-24

Gender pay gap

Home Office gender pay gap

Hourly Pay Gap	Mean	Median
Most recent year (2022-23)	7.00%	10.70%
Past Year (2021-22)	6.70%	7.50%
Past Year (2020-21)	7.70%	11.50%

Bonus Pay Gap	Mean	Median
Most recent year (2022-23)	-0.80%	4.40%
Past Year (2021-22)	1.50%	-6.70%
Past Year (2020-21)	4.70%	0%

Percentage of male and females in each pay quartile

Quartile	Male	Female
Upper quartile	55.00%	45.00%
Upper middle quartile	53.70%	46.30%
Third quartile	43.90%	56.10%
Lower quartile	41.20%	58.80%

Percentage of employees receiving a bonus

Male	Female
81.00%	80.80%

This year saw an increase in our reported mean and median hourly pay gaps. This is against a backdrop of significant increases in our total workforce during 2023, which is 18% higher compared to the previous year. We saw noticeable increases at our administration grades, AA, AO and EO. The proportion of women employed at our AO and AA grades has increased at a higher rate compared to men, which has been a factor in seeing an increase in our median and mean pay gaps. We have continued to see a reduction in our mean bonus pay gap, which is now narrowly in favour of women.

We have further strengthened our approach to reducing our gender pay gap, with a focus on accountability and clearly defined outcomes to help both monitor progress and achieve further reductions. Our outcomes, last year, included further enhancement to the performance management system to help simplify the process for issuing bonus and voucher payments. This has enabled a quicker turn around for our people to be recognised for strong or excellent performance.

Our approach to the gender pay gap goes beyond focusing solely on pay, ensuring that our working conditions and approach to female specific issues are considered and addressed.

The Home Office continues to make great progress in delivering our Places for Growth strategy. We have relocated the highest number of roles of all Whitehall Departments, accounting for 1 in 5 moves, and contributing to the government's levelling-up plans. We have already exceeded our target for role relocations by 2027, having delivered 3,656 roles (including 62 SCS) against our target of 1,950 roles (including 80 SCS). Our focus for the coming year is to continue building on what we have achieved and support the development of sustained career pathways at locations across the UK and overseas, improving senior representation and opportunities wherever our people are based.

As part of our approach to Diversity and Inclusion we have also focused on providing wider opportunities to those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. Over the last year the Home Office has embedded a range of programmes focused on both internal awareness-raising and engagement, and external careers outreach to those from less advantaged backgrounds.

Our external social mobility-focused outreach has increased and is more effectively captured, with at least 68 external outreach events. The ongoing year-round mentoring scheme currently supports circa 130 colleagues, and in 2023 we delivered 526 spot-mentoring sessions. Beyond this we also provided the opportunity for 11 colleagues from lower socio-economic backgrounds to visit the Paris Embassy to get a better understanding of opportunities available in our embassies overseas.

Our Elevate Insight Programme ran its second cohort with the 93% Club from November 2023 through to mid-April 2024. The scheme achieved a Bronze Award for Innovation in the UK Social Mobility Awards 2023 and has been shortlisted for a Development Awards in the Operational Delivery Profession annual awards 2024.

In March 2024, the Home Office was successfully reaccredited as a Disability Confident Leader employer. We continue to increase understanding, remove barriers, and ensure that disabled people can fulfil their potential and realise their aspirations. The British Sign Language Act received Royal Assent on 28 April 2022, legally recognising BSL (British Sign Language) as a language of England, Scotland, and Wales (equality law is devolved in Northern Ireland, so the Act does not extend to Northern Ireland). The Act requires the Government to begin reporting on the use of BSL by ministerial departments in their public communications. We intend to publish a BSL report every year which will highlight successes and areas where further progress is needed and ensure accountability.

A key area which we have focused on is on neurodiversity within our workforce. Maximising the talent of all our people and being a neuro-inclusive employer is a key ambition for the Home Office. We have identified best practice from other employers and developed a key series of actions and interventions to build our capability to maximise the input from colleagues to deliver our goals.

The Home Office Strategic Race Board was established in March 2021. It originates from Wendy Williams' Windrush Lessons Learned Review, recommendation 27 that "the Home Office should establish an overarching Strategic Race Advisory Board, chaired by the Permanent Secretary, with external experts to inform policymaking and improve organisational practice".

The Board aims to act on the recommendations from the Wendy Williams review across the Home Office by:

- Identifying key race priorities for the Home Office, designing and implementing initiatives, and monitoring progress against critical success factors for ethnic minority staff.
- Ensuring that Home Office race initiatives are clearly aligned to the departmental transformation agenda.
- Working in collaboration with other government departments and external organisations to learn and share best practice.
- Providing co-ordinated challenge and advice to the Home Office.

It comprises four external trusted partners who provide co-ordinated challenge and scrutiny on the race agenda, with a focus on:

- Increasing representation of ethnic minority colleagues at all grades and regions, particularly the Senior Civil Service.
- Improving the personal experiences of ethnic minority colleagues in the Home Office.
- Enhancing our understanding of the communities and public that we serve and work with to improve the way in which we deal with race issues in our policies and operations.

Parliamentary accountability and audit report

Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply

In addition to the primary statements prepared under IFRS, the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) requires Home Office to prepare a Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply (SOPS) and supporting notes.

The SOPS and related notes are subject to audit, as detailed in the Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the House of Commons.

The SOPS is a key accountability statement that shows, in detail, how an entity has spent against their Supply Estimate. Supply is the monetary provision (for resource and capital purposes) and cash (drawn primarily from the Consolidated fund), that Parliament gives statutory authority for entities to utilise. The Estimate details supply and is voted on by Parliament at the start of the financial year.

Should an entity exceed the limits set by their Supply Estimate, called control limits, their accounts will receive a qualified opinion.

The format of the SOPS mirrors the Supply Estimates, published on GOV.UK, to enable comparability between what Parliament approves and the final outturn.

The SOPS contain a summary table, detailing performance against the control limits that Parliament have voted on, cash spent (budgets are compiled on an accruals basis and so outturn won't exactly tie to cash spent) and administration.

The supporting notes detail the following: Outturn by Estimate line, providing a more detailed breakdown (note 1); a reconciliation of outturn to net operating expenditure in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure (SOCNE), to tie the SOPS to the financial statements (note 2); a reconciliation of outturn to net cash requirement (note 3); and, an analysis of income payable to the Consolidated Fund (note 4).

The SOPS and Estimates are compiled against the budgeting framework, which is similar to, but different from, IFRS. An understanding of the budgeting framework and an explanation of key terms is provided in the financial review section of the performance report. Further information on the Public Spending Framework and the reasons why budgeting rules are different to IFRS can also be found in chapter 1 of the Consolidated Budgeting Guidance, available on GOV.UK.

The SOPS provides a detailed view of financial performance, in a form that is voted on and recognised by Parliament. The financial review, in the Performance Report, provides a summarised discussion of outturn against the estimate and functions as an introduction to the SOPS disclosures.

Summary tables – mirrors part 1 of the Estimates

Summary table, 2023-24, all figures presented in £000s

Type of spend	SoPS note	Outturn			Estimate			Outturn vs Estimate, saving/(excess)		Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23
		Voted	Non-Voted	Total	Voted	Non-Voted	Total	Voted	Total	
Departmental Expenditure Limit										
Resource	1.1	18,856,370	-	18,856,370	19,564,499	-	19,564,499	708,129	708,129	17,005,391
Capital	1.2	1,170,705	-	1,170,705	1,399,773	-	1,399,773	229,068	229,068	925,366
Total		**20,027,075**	**-**	**20,027,075**	**20,964,272**	**-**	**20,964,272**	**937,197**	**937,197**	**17,930,757**
Annually Managed Expenditure										
Resource	1.1	2,860,500	-	2,860,500	3,063,993	-	3,063,993	203,493	203,493	2,070,747
Capital	1.2	63,544	-	63,544	110,000	-	110,000	46,456	46,456	-
Total		**2,924,044**	**-**	**2,924,044**	**3,173,993**	**-**	**3,173,993**	**249,949**	**249,949**	**2,070,747**
Total Budget										
Resource	1.1	21,716,870	-	21,716,870	22,628,492	-	22,628,492	911,622	911,622	19,076,138
Capital	1.2	1,234,249	-	1,234,249	1,509,773	-	1,509,773	275,524	275,524	925,366
Total Budget Expenditure		**22,951,119**	**-**	**22,951,119**	**24,138,265**	**-**	**24,138,265**	**1,187,146**	**1,187,146**	**20,001,504**
Non-Budget Expenditure	1.1	-	-	-			-	-	-	-
Total Budget and Non-Budget		**22,951,119**	**-**	**22,951,119**	**24,138,265**	**-**	**24,138,265**	**1,187,146**	**1,187,146**	**20,001,504**

Figures in the areas outlined in thick line cover the voted control limits voted by Parliament. Refer to the Supply Estimates guidance manual, available on GOV.UK, for detail on the control limits voted by Parliament.

Net cash requirement 2023-24, all figures presented in £000s

Item	SoPS note	Outturn	Estimate	Outturn vs Estimate, saving/(excess)	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23
Net cash requirement	3	21,460,762	22,000,000	**539,238**	**19,461,782**

Administration costs 2023-24, all figures presented in £000s

Type of spend	SoPS note	Outturn	Estimate	Outturn vs Estimate, saving/(excess)	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23
Administration costs	1.1	438,179	455,734	**17,555**	**377,727**

Although not a separate voted limit, any breach of the administration budget will also result in an excess vote.

Notes to the Statement of Parliamentary Supply 2023-24 (£000s)

SoPS 1. Outturn detail, by Estimate line[80]

SoPS 1.1. Analysis of Resource outturn by Estimate line

	Resource outturn							Estimate				
	Administration			Programme								
Type of spend (Resource)	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Total	Total	Virements	Total including virements	Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23, restated
Spending in Departmental Expenditure Limit (DEL)												
Voted expenditure												
A - Public Safety Group	55,160	(2,475)	52,685	11,524,534	(1)	11,524,533	11,577,218	11,331,410	245,958	11,577,368	150	11,204,367
B - Homeland Security Group	58,930	-	58,930	1,413,082	(228,531)	1,184,551	1,243,481	1,206,533	38,329	1,244,862	1,381	1,128,810
C - Migration and Borders Group	39,079	(264)	38,815	391,033	(1,366)	389,667	428,482	775,288	(293,818)	481,470	52,988	285,961
D - Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	-	-	-	133,959	-	133,959	133,959	166,239	(32,280)	133,959	-	67,777

80 The new Home Office organisational structure became effective from 1 April 2023, and the voted expenditure categories in these notes to the Statement of Parliamentary Supply align with the operating segments of the Home Office in the new structure. The 2022-23 comparatives have also been restated for the new vote categories and new structure.

Type of spend (Resource)	Resource outturn							Estimate			Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23, restated
	Administration			Programme								
	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Total	Total	Virements	Total including virements		
E - Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	1,265	-	1,265	1,582,348	(4,928,598)	(3,346,250)	(3,344,985)	(3,314,816)	(30,169)	(3,344,985)	-	(3,077,826)
F - Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	-	-	-	5,424,708	-	5,424,708	5,424,708	5,422,254	2,454	5,424,708	-	4,342,575
G - Border Force	-	-	-	1,224,239	(41,305)	1,182,934	1,182,934	1,104,595	78,339	1,182,934	-	937,479
H - Immigration Enforcement	5	-	5	656,387	(20,099)	636,288	636,293	738,375	(15,482)	722,893	86,600	443,332
I - Corporate and Delivery	215,564	(27,318)	188,246	591,131	(3,383)	587,748	775,994	1,355,603	(144,559)	1,211,044	435,050	949,540
J - Digital, Data and Technology	43,805	(1,440)	42,365	634,711	(133,760)	500,951	543,316	509,002	34,451	543,453	137	493,411
K - Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	14,614	129	14,743	60,441	(31,992)	28,449	43,192	40,247	4,683	44,930	1,738	34,561
L - Strategy	18,118	-	18,118	54,598	(1,990)	52,608	70,726	75,788	(4,269)	71,519	793	75,857
M - Legal Advisors	11,649	-	11,649	-	-	-	11,649	13,072	(1,423)	11,649	-	11,131
N - Communications	11,358	-	11,358	4	-	4	11,362	13,376	(2,014)	11,362	-	8,556
O - Arm's Length Bodies (Net)	-	-	-	118,041	-	118,041	118,041	127,533	119,800	247,333	129,292	99,860
Total voted DEL	**469,547**	**(31,368)**	**438,179**	**23,809,216**	**(5,391,025)**	**18,418,191**	**18,856,370**	**19,564,499**	**-**	**19,564,499**	**708,129**	**17,005,391**
Total spending in DEL	**469,547**	**(31,368)**	**438,179**	**23,809,216**	**(5,391,025)**	**18,418,191**	**18,856,370**	**19,564,499**	**-**	**19,564,499**	**708,129**	**17,005,391**

Type of spend (Resource)	Resource outturn							Estimate			Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23, restated
	Administration			Programme								
	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Total	Total	Virements	Total including virements		
Spending in Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)												
Voted expenditure												
P - Police and Fire Superannuation	-	-	-	2,867,026	-	2,867,026	2,867,026	2,973,993	-	2,973,993	106,967	2,077,967
Q - AME Charges	-	-	-	(6,526)	-	(6,526)	(6,526)	90,000	-	90,000	96,526	(7,220)
Total voted AME	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,860,500**	**-**	**2,860,500**	**2,860,500**	**3,063,993**	**-**	**3,063,993**	**203,493**	**2,070,747**
Total spending in AME	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,860,500**	**-**	**2,860,500**	**2,860,500**	**3,063,993**	**-**	**3,063,993**	**203,493**	**2,070,747**
Total resource	**469,547**	**(31,368)**	**438,179**	**26,669,716**	**(5,391,025)**	**21,278,691**	**21,716,870**	**22,628,492**	**-**	**22,628,492**	**911,622**	**19,076,138**

SoPS 1.2. Analysis of Capital outturn by Estimate line

Type of spend (capital)	Outturn			Estimate			Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)	Prior year outturn total, 2022-23, restated
	Gross	Income	Net	Total	Virements	Total including virements		
Spending in Departmental Expenditure Limit (DEL)								
Voted expenditure								
A - Public Safety Group	225,722	-	225,722	240,031	(14,309)	225,722	-	225,351
B - Homeland Security Group	242,003	-	242,003	279,726	(5,405)	274,321	32,318	165,738
C - Migration and Borders Group	194,737	-	194,737	114,842	79,895	194,737	-	172,169
D - Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	868	-	868	13,400	(12,532)	868	-	40
E - Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	93,465	(7,718)	85,747	110,126	(16,661)	93,465	7,718	89,919
F - Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	195,032	-	195,032	131,860	63,172	195,032	-	4,369
G - Border Force	127,025	-	127,025	139,396	(12,371)	127,025	-	99,195
H - Immigration Enforcement	45,440	-	45,440	133,892	(88,452)	45,440	-	20,814
I - Corporate and Delivery	(61,367)	-	(61,367)	114,223	-	114,223	175,590	37,931
J - Digital, Data and Technology	53,421	-	53,421	62,152	-	62,152	8,731	47,417
K - Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	44,064	53	44,117	37,820	6,297	44,117	-	42,973

Type of spend (capital)	Outturn			Estimate			Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)	Prior year outturn total, 2022-23, restated
	Gross	Income	Net	Total	Virements	Total including virements		
L - Strategy	2,667	-	2,667	2,301	366	2,667	-	3,048
M - Legal Advisors	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N - Communications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
O - Arm's Length Bodies (Net)	15,293	-	15,293	20,004	-	20,004	4,711	16,402
Total voted DEL	**1,178,370**	**(7,665)**	**1,170,705**	**1,399,773**	**-**	**1,399,773**	**229,068**	**925,366**
Total spending in DEL	**1,178,370**	**(7,665)**	**1,170,705**	**1,399,773**	**-**	**1,399,773**	**229,068**	**925,366**
Spending in Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)								
Voted expenditure								
P - Police and Fire Superannuation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Q - AME Charges	63,544	-	63,544	110,000	-	110,000	46,456	-
Total voted AME	**63,544**	**-**	**63,544**	**110,000**	**-**	**110,000**	**46,456**	**-**
Total spending in AME	**63,544**	**-**	**63,544**	**110,000**	**-**	**110,000**	**46,456**	**-**
Total capital	**1,241,914**	**(7,665)**	**1,234,249**	**1,509,773**	**-**	**1,509,773**	**275,524**	**925,366**

The total Estimate columns include virements. Virements are the reallocation of provision in the Estimates that do not require parliamentary authority (because Parliament does not vote to that level of detail and delegates to HM Treasury). Further information on virements is provided in the Supply Estimates Manual, available on GOV.UK.

The outturn versus estimate column is based on the total including virements. The estimate total before virements have been made is included so that users can tie the estimate back to the Estimates laid before Parliament.

SoPS 2. Reconciliation of outturn to net operating expenditure

Item		Reference	Outturn total	Prior Year Outturn Total, 2022-23
Total Resource outturn		SoPS 1.1	21,716,870	19,076,138
Add:	Capital grants		196,691	201,674
	Capital expenditure		92,724	82,481
Total			**289,415**	**284,155**
Less:	Income payable to the Consolidated Fund		(99,389)	(207,919)
	Capital grant income		(7,665)	(5,778)
Total			**(107,054)**	**(213,697)**
Net Operating Expenditure in Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure		SoCNE	**21,899,231**	**19,146,596**

As noted in the introduction to the SOPS above, outturn and the Estimates are compiled against the budgeting framework, which is similar to, but different from, IFRS. Therefore, this reconciliation bridges the resource outturn to net operating expenditure, linking the SOPS to the financial statements.

SoPS 3. Reconciliation of net resource outturn to net cash requirement

Item	Reference	Outturn total	Estimate	Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)
Total Resource outturn	SoPS 1.1	**21,716,870**	**22,628,492**	**911,622**
Total Capital outturn	SoPS 1.2	**1,234,249**	**1,509,773**	**275,524**
Adjustments for ALBs:				
Remove voted resource and capital		(132,807)	(147,537)	(14,730)
Add cash grant-in-aid		131,044	135,983	4,939
Adjustments to remove non-cash items:				
Depreciation and amortisation		(407,388)	(873,178)	(465,790)
New provisions and adjustments to previous provisions		(93,161)	(200,000)	(106,839)

Item	Reference	Outturn total	Estimate	Outturn vs Estimate, saving/ (excess)
Accrued capital expenditure		(89,839)	-	89,839
Other non-cash items		100,021	-	(100,021)
Adjustments to reflect movements in working balances:				
Increase/(decrease) in inventories		(1,680)	-	1,680
Increase/(decrease) in receivables		(63,218)	-	63,218
(Increase)/decrease in lease receivables		(335)		335
(Increase)/decrease in payables		(974,249)	(1,053,533)	(79,284)
(Increase)/decrease in pension liability		25	-	(25)
Use of provisions		41,230	-	(41,230)
Total		**21,460,762**	**22,000,000**	**539,238**
Net cash requirement		**21,460,762**	**22,000,000**	**539,238**

As noted in the introduction to the SOPS above, outturn and the Estimates are compiled against the budgeting framework, not on a cash basis. Therefore, this reconciliation bridges the resource and capital outturn to the net cash requirement.

SoPS 4. Amounts of income to the Consolidated Fund

SoPS 4.1. Analysis of income payable to the Consolidated Fund

In addition to income retained by the Department, the following income is payable to the Consolidated Fund.

	Outturn total		Prior year, 2022-23	
	Accruals	**Cash basis**	**Accruals**	**Cash basis**
Income outside the ambit of the Estimate	99,389	99,023	227,692	207,919
Total amount payable to the Consolidated Fund	**99,389**	**99,023**	**227,692**	**207,919**

SoPS 4.2. Consolidated Fund Income

Consolidated Fund income shown in SOPS note 4.1 above does not include amounts collected by the Department where it was acting as agent for the Consolidated Fund rather than as principal. In accordance with an HM Treasury direction, the non-retainable income generated is not recognised in the Resource Accounts.

Full details of income collected as agent for the Consolidated Fund are included within the Home Office's Trust Statement published alongside these financial statements. This includes income relating to Immigration Skills Charge, Civil Penalties, Immigration Penalties, and Consular Fees.

Gifts

The following section is subject to audit.

For the year ended 31 March 2024, there were no gifts that exceeded £300k.

Regularity of expenditure

The following section is subject to audit.

We are custodians of taxpayers' funds and have a duty to Parliament to ensure the regularity and propriety of our activities and expenditure. We manage public funds in line with HM Treasury's Managing Public Money. The disclosures made within the Parliamentary Accountability and Audit Report are indicative of this.

The importance of operating with regularity and the need for efficiency, economy, effectiveness, and prudence in the administration of public resources to secure value for public money, is the responsibility of our Accounting Officer as set out in Managing Public Money.

The manner in which the Accounting Officer and the wider Department discharges their responsibilities in the administration of public resources are detailed within the Statement of Accounting Officer Responsibilities and the governance statement.

Parliamentary Accountability Disclosures

The following sections are subject to audit.

Losses and special payments

As at 31 March 2024 the Department had paid £240 million to the Government of Rwanda and paid a further £50 million in April 2024 in line with the contractual agreement. These payments were made following a Ministerial Direction issued in 2022 on the basis of value for money. On 6 July 2024, the Prime Minister committed to the Labour Manifesto pledge to end the Migration and Economic Development Partnership (MEDP) with Rwanda. The Home Office is in discussion with HM Treasury to assess whether the money already spent meets the Managing Public Money definition of a constructive loss. Those discussions had not concluded in time for any meaningful disclosure to be included in the Annual Report and Accounts for 2023-24.

Losses Statement

Losses are transactions of a type which Parliament could not have foreseen when Supply funding for the Department was voted. The term loss includes loss of public monies, stores, stocks, cash, and other property entrusted to the Home Office. Examples include: cash losses, bookkeeping losses, exchange rate fluctuations, losses of pay, allowance and superannuation benefits, losses arising from overpayments, losses arising from failure to make adequate charges, and losses arising from accountable stores.

Situations where recurring or individual circumstances result in multiple losses of equivalent nature are grouped together. This group is subsequently counted as one case. This results in greater visibility where circumstances result in significant total values of cases despite individual cases being low value.

	2023-24				2022-23			
	Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group		Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group	
	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000
Losses under £300,000	474	82	492	439	705	132	710	132
Cases over £300,000	4	4,901	4	4,901	4	150,129	4	150,129
Total	**478**	**4,983**	**496**	**5,340**	**709**	**150,261**	**714**	**150,261**

	2023-24				2022-23			
	Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group		Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group	
	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000	Number of cases	£000
Losses over £300,000 comprise:								
Fruitless payments	2	1,959	2	1,959	3	14,129	3	14,129
Loss of Pay/Cash Loss	2	2,941	2	2,941	-	-	-	-
Constructive Loss	-	-	-	-	1	136,000	1	136,000
Total	**4**	**4,901**	**4**	**4,901**	**4**	**150,129**	**4**	**150,129**

Losses over £300,000:

1. Cash losses totalling £2.5 million were incurred due to currency fluctuations for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) programme. The fund is a European Union fund and is designed to help member states manage migration and implement, strengthen and develop a common EU approach to asylum and immigration.
2. Fruitless payments totalling £1.5 million (2022-23 £1.4 million) were incurred by the Home Office as a result of the cancellation of scheduled flights intended to return those who no longer have the right to remain in the United Kingdom.
3. As a financial sanction for failing to secure approval from the Chief Secretary to the Treasury for a remuneration package over £150,000, HM Treasury reduced the Department's total budget for 2023-24 by £0.5 million.
4. Cash losses totalling £0.5 million in relation to contractual termination charges for asylum accommodation on vessels which are no longer required.

Special Payments

Special Payments are transactions that Parliament could not have anticipated when passing legislation or approving Supply Estimates for the Department. Examples include: extra contractual payments to contractors, ex-gratia payments to contractors, other ex-gratia payments, compensation payments, and extra statutory and extra regulatory payments.

Situations where recurring or individual circumstances result in multiple special payments of equivalent nature are grouped together and counted as one case.

	2023-24				2022-23			
	Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group		Core Department & Agencies		Departmental Group	
	Number of cases	Cost (£000)	Number of cases	Cost (£000)	Number of cases	Cost (£000)	Number of cases	Cost (£000)
Special Payments under £300,000	6,018	72,110	6,395	72,186	6,963	57,599	7,147	57,754
Special Payments over £300,000	6	2,988	6	2,988	5	4,391	5	4,391
Total	**6,024**	**75,097**	**6,401**	**75,173**	**6,968**	**61,990**	**7,152**	**62,145**

Special payments under £300,000 for 2023-24 totalled £72.2 million (2022-23: £57.8 million).

These payments were in relation to:

1. Adverse legal costs paid – 2,383 cases paid totalling £32.2 million (2,222 cases paid totalling £19.1 million in 2022-23).
2. Windrush compensation scheme – 1,195 cases totalling £26.1 million (824 cases totalling £20.5 million in 2022-23).
3. Compensation payments for wrongful detention – 838 cases totalling £11.8 million (736 cases totalling £16.1 million in 2022-23).
4. Other compensation payments – 98 cases totalling £1.5 million (76 cases totalling £1.2 million in 2022-23).
5. Ex-gratia payments – 399 payments totalling £0.4 million (368 payments totalling £0.5 million in 2022-23).
6. Tribunal award payments – 1,482 cases paid totalling £0.2 million (2,921 cases paid totalling £0.5 million in 2022-23).

Some cases may involve multiple payments which fall under different classes of special payments. These cases have been counted under each class.

Special Payments over £300,000 are in connection with a total of six cases with a total of £3 million brought against the Department (£1.5 million in connection with three cases in 2022-23). These comprise of;

- five adverse legal payments totalling £2.4 million,
- one ex-gratia payment of £0.4 million in relation to legal action around the acquisition of Bexhill,
- one compensation payment of £0.2 million linked to an adverse legal payment.

Fees and Charges

Segment	Income Stream	2023-24 Income	2023-24 Full Cost	2023-24 Surplus/ (deficit)	2023-24 Fee recovery actual	2023-24 Fee recovery target	2022-23 Income	2022-23 Full Cost	2022-23 Surplus/ (deficit)	2022-23 Fee recovery actual	2022-23 Fee recovery target
		£000	£000	£000	%	%	£000	£000	£000	%	%
Corporate and Delivery	College of Policing - People Development	36,029	73,829	(37,800)	49%	100%	36,029	73,829	(37,800)	49%	100%
Corporate and Delivery	SIA - Licensing and ACS Income	33,328	33,842	(514)	98%	100%	30,477	33,396	(2,919)	91%	100%
Corporate and Delivery	DBS Disclosures and Update Service	215,995	211,431	4,564	102%	100%	217,079	196,858	20,221	110%	100%
Customer Service (UKVI)	In-Country and Overseas	2,626,006	1,244,794	1,381,212	211%	212%	2,201,954	1,029,648	1,172,306	214%	202%
Customer Service (HMPO)	Passports & other associated income	629,487	852,420	(222,933)	74%	100%	711,900	845,688	(133,788)	84%	100%

Segment	Income Stream	2023-24 Income	2023-24 Full Cost	2023-24 Surplus/ (deficit)	2023-24 Fee recovery actual	2023-24 Fee recovery target	2022-23 Income	2022-23 Full Cost	2022-23 Surplus/ (deficit)	2022-23 Fee recovery actual	2022-23 Fee recovery target
		£000	£000	£000	%	%	£000	£000	£000	%	%
Customer Service (HMPO)	Certificate Services	25,703	47,899	(22,196)	54%	100%	24,680	68,002	(43,322)	36%	100%
Digital, Data and Technology	Police ICT	135,100	141,588	(6,488)	95%	100%	132,248	128,905	3,343	103%	100%
Total		**3,701,648**	**2,605,803**	**1,095,845**	**142%**		**3,354,367**	**2,376,326**	**978,041**	**141%**	

This analysis of income satisfies the Fees and Charges requirements of HM Treasury rather than IFRS 8 Operating Segments. Categories where both income and costs are below £10 million have been excluded from this analysis.

Notes

1. **College of Policing:** People development includes exams and assessments, learning and development services, and leadership development services. HM Treasury approval has been obtained for the subsidy of selected training products for core customers, which are principally UK police forces and public bodies.
2. **Security Industry Authority (SIA)**
   a. Licensing Income is the application fee for an individual SIA Licence. Individuals working in specific sectors of the private security industry are required by law to hold an SIA Licence.
   b. Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) income is the registration and application fees for companies joining the voluntary scheme for providers of security services. Companies who satisfactorily meet the agreed standards may be registered as approved and advertise themselves as such.
3. **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**
   a. A basic DBS certificate is available for any position or purpose and will contain details of convictions and conditional cautions.
   b. A standard DBS disclosure certificate provides details of all convictions held on the Police National Computer including current and "spent" convictions as well as details of any cautions, reprimands or final warnings on the applicant.
   c. An enhanced DBS check is available to anyone involved in work with vulnerable groups and other positions involving a high degree of trust. Enhanced certificates contain the same information as the standard certificate with the addition of relevant local police force information.
   d. An enhanced with barred list(s) DBS certificate will contain the same information as the enhanced DBS check certificate but includes details of whether the individual is included on one or both of the lists of those barred from working with children and vulnerable groups where the role is in regulated activity.
   e. The DBS Update Service enables applicants to keep their DBS certificates up to date online and allows employers to check a certificate online.
4. **UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI)** is responsible for processing visa applications made Overseas and UK based applications for visas, migration and nationality. The actual cost recovery rate is 211% with the additional income from fees contributing to the operation of the wider borders system, including Border Force.
5. Passport costs include all activities relating to the issuing of passports and includes downstream costs such as processing UK passport holders at UK borders. The financial objective of this activity is that income should cover the full costs of these services. A fee is charged for all passport applications except for standard passport applications made by those born on or before 2 September 1929.
6. **Civil Registration Certificate Services** includes all services relating to the issuing of certificates for birth, death, marriage, and civil partnership. In addition, central Home Office funding is provided for other key civil registration functions including supporting local registration services. The financial objective is to break even after central Home Office funding for non-fee bearing activities.
7. **Police ICT income stream** relates to charges for national IT services and systems provided by the Home Office to England and Wales Police forces and all other law enforcement agencies.

Remote contingent liabilities

This section is subject to audit.

In addition to contingent liabilities disclosed in the financial statements, the Department also reports liabilities for which the likelihood of a transfer of economic benefit in settlement is remote but are still in scope of IAS 37.

Quantifiable contingent liabilities

	01-Apr-23	Change in year	Liabilities crystallised in year	Obligation expired in year	31-Mar-24
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Indemnity provided to BAA in respect of damage or injury caused to third parties from Border Force in their use of vehicles operating airside while transporting immigration officers between airside locations.	52,000	-	-	-	52,000
Indemnity granted in relation to Cyclamen programme up to a maximum €10 million. (Minute dated 17 July 2009)	8,801	(270)	-	-	8,531
Indemnity arising from Riot Damage Costs. (Minute dated 21 May 2012)	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Grant Agreements with Telecommunications Providers	-	31,351	-	-	31,351
	70,801	**31,081**	**-**	**-**	**101,882**

The €10 million indemnity granted in relation to Cyclamen has been translated using sterling exchange rates as at 11 March 2024 (exchange rate used 1.172).

Unquantifiable contingent liabilities

The following liabilities are judged to be unquantifiable:

Police – City of London Economic Crime Basic Command Unit (ECBCU) (Minute dated 12 March 2004). If the Home Office reduces or discontinues its share of the match funding of the expanded ECBCU then it will contribute up to 50% of the resulting costs, for example redundancy payment or property cost.

HMG guarantee for EU funding streams as announced in August and October 2016. Home Office responsibility covers AMIF Programmes.

The Home Office appeal to the Supreme Court in relation to the Gubeladze case (A8 Worker Registration Scheme) has failed. This outcome leaves the Department liable to refund Worker Registration Scheme fees collected over the period 2009 to 2011. The Home Office recognised a provision for this liability in its 2019-20 accounts and there is also an unquantifiable liability for claims for consequential losses.

Indemnities

Border Force New Detection Technology (NDT)

The following minutes have been used to notify Parliament of the contingent liability relating to Borders and Enforcement NDT, dated 10 September 2003, 18 December 2003, 18 March 2004, 2 July 2004 and 30 August 2016.

The minutes above refer to the following locations and NDT equipment which is loaned by the Department to recipients:

1. **Belgium** (loan of motion detection equipment and building; and loan of passive millimetre wave imager trucks and reflector and thermal imaging equipment).
2. **The Netherlands** (loan of motion detection equipment and building/ shelters; CO_2 probes and thermal imaging equipment).
3. **France** (loan of motion detection equipment and building/shelters; CO_2 probes and loan of passive millimetre wave imager reflectors and ISO containers).
   i. **Calais:** Heartbeat equipment and building and Passive Millimetric Wave Imager ISO containers. Heartbeat equipment and two buildings in juxtaposed control zone commenced Spring 2004.
   ii. **Coquelles:** Heartbeat Detection Unit at the Eurotunnel operated in the juxtaposed control zone by the Home Office. Passive Millimetric Wave Imager ISO containers. Shelter for Heartbeat detection equipment which is under the control of, and operated by Borders and Enforcement in the juxtaposed control zone.
   iii. **Dunkerque:** Heartbeat building commenced Summer 2005. Heartbeat equipment and building operated by the Home Office in the juxtaposed control zone and commenced operation in Spring 2004.
   iv. **Ostend:** Heartbeat shelters.
   v. **St. Malo:** CO_2 probes to be operated by French operators.
   vi. **Vlissingen:** Heartbeat equipment and shelters.
   vii. **Zeebrugge:** Two further Heartbeat buildings and one Passive Millimetric Wave Imager ISO container.

The minutes also refer to the following:

Indemnity in respect of the deployment and/or demonstration of NDT by Borders and Enforcement in Europe. Within the scope of this indemnity “Europe” is defined as the member states of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); those North African and Middle Eastern countries with which the OSCE has special relationships.

(Algeria, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia); and those countries which participate in Euro-Mediterranean dialogue with the Council of Europe (Libya, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian Authority).

Credit Industry Fraud Avoidance Service (CIFAS) – Fraud Protection Service

(Minutes dated 23 November 2011 and 2 March 2016).

To indemnify bodies against erroneous data entered on the CIFAS database, resulting in claims lodged against those organisations.

Angiolini Inquiry

(Minute dated 24 May 2022)

The Angiolini Inquiry was established on 31 January 2022 to review the circumstances of the abduction, rape and murder of Sarah Everard, and the abuse of power by a serving Metropolitan police officer that risks undermining public confidence in the police.

The Home Office agrees to indemnify Dame Elish Angiolini as Chair of the Inquiry, as well as current and former members of the Inquiry and any individual engaged at any time to aid the Inquiry, against any legal costs, actions or damages arising from the execution of their duties in connection with the Inquiry. The indemnity will also cover any civil liability for any act done or omission made in good faith in the execution of their duties.

This indemnity applies only to acts committed or omissions made during the Inquiry’s work, from establishment on 31 January 2022 until the final report is published by the Home Secretary.

The indemnity is subject to the proviso that any liability which is to any extent met by insurers on the beneficiary of this indemnity, or for which reimbursement is made to any extent by such insurers, shall in that event and to that extent no longer be the subject of the indemnity and, if previously met or reimbursed by the government, shall to that extent be refunded by the beneficiary to the government.

Western Jet Indemnity

The Jetfoil project was tendered through the CCS framework in December 2021 to supply first a temporary and then a permanent pontoon solution for the disembarking of small boat arrivals at Dover Harbour Jetfoil basin. Indemnity was granted to the supplier to protect against damage/loss resulting in pontoon breaking free as a result of extreme weather conditions.

Reconciliation of contingent liabilities included in the supply estimate to the accounts

Quantifiable contingent liabilities

Description of contingent liability	Supply Estimate (£000)	Amount disclosed in ARA (£000)	Variance (Estimate – Amount Disclosed in ARA, £000)
Indemnity provided to BAA in respect of damage or injury caused to third parties from Border Force in their use of vehicles operating airside while transporting immigration officers between airside locations.	52,000	52,000	-
Indemnity granted in relation to Cyclamen programme up to a maximum €10 million. (Minute dated 17 July 2009)	8,534	8,531	(3)
Indemnity arising from Riot Damage Costs. (Minute dated 21 May 2012)	10,000	10,000	-
Grant agreement with Telecommunications providers	31,351	31,351	-

Unquantifiable contingent liabilities

Description of contingent liability	Included in the Supply Estimate (Yes/No)	Disclosed in the ARA (Yes/No)	Explanation of difference
Police – City of London Economic Crime Basic Command Unit (ECBCU) (Minute dated 12 March 2004)	Yes	Yes	-
The Home Office appeal to the Supreme Court in relation to the Gubeladze case (A8 Worker Registration Scheme) has failed. This outcome leaves the Department liable to refund Worker Registration Scheme fees collected over the period 2009 and 2011.	Yes	Yes	-
Border Force New Detection Technology (NDT)	Yes	Yes	-
Credit Industry Fraud Avoidance Service (CiFas) – Fraud Protection Service	Yes	Yes	-
Angiolini Inquiry	Yes	Yes	-
Western Jet Indemnity	Yes	Yes	-

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the House of Commons

Opinion on financial statements

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Home Office and of its Departmental Group for the year ended 31 March 2024 under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000. The Department comprises the core Department. The Departmental Group consists of the Department and the bodies designated for inclusion under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Estimates and Accounts) Order 2023. The financial statements comprise: the Department's and the Departmental Group's:

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024;
- Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity for the year then ended; and
- the related notes including the significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the Group financial statements is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Department and the Departmental Group's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and their net expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 and HM Treasury directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects:

- the Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply properly presents the outturn against voted Parliamentary control totals for the year ended 31 March 2024 and shows that those totals have not been exceeded; and
- the income and expenditure recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

Basis for opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs UK), applicable law and Practice Note 10 *Audit of Financial Statements and Regularity of Public Sector Bodies in the United Kingdom (2022)*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of my certificate.

Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's *Revised Ethical Standard 2019*. I am independent of the Department and its Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK. My staff and I have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

The framework of authorities described in the table below has been considered in the context of my opinion on regularity.

Framework of authorities	
Authorising legislation	Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000
Parliamentary authorities	Supply and Appropriations Acts
HM Treasury and related authorities	Managing Public Money

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the Department and its Group's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Department or its Group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Accounting Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this certificate.

The going concern basis of accounting for the Department and its Group is adopted in consideration of the requirements set out in HM Treasury's Government Financial Reporting Manual, which requires entities to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements where it is anticipated that the services which they provide will continue into the future.

Overview of my audit approach

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) identified by the auditor, including those which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy; the allocation of resources in the audit; and directing the efforts of the engagement team.

These matters were addressed in the context of the audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon. I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

This is not a complete list of all risks identified through the course of my audit but only those areas that had the greatest effect on my overall audit strategy, allocation of resources and direction of effort. I have not, for example, included information relating to the work I have performed around the presumed audit risk on the potential for management override of controls which was considered a Key Audit Matter in 2022/23. I consider the risk in this area to have reduced because the Department had significant budgetary headroom against its parliamentary control total for Resource Departmental Expenditure Limit expenditure in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23, my audit in this area was less extensive than in the previous years to reflect the reduced risk of management manipulation of the financial results. I also have not included information relating to my work I have performed on the Presumed risk of fraud in revenue recognition and Expenditure- completeness. These are areas where my work has not identified any matters to report.

The key audit matters were discussed with the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee; their report on matters that they considered to be significant to the financial statements is set out on page 127.

I have removed the Key Audit Matters relating to implementation of IFRS 16 Leases and Financial Commitments as the Department addressed these issues during 2022-23.

Rwanda policy- expenditure and disclosure

Description of risk

During 2023-24, the Home Office paid £100 million (£120 million in 2022-23) to the Government of Rwanda as part of the Migration and Economic Development Partnership (MEDP). In addition, the Home Office made a separate advance payment to the Government of Rwanda of £20m in 2022-23 to support initial set up costs of the asylum processing arrangements under the MEDP. This advance payment is a credit to pay for the anticipated future asylum processing operational costs. The legislative basis for making these payments was section 59 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002.

On 29 June 2023, the Court of Appeal ruled that, in principle, relocating asylum seekers to a safe third country for the processing of their claims was in line with the Refugee Convention. However, the Court found that there were deficiencies in the asylum system in Rwanda, which meant that there remained a risk that individuals relocated to Rwanda could be returned to their home country despite having a need for protection. This meant that the Home Office could not proceed with flights to Rwanda at that stage. The Home Office sought permission to appeal this decision at the Supreme Court. In its ruling on 15 November 2023 the Supreme Court dismissed the Home Secretary's appeal and upheld the Court of Appeal's conclusion that the Government's Rwanda policy was unlawful. In response, the Government tabled new legislation in Parliament. On 25 April 2024, the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024 received Royal Assent. Section 2 of this Act "gave effect to the judgement of Parliament that the Republic of Rwanda is a safe country".

In the view of questions about the regularity of its previous and ongoing expenditure on this policy, and the level of public interest in this policy, I considered that any disclosures in respect of it in the Home Office's 2023-24 Annual Report and Accounts would be material by their nature. This assessment also recognised that, in the event of a change in the UK Government, and the policy on Rwanda being reconsidered, there was a risk that any expenditure on it to date may need to be treated as a loss under the guidance in Managing Public Money.

How the scope of my audit responded to the risk

My audit procedures included:

- Review of the Department's controls around processing payments to the Government of Rwanda;
- Review of the Department's assessment of the regularity of payments made to the Government of Rwanda in the light of the Supreme Court judgement and the passage of the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024;
- Confirming that payments made to the Government of Rwanda during 2023-24 agreed to the schedule in the MEDP agreement between the United Kingdom and the Government of Rwanda and were accurately disclosed in the Department's Annual Report and Accounts; and
- Consideration of the impact of an announcement made by the Prime Minister on 6 July 2024 of the Government's intention to cancel the MEDP arrangement with the Government of Rwanda, with immediate effect, on the disclosures in the Department's Annual Report and Accounts in respect of the Rwanda policy. In particular, I considered whether, given the Government's intention to cancel the partnership agreement, any expenditure incurred to date would need to be disclosed as a constructive loss in the losses statement within the Parliamentary Accountability Disclosures, in line with Managing Public Money. A constructive loss occurs for example when expenditure properly incurred on a policy has to be written off when that policy is abandoned.

Key observations

I concluded that payments made by the Department to the Government of Rwanda during 2023-24 were regular and were properly disclosed in the Annual Report and Accounts.

In view of the Prime Minister's announcement of the Government's intention to abandon the previous Government's policy in this area and cancel the MEDP agreement with the Government of Rwanda with immediate effect, the Department disclosed the likelihood of a constructive loss in its Parliamentary Accountability disclosures on page 188. Before the Prime Minister's announcement on 6 July 2024, the Department had paid £290m to the Government of Rwanda. The value of the loss will be confirmed in 2024-25 following discussions between the UK Government and the Government of Rwanda and between the Department and HM Treasury.

Asset clearing account

Description of risk

The asset clearing account is a suspense account to which the Home Office posts transactions when it incurs expenditure on items of a capital nature prior to their precise detail being clarified and then posted to the relevant asset class, or expensed if not meeting the criteria for capitalisation. At 31 March 2024, the balance on the asset clearing account was £695 million (£694 million at 31 March 2023). This balance included assets which needed to be analysed and either expensed or transferred to the appropriate asset class within the non-current asset register. This process results in risks to the classification of assets between Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) and intangible assets and to the allocation between asset classes within these groups. In addition, there is a risk that the depreciation and amortisation charges associated with these assets is incorrect if they have been allocated to an incorrect asset class or incorrectly identified as either fully operational assets or assets in the course of construction.

The Department allocated the balance on the asset clearing account at 31 March 2024 of £695 million across all asset classes, with the largest allocations to Intangible Assets under Construction (£197 million), PPE Assets under Construction (£185 million) and Intangible Assets Information Technology (£156 million). In addition, the Home Office estimated a total of £99 million for the depreciation and amortisation associated with this asset clearing account, of which over 70% was assumed to relate to Intangible Assets Information Technology.

How the scope of my audit responded to the risk

My audit procedures included:

- Reviewing the design and implementation of controls around payments on account and assets under construction, assessing the processes the Department uses to establish when AUC assets are complete and should be transferred to the fixed asset register;
- Reviewing the Department's processes for investigating and cleansing the information held within the asset clearing account;
- Substantive testing of individual balances within the three sub-populations of the asset clearing account (in year-expenditure, accruals and journals) to confirm that these relate to items of a capital nature;
- Evaluating the Department's methods for allocating the closing balance on the asset clearing account across PPE and intangibles and between asset classes within these groups; and
- Evaluating the depreciation estimate prepared by the Department in relation to live assets held within the asset clearing account.

Key observations

My testing in this area did not identify any material misstatements.

Accounting for accruals

Description of risk

The Department's financial statements disclose accruals as at 31 March 2024 of £3,439 million (£2,533 million as at 31 March 2023). Accruals are accounting estimates with a lower degree of estimation uncertainty than other liabilities such as provisions, but I identified this area as a significant audit risk because, in prior years, the Department has experienced difficulties in providing me with sufficient appropriate evidence to support the accruals reflected. This led me to record several errors from my testing of the Department's accruals, which cover material areas of expenditure such as asylum costs and grants to police and fire services to meet the annual costs of their pension schemes. The value of accruals has increased substantially in 2023-24, driven by large increases in the fire and police service pensions liabilities (up from £531 million to £982 million) and delays in local authorities claiming asylum-related expenditure from the Home Office.

I considered that pensions liabilities were an area of specific audit risk for 2023-24. In prior years this accrual has been straightforward to audit because it represented the Home Office's liability to settle the shortfall between the pensions expenditure and income in any given year in respect of the police and firefighters' pensions schemes. 2023-24 is the first year that this liability has included elements for the estimated impact of the redress of age discrimination against pension scheme members caused by the way transitional arrangements were applied when schemes were replaced in 2015. As these estimated liabilities, which totalled £359 million as at 31 March 2024, are based on actuarial projections and require the Department to engage the Government Actuary's Department, I considered this a key matter for the 2023-24 audit.

How the scope of my audit responded to the risk

My audit procedures included:

- Reviewing the design and implementation of controls around the Department's processes for capturing and valuing accruals, including reviewing evidence of senior management challenge for larger accruals.
- Substantive testing of individual accrual balances to supporting documentation to confirm that these represented valid liabilities at year end with supported values;
- Engaging an auditor's expert to review the reasonableness of the key actuarial assumptions underpinning the increased pensions accrued liability as at 31 March 2024; and
- Challenging the categorisation of liabilities as accruals rather than provisions and the adequacy of the disclosures of the accounting policies for, and estimation uncertainty around, key accruals.

Key observations

My testing in this area did not identify any material misstatements.

Application of materiality

Materiality

I applied the concept of materiality in both planning and performing my audit, and in evaluating the effect of misstatements on my audit and on the financial statements. This approach recognises that financial statements are rarely absolutely correct, and that an audit is designed to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement or irregularity. A matter is material if its omission or misstatement would, in the judgement of the auditor, reasonably influence the decisions of users of the financial statements.

Based on my professional judgement, I determined overall materiality for the Department and its group's financial statements as a whole as follows:

	Departmental group	Department parent
Materiality	£280.2 million	£275.5 million
Basis for determining overall account materiality	1% of gross expenditure (1% of gross expenditure of £28,022,212,000 in 2023-24)	1% of gross expenditure (1% of gross expenditure of gross expenditure of £27,571,405,000 in 2023-24)
Rationale for the benchmark applied	Gross expenditure is the main driver of the accounts. The Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply is the key focus for the user of the accounts, and this is derived from the Statement of Consolidated Net Expenditure and in particular gross expenditure. Furthermore, users of the accounts would be interested in specific expenditure sums such as expenditure on policing and asylum costs.	In line with the group accounts, gross expenditure is the main driver of the parent accounts so the same basis for determining materiality has been used.

Performance Materiality

I set performance materiality at a level lower than materiality to reduce the probability that, in aggregate, uncorrected and undetected misstatements exceed the materiality of the financial statements as a whole. Group performance materiality was set at 65% of Group materiality for the 2023-24 audit (2022-23: 70%).

In determining performance materiality, I have considered the high level of errors identified in relation to the Asset Clearing Account, as well as the level of the uncorrected misstatements in other areas of the accounts identified in the previous period.

Other Materiality Considerations

I revised my materiality levels upwards as the audit progressed, to take account of additional resource funding of £5.3 billion that Parliament approved for the Home Office for 2023-24 through the Supplementary Estimates process, principally to cover the costs of asylum support.

Apart from matters that are material by value (quantitative materiality), there are certain matters that are material by their very nature and would influence the decisions of users if not corrected. Such an example is any errors reported in the Related Parties note in the financial statements. Assessment of such matters needs to have regard to the nature of the misstatement and the applicable legal and reporting framework, as well as the size of the misstatement.

I applied the same concept of materiality to my audit of regularity. In planning and performing my audit work to support my opinion on regularity and in evaluating the impact of any irregular transactions, I considered both quantitative and qualitative aspects that would reasonably influence the decisions of users of the financial statements.

Error Reporting Threshold

I agreed with the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee that I would report to it all uncorrected misstatements identified through my audit in excess of £300,000, as well as differences below this threshold that in my view warranted reporting on qualitative grounds. I also report to the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee on disclosure matters that I identified when assessing the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Total unadjusted audit differences reported to the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee would have increased net expenditure and decrease net assets by £55m.

Audit scope

The scope of my Group audit was determined by obtaining an understanding of the Department and its Group's environment, including Department/Group-wide controls, and assessing the risks of material misstatement at the Group level.

- The Departmental Group consists of the core Department and six components: none of the components is significant in the context of the group audit. I performed full audit procedures over the core Department's expenditure and income and its assets and liabilities, including substantive tests of detail and substantive analytical procedures (for payroll and certain categories of income).
- My group procedures were driven by the significance of the Home Office Core Department in comparison to component entities. The Core Department represents 98.5% of the Group's expenditure and 93.8% of the Group's assets and therefore all other components were considered non-significant for the purposes of attaining group-wide assurance. My procedures involved reviewing the controls around the consolidation process; review of the Audit Planning Reports for all component bodies; review of any significant matters raised including instances of fraud or irregularity, instances of management override, new significant risks and emerging findings with a group impact; and a review of journals which impact on Group-wide control totals.

- Throughout my audit procedures I have considered compliance with the Department and its Group's framework of authorities, including compliance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000, the Supply and Appropriation Act and Managing Public Money. In particular, this has been addressed through my detailed testing of income and expenditure transactions to ensure compliance with Managing Public Money and procedures addressing the risks around the Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply.
- I have performed detailed testing over the Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply, including review of the reconciling items identified in the Statement. I also assessed the likelihood of management override through procedures seeking to identify any amendments which would avoid a breach of parliamentary control totals.

This work covered substantially all of the Group's assets and net income/expenditure, and together with the procedures performed at group level, gave me the evidence I needed for my opinion on the group financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's certificate and report thereon. The Accounting Officer is responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my certificate, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion the part of the Remuneration and Staff Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000.

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the parts of the Accountability Report subject to audit have been properly prepared in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000;
- the information given in the Performance and Accountability Reports for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and is in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which I report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Department and its Group and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Performance and Accountability Reports.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Department and its Group or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my staff; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the financial statements and the parts of the Accountability Report subject to audit are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of remuneration specified by HM Treasury's Government Financial Reporting Manual have not been made or parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report to be audited is not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- the Governance Statement does not reflect compliance with HM Treasury's guidance.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities, the Accounting Officer is responsible for:

- maintaining proper accounting records;
- providing the C&AG with access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
- providing the C&AG with additional information and explanations needed for his audit;
- providing the C&AG with unrestricted access to persons within the Department and its Group from whom the auditor determines it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
- ensuring such internal controls are in place as deemed necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements to be free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view and are in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000;
- preparing the annual report, which includes the Remuneration and Staff Report, in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000; and
- assessing the Department and its Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Accounting Officer anticipates that the services provided by the Department and its Group will not continue to be provided in the future.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My responsibility is to audit, certify and report on the financial statements in accordance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a certificate that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations including fraud

I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud. The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud is detailed below.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, I:

- considered the nature of the sector, control environment and operational performance including the design of the Department and its Group's accounting policies.
- inquired of management, the Department's head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to the Department and its Group's policies and procedures on:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations including the Department and its Group's controls relating to the Department's compliance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000, Managing Public Money and the Supply and Appropriation Act (Main Estimates) Act 2023;
- inquired of management, the Department's head of internal audit and those charged with governance whether:
  - they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - they had knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud,

- discussed with the engagement team including component audit teams and the relevant internal and external specialists, including specialist pensions experts engaged on the audit, how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, I considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Department and its Group for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas: revenue recognition, posting of unusual journals, complex transactions, and bias in management estimates. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), I am required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

I obtained an understanding of the Department and Group's framework of authority and other legal and regulatory frameworks in which the Department and Group operates. I focused on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Department and its Group. The key laws and regulations I considered in this context included Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000, Managing Public Money, Supply and Appropriation (Main Estimates) Act 2023, Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024, employment law, pensions and tax legislation any relevant legislation relating to fees charged by the Home Office.

Audit response to identified risk

To respond to the identified risks resulting from the above procedures:

- I reviewed the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described above as having direct effect on the financial statements;
- I enquired of management, the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and in-house legal counsel concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- I reviewed minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the Board and internal audit reports;
- I addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements on estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business; and
- I performed substantive testing of income streams and confirmed appropriate fees had been applied and the performance obligation has been met.

I communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential risks of fraud to all engagement team members including internal specialists and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my certificate.

Other auditor’s responsibilities

I am required to obtain appropriate evidence sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the Statement of Outturn against Parliamentary Supply properly presents the outturn against voted Parliamentary control totals and that those totals have not been exceeded. The voted Parliamentary control totals are Departmental Expenditure Limits (Resource and Capital), Annually Managed Expenditure (Resource and Capital), Non-Budget (Resource) and Net Cash Requirement.

I am required to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to give reasonable assurance that the expenditure and income recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control I identify during my audit.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

Gareth Davies

Comptroller and Auditor General

29 July 2024

National Audit Office
157-197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London
SW1W 9SP

Financial statements

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure

For the year ended 31 March 2024

This account summarises the expenditure and income generated and consumed on an accruals basis. It also includes other comprehensive income and expenditure, which include changes to the values of non-current assets and other financial instruments that cannot yet be recognised as income or expenditure.

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies	2023-24 Departmental Group	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies	2022-23 Departmental Group
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Revenue from contracts with customers	4	(3,736,857)	(4,024,178)	(3,375,448)	(3,660,327)
Other operating income	4	(1,792,590)	(1,792,590)	(1,757,363)	(1,757,363)
Total operating income		**(5,529,447)**	**(5,816,768)**	**(5,132,811)**	**(5,417,690)**
Staff costs	3	2,779,931	2,972,997	2,212,435	2,392,202
Main police grants	3	9,223,960	9,223,960	9,192,959	9,192,959
Police pensions top-up grant	3	2,107,256	2,107,256	1,658,574	1,658,574
Fire pensions top-up grant	3	759,770	759,770	419,393	419,393
Other current grants	3	4,146,475	4,146,475	3,344,877	3,344,877
Capital grants	3	194,289	196,691	206,659	209,061
Purchase of goods and services	3	5,721,261	5,783,800	4,276,017	4,332,946
Depreciation and impairment charges	3	410,745	426,660	677,822	699,395
Provision expense	3	30,324	29,656	73,312	73,564
Other non-cash items	3	25,562	25,859	(959)	(900)
Other operating expenditure	3	1,899,274	2,032,711	2,110,083	2,236,294
Grant in aid to ALBs	3	131,044	-	131,218	-
Total operating expenditure		**27,429,891**	**27,705,835**	**24,302,390**	**24,558,365**

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies	2023-24 Departmental Group	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies	2022-23 Departmental Group
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Net operating expenditure		**21,900,444**	**21,889,067**	**19,169,579**	**19,140,675**
Finance expense	3	9,915	10,164	5,655	5,921
Net expenditure for the year		**21,910,359**	**21,899,231**	**19,175,234**	**19,146,596**
Other Comprehensive Net Expenditure					
Items which will not be reclassified to net operating costs:					
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		(26,126)	(27,226)	(16,541)	(17,642)
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of Intangible assets		(27)	(84)	(3,976)	(4,229)
Comprehensive net expenditure for the year		**21,884,206**	**21,871,921**	**19,154,717**	**19,124,725**

The notes on pages 225 to 265 form part of these accounts.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

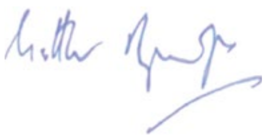
As at 31 March 2024

This statement presents the financial position of the Department. It comprises three main components: assets owned or controlled; liabilities owed to other bodies; and equity, the remaining value of the entity.

		2023-24		2022-23	
	Note	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Non-current assets					
Property, plant and equipment	5	1,180,511	1,222,666	944,644	986,185
Right-of-use assets	7	666,820	683,995	571,652	594,838
Intangible assets	6	1,239,829	1,270,821	1,018,501	1,045,966
Trade receivables and other non-current assets	10	9,198	9,198	10,033	8,465
Total non-current assets		**3,096,358**	**3,186,680**	**2,544,830**	**2,635,454**
Current assets					
Inventories		5,205	5,205	6,910	6,910
Trade and other receivables	10	618,002	654,714	709,880	719,468
Cash and cash equivalents	9	221,281	348,106	475,750	594,558
Total current assets		**844,488**	**1,008,025**	**1,192,540**	**1,320,936**
Total assets		**3,940,846**	**4,194,705**	**3,737,370**	**3,956,390**
Current liabilities					
Provisions	12	291,856	292,654	289,928	290,687
Trade and other payables	11	4,359,422	4,498,763	3,625,759	3,699,815
Lease liabilities	15	97,735	101,969	76,629	78,242
Total current liabilities		**4,749,013**	**4,893,386**	**3,992,316**	**4,068,744**
Total assets less current liabilities		**(808,167)**	**(698,681)**	**(254,946)**	**(112,354)**

	Note	2023-24		2022-23	
		Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Non-current liabilities					
Other payables	11	13,955	16,246	13,955	15,108
Lease liabilities	15	550,111	564,730	514,183	535,661
Provisions	12	237,215	240,564	187,535	192,123
Pension liability		190	1,886	215	2,802
Total non-current liabilities		**801,471**	**823,426**	**715,888**	**745,694**
Total assets less total liabilities		**(1,609,638)**	**(1,522,107)**	**(970,834)**	**(858,048)**
Taxpayers' equity and other reserves					
General fund	SoCTE	(1,786,935)	(1,710,896)	(1,137,218)	(1,033,876)
Revaluation reserve	SoCTE	177,487	190,675	166,599	178,630
Pension reserve	SoCTE	(190)	(1,886)	(215)	(2,802)
Total equity		**(1,609,638)**	**(1,522,107)**	**(970,834)**	**(858,048)**

The notes on pages 225 to 265 form part of these accounts.



Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Statement of Cash Flows shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Department during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Department generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of service costs and the extent to which these operations are funded by way of income from the recipients of services provided by the Department. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash inflows and outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Department's future public service delivery.

			2023-24		**2022-23**
	Note	**Core Department & Agencies**	**Departmental Group**	**Core Department & Agencies (Restated)**	**Departmental Group (Restated)**
		£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net expenditure for the year		(21,910,359)	(21,899,231)	(19,175,234)	(19,146,596)
Adjustments for non-cash transactions	3	476,546	492,339	755,830	777,980
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	10	92,713	64,021	95,374	58,455
Less movements in receivables relating to items not passing through the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure		(29,495)	(753)	4,066	3,982
(Increase)/decrease in lease receivables		335	335	(4,393)	(4,393)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories and assets classified as held for sale		1,680	1,680	864	900
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables	11	790,697	852,882	178,072	205,353

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies	2023-24 Departmental Group	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies (Restated)	2022-23 Departmental Group (Restated)
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Less movements in payables relating to items not passing through the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure		124,584	62,194	(357,918)	(399,237)
Use of provisions	12	(41,230)	(41,762)	(80,497)	(80,573)
Increase/(decrease) in pension liability		(25)	(916)	(22)	95
Net cash outflow from operating activities		**(20,494,554)**	**(20,469,211)**	**(18,583,858)**	**(18,584,034)**
Cash flows from investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	5	(420,431)	(425,830)	(289,300)	(294,541)
Less: movements in PPE capital creditors		84,505	84,505	122,337	122,337
Purchase of intangible assets	6	(411,354)	(421,675)	(364,063)	(373,647)
Less: movements in intangibles capital creditors		5,334	5,334	(29,523)	(29,523)
Proceeds of disposal		415	1,428	11,569	12,494
Net cash outflow from investing activities		**(741,531)**	**(756,238)**	**(548,980)**	**(562,880)**
Cash flows from financing activities					
From the Consolidated Fund (Supply) - current year		21,314,151	21,314,151	19,378,329	19,378,329
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts paid to Consolidated Fund		(205,311)	(205,311)	(372,442)	(372,442)
Advances from the Contingencies Fund		2,600,000	2,600,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies	2023-24 Departmental Group	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies (Restated)	2022-23 Departmental Group (Restated)
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Repayments to the Contingencies Fund		(2,600,000)	(2,600,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Repayments of principal on leases		(117,309)	(119,679)	(70,370)	(74,683)
Interest on lease liabilities		(9,915)	(10,164)	(5,655)	(5,921)
Net financing		**20,981,616**	**20,978,997**	**18,929,862**	**18,925,283**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the period before adjustment for receipts and payments to the Consolidated Fund		(49,158)	(41,141)	169,466	150,811
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the period after adjustment for receipts and payments to the Consolidated Fund		(254,469)	(246,452)	(202,976)	(221,631)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		475,750	594,558	678,726	816,189
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		**221,281**	**348,106**	**475,750**	**594,558**

The notes on pages 225 to 265 form part of these accounts.

Consolidated Statement of Taxpayers' Equity

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Home Office analysed into 'general fund reserves' (i.e. those reserves that reflect a contribution from the Consolidated Fund). The revaluation reserve reflects the change in asset values that have not been recognised as income or expenditure. The general fund represents the total assets less liabilities of the Department, to the extent that the total is not represented by other reserves and financing items.

Departmental Group

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	General Fund	Revaluation Reserve	Pension Reserve	Total Reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2022		**(1,299,759)**	**170,071**	**(2,707)**	**(1,132,395)**
Opening balance adjustment		162,014	-	-	162,014
First-time adoption of IFRS 16		2,870	-	-	2,870
Balance at 1 April 2022		(1,134,875)	170,071	(2,707)	(967,511)
Net Parliamentary Funding - drawn down		19,378,329	-	-	19,378,329
Net Parliamentary Funding - deemed		349,863	-	-	349,863
Supply (payable)/receivable		(266,410)	-	-	(266,410)
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts		(227,692)	-	-	(227,692)
Comprehensive net expenditure for the year		(19,146,596)	-	-	(19,146,596)
Non-cash adjustments					
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		-	17,642	-	17,642
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of Intangible assets		-	4,229	-	4,229
Movements in reserves					
Non-cash charges - auditor's remuneration	3	700	-	-	700
Other		-	(602)	-	(602)
Transfers between reserves		12,805	(12,710)	(95)	-
Balance at 31 March 2023		**(1,033,876)**	**178,630**	**(2,802)**	**(858,048)**

	Note	General Fund	Revaluation Reserve	Pension Reserve	Total Reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Parliamentary Funding - drawn down		21,314,151	-	-	21,314,151
Net Parliamentary Funding - deemed		266,410	-	-	266,410
Supply (payable)/receivable		(119,799)	-	-	(119,799)
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts		(136,929)	-	-	(136,929)
Comprehensive net expenditure for the year		(21,899,231)	-	-	(21,899,231)
Non-cash adjustments					
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		-	27,226	-	27,226
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of Intangible assets		-	84	-	84
Movements in reserves					
Non-cash charges - auditor's remuneration	3	725	-	-	725
Transfers between reserves		14,349	(15,265)	916	-
Other movements					
Correction for IFRS 16 opening balance on transition in prior year		(116,696)	-	-	(116,696)
Balance at 31 March 2024		**(1,710,896)**	**190,675**	**(1,886)**	**(1,522,107)**

Core Department and Agencies

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	General fund	Revaluation reserve	Pension reserve	Total reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2022		**(1,394,119)**	**159,394**	**(237)**	**(1,234,962)**
Opening balance adjustment		162,014	-	-	162,014
First-time adoption of IFRS 16		2,870	-	-	2,870
Balance at 1 April 2022		**(1,229,235)**	**159,394**	**(237)**	**(1,070,078)**
Net Parliamentary Funding - drawn down		19,378,329	-	-	19,378,329
Net Parliamentary Funding - deemed		349,863	-	-	349,863
Supply (payable)/receivable		(266,410)	-	-	(266,410)
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts		(207,919)	-	-	(207,919)
Comprehensive Net Expenditure for the year		(19,175,234)	-	-	(19,175,234)
Non-cash adjustments					
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		-	16,541	-	16,541
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of Intangible assets		-	3,976	-	3,976
Movements in reserves					
Non-cash charges - auditor’s remuneration	3	700	-	-	700
Other		-	(602)	-	(602)
Transfers between reserves		12,688	(12,710)	22	-
Balance at 31 March 2023		**(1,137,218)**	**166,599**	**(215)**	**(970,834)**
Net Parliamentary Funding - drawn down		21,314,151	-	-	21,314,151
Net Parliamentary Funding - deemed		266,410	-	-	266,410
Supply (payable)/receivable		(119,799)	-	-	(119,799)
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts		(99,389)	-	-	(99,389)
Comprehensive Net Expenditure for the year		(21,910,359)	-	-	(21,910,359)

	Note	General fund	Revaluation reserve	Pension reserve	Total reserves
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Non-cash adjustments					
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		-	26,126	-	26,126
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of Intangible assets		-	27	-	27
Movements in reserves					
Non-cash charges - auditor's remuneration	3	725	-	-	725
Transfers between reserves		15,240	(15,265)	25	-
Other movements					
Correction for IFRS 16 opening balance on transition in prior year		(116,696)	-	-	(116,696)
Balance at 31 March 2024		**(1,786,935)**	**177,487**	**(190)**	**(1,609,638)**

Opening balance adjustment at 1 April 2022 of £162 million is in respect of a different valuation methodology used in 2022-23 compared to 2021-22 for leases accounted for as finance leases under IAS 17 in 2021-22. A subsequent correct of £117 million (see note 5) was made in 2023-24 to reverse part of the 2022-23 opening balance adjustment which determined not to meet the criteria for recognition.

The notes on pages 225 to 265 form part of these accounts.

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 2023-24 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury. The accounting policies contained in the FReM apply International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adapted or interpreted for the public sector context.

Where the FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy which is judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Department for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The policies adopted by the Department are described below. They have been applied consistently in dealing with items that are considered material to the financial statements.

In addition to the primary statements prepared under IFRS, the FReM also requires the Department to prepare a Statement of Parliamentary Supply and supporting notes to show Outturn against Estimate in terms of the net resource requirement and the net cash requirement.

The accounts have been prepared under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000.

1.2 Going concern

The financial reporting framework applicable to Government bodies, derived from the FReM, defines that the anticipated continued provision of the entity's services in the public sector is normally sufficient evidence of going concern. In common with other government departments, the Department's liabilities are expected to be met by future grants of supply and the application of future income, both to be approved annually by Parliament. The Department considers there is no reason to believe that future approvals will not be forthcoming. Hence, it is considered appropriate to adopt a going concern basis for the preparation of these financial statements.

1.3 Presentation currency and rounding

The financial statements are presented in British pound sterling (£) and all numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds (£000), other than the related party disclosures in Note 18.

1.4 Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention modified to account for the revaluation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

1.5 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the year ending 31 March, and for amounts reported for income and expenses during the year. In the process of applying the Department's accounting policies, management has made the following judgements, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

- Provisions: judgements and assumptions that affect the value of the major provisions recognised in these accounts are described within the provisions note to these accounts. This narrative notably includes explanation of the judgements and assumptions affecting the provision recognised and movement in 2023-24 in respect of the Windrush Compensation Scheme (refer to Note 13).
- Police pensions and fire and rescue pension top-up grant accrual (refer to Note 1.15).
- Immigration Health Surcharge income (refer to Note 1.13).
- Overseas visa income: assumptions are used to determine the overseas visa deferred income for which the visa fees are received up front but visa applications have not been logged into visa casework systems. The proportion of off-system cases identified is applied to the cash intake figure to generate an estimated value of the off-system deferred income. Income validations are carried out to ensure the level of accuracy of the assumptions.
- Non-current assets clearing accounts: clearing accounts hold financial information about expenditure on non-current assets where that expenditure has not yet been allocated to a named asset.

These accounts allocate these costs to various asset classes of both property, plant and equipment and intangible assets. Assumptions used in this allocation include apportionment of the costs to the different asset classes based on historical trends, the useful life of the assumed assets to which these costs will be assigned, and the estimated date at which these assumed assets were brought into use (refer to Notes 1.7 & 1.8).

1.6 Basis of consolidation

These accounts are the consolidation of the core Department, its five executive non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and the College of Policing Limited. The NDPBs consolidated within the Departmental boundary are:

- Disclosure and Barring Service
- Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
- Independent Office for Police Conduct
- Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner
- Security Industry Authority

The College of Policing Limited is a company limited by guarantee. It is classified as an arm's length body by the HM Treasury and is consolidated within the Departmental boundary as an NDPB.

The NDPBs and the College of Policing also produce and publish their own annual reports and accounts. Transactions between entities included in the consolidated accounts are eliminated. All consolidated entities have accounting reference dates that align with the core Department.

1.7 Property, plant and equipment

Initial recognition and capitalisation threshold

Property, plant and equipment is recognised initially at cost and thereafter carried at fair value less depreciation and impairment charged subsequent to the date of revaluation.

Cost comprises the amount of cash paid to acquire the asset and includes any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. The capitalisation threshold for expenditure on property, plant and equipment is £5,000.

Furniture and fittings (e.g. workstations, chairs, filing cabinets) and low value IT assets or equipment (e.g. scanners, printers) are capitalised on a pooled basis where groups of assets bought together exceed the capitalisation threshold.

Subsequent valuation method and fair value hierarchy

Fair value of properties is based on professional valuations. Professional valuations are now conducted on a rolling programme of valuations; all properties will be professionally valued during a three-year time period. This is the third year of this valuation programme. Valuations are undertaken in accordance with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Appraisal and Evaluation Manual.

Where open market value is obtainable, other operational assets are revalued to open market value. Where open market value is not obtainable, other operational assets are valued using depreciated replacement cost.

The inputs used to value property, plant and equipment are therefore categorised as level 2 inputs in the IFRS 13 fair value hierarchy. Level 2 inputs are inputs that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly.

In between professional valuations, carrying values are adjusted by the application of producer price index issued by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) or through desktop valuations for which different indices are applied depending on the assets. This ensures that carrying values are not materially different from those that would be determined at the end of the reporting period. For buildings the index applied is the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) Extension of PUBSEC Tender Price Index of Public Sector Building Non-Housing that reflects price changes in the public sector and is a good indicator of price pressure in building contracts in the UK.

Revaluation

Any revaluation gain is credited to the revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reverses a decrease in the carrying value of the same asset previously recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure (SoCNE), in which case the increase is recognised in the SoCNE.

A revaluation decrease is recognised in the SoCNE, except to the extent of any existing surplus in respect of that asset in the revaluation reserve.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the costs of the assets to their estimated residual value on a straight-line basis over their expected useful lives, typically as follows:

- Buildings – up to 60 years or life of lease
- Improvements to leasehold buildings – the shorter of the duration of lease or anticipated useful life
- Plant and equipment – 2 to 15 years
- Computers – 2 to 15 years
- Transport equipment – 3 to 20 years
- Furniture and fittings – 3 to 10 years

If requested and suitable business justification can be provided to support, there occasionally may be instances where depreciation is calculated outside of the typical expected useful life ranges.

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable and are written down immediately to their recoverable amount. Useful lives and residual values are reviewed annually and where adjustments are required these are made prospectively.

Assets under construction

Assets under construction are valued at historical cost within property, plant and equipment, and are not depreciated or amortised until completed and brought into use. On completion, the asset's carrying value is transferred to the respective asset category. Expenditure is capitalised where it is directly attributable to bringing an asset into working condition, such as external consultant costs, relevant employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

1.8 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are defined as identifiable non-monetary assets without physical substance. The Department's intangible assets comprise internally developed software for internal use (including such assets under construction), software developed by third parties, and purchased software licences.

The capitalisation threshold for expenditure on intangible assets is £5,000.

Intangible assets are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, where an active market exists, intangible assets are carried at fair value at the period ending 31 March. Where no active market exists, the Department uses producer price index issued by the ONS to assess the depreciated replacement cost.

The inputs used to value intangible assets are therefore categorised as level 2 inputs in the IFRS 13 fair value hierarchy.

Internally generated intangible assets are not capitalised unless it is a development cost which meets the criteria in IAS 38 (Intangible Assets). Research and development expenditure classified as capital spend under ESA 10 is recognised in the SoCNE in the year in which the obligation to pay arises.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. All intangible assets are currently assessed to have a finite life and are assessed for impairment. The amortisation period and the amortisation method are reviewed at least at each financial year end.

Amortisation

Amortisation is calculated to write down the costs of the assets to their estimated residual value on a straight-line basis over their expected useful lives, typically as follows:

- Externally acquired computer software licences – amortised over the shorter of the term of the licence and the useful economic life of 3 to 15 years.
- Internally developed software – this includes software that arises from internal or third party development for internal or external access. The direct costs associated with the development stage of internally developed software are included in the cost of the asset. These assets are amortised over the useful economic life of 3 to 10 years.

If requested and suitable business justification can be provided to support, there occasionally may be instances where amortisation is calculated outside of the typical expected useful life ranges.

The carrying values of intangible assets are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable and are written down immediately to their recoverable amount. Useful lives and residual values are reviewed annually and where adjustments are required these are made prospectively.

Assets under construction

Assets in the course of construction are not amortised until the point at which they are ready to be brought into use. Expenditure which does not meet the criteria for capitalisation is treated as an operating cost in the year in which it is incurred.

1.9 Leases

IFRS 16 Leases, which replaces IAS 17 became effective from 1 April 2022 across central government and has been applied in these financial statements.

Scope

IFRS 16 requires lessees to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for all leases in the Statement of Financial Position (SoFP) unless the lease term is 12 months or less or the underlying asset has a low value.

Whilst IFRS 16 does not provide a numerical threshold as to what constitutes a low value, the Department applies the capitalisation threshold of £5,000 as the threshold for low-value underlying assets.

The definition of a contract is expanded under the FReM definition to include intra-UK government agreements where non-performance may not be enforceable by law. This includes, for example, the Memorandum of Terms of Occupation (MOTO) agreements.

Following the IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements, the Department does not apply IFRS 16 to immaterial leases (irrespective of whether those leases are exempt from IFRS 16 reporting by virtue of their underlying assets being low value).

Property leases constitute the significant majority of the Department's lease commitments. The Department has chosen not to apply IFRS 16 to non-property leases because the total value is not material to these accounts.

Initial recognition

At the commencement of a lease, the Department recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability.

The lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at that date which include fixed payments less any lease incentive receivables; variable lease payments; expected amounts payable under the residual value guarantees; the exercise price of a purchase option if the Department is reasonably certain to exercise that option; and payments of penalties for terminating the lease if the lease term reflects the Department exercising an option to terminate the lease.

Lease payments are discounted either by the interest rate implicit in the lease or, where this is not readily determinable, the Department's incremental rate of borrowing. This rate is advised annually by HM Treasury (0.95% for 2022, 3.51% for 2023 and 4.72% for 2024 on a calendar year basis).

The measurement of lease payments excludes any VAT payable, and irrecoverable VAT is expensed at the point it falls due in line with **IFRIC 21 Levies**.

The right-of-use asset is measured at the value of the lease liability, adjusted for: any payments made or amounts accrued before the commencement date; lease incentives received; incremental costs of obtaining the lease; and any disposal costs at the end of the lease. However, where the lease requires nominal consideration (a type of arrangement often described as a "peppercorn" lease), the asset is measured at its existing use value.

Subsequent measurement

The lease liability is subsequently measured to reflect the accrual of interest, repayments, reassessments, and modifications. Reassessments are reappraisals of the probability of the options given by the existing lease contract, for example where we no longer expect to exercise an option; modifications are changes to the lease contract.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently measured using the fair value model. The Department considers that the cost model (measurement by reference to the lease liability) is a reasonable proxy for fair value for property leases of less than five years or with regular rent reviews. For other leases including peppercorn leases, the asset will be carried at a revalued amount. The value of the asset is adjusted for subsequent depreciation and impairment, and for reassessments and modifications of the lease liability. The depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis.

A holdover lease is a lease which continues after its contractual term has expired whilst a new lease agreement being negotiated. The Department applies an initial 10-year lease extension to holdover leases. This approach aligns with the guidance in Standardisation of Lease Terms: Preferred Terms published by the Government Property Function.

Home Office as a lessor

The Department has immaterial balances in respect of leases as a lessor therefore no separate disclosure has been made for lessor accounting within the accounts.

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash in the Statement of Financial Position comprises cash at bank and in hand. For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash, less any outstanding bank overdrafts.

1.11 Provisions

A provision is recognised when the Department has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation.

Where the effect of discounting is material, provisions are measured at their present value using the current discount rates set by HM Treasury based on the underlying cash flows, which are currently: 4.26%, 4.03%, 4.72% and 4.40% for short term (0-5 years), medium term (6-10 years), long term (11-40 years) and very long term (41 years and longer) respectively.

Provisions represent a significant source of estimation uncertainty for the Department.

1.12 Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is disclosed when the likelihood of a payment is less than probable, but more than remote, or the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Where the time value of money is material, contingent liabilities required to be disclosed under IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets are stated at discounted amounts.

In addition to contingent liabilities disclosed in accordance with IAS 37, the Department discloses for parliamentary reporting and accountability purposes certain statutory and non-statutory contingent liabilities where the likelihood of a transfer of economic benefit is remote, but which have been reported to Parliament in accordance with the requirements of Managing Public Money. These remote contingent liabilities are disclosed within the parliamentary accountability report.

1.13 Income

Income is recognised in accordance with IFRS 15. Revenue is recognised when a performance obligation included within a contract with a customer is satisfied, at the transaction price allocated to that performance obligation.

Full cost basis

Income principally comprises fees and charges for services provided on a full cost basis to external customers.

Income which relates directly to the operating activities of the Department is stated net of VAT.

Revenue from contracts with customers

The Home Office recognises revenue primarily from the provision of migration-related documentation such as passports and visas as well as certificates for the registration of births, deaths, and marriages.

Performance obligations

The table below sets out, for each income stream, when performance obligations are typically satisfied, the significant payment terms, and the nature of the goods or services which the Department supplies.

All income streams usually have a contract of a duration of one year or less, and therefore transaction price allocated to remaining performance obligations is not disclosed, applying the practical expedient in IFRS 15.121.

Income stream	Operating Segment	Description of income stream	Performance obligation	Determination of transaction price	Payment terms
Passport fees	Customer Service (HMPO)	Supply of passports and other services by HM Passport Office	On printing of the passport	Set out in legislation	Payment on application
Visa and immigration fees	Customer Service (UKVI)	Supply of visas and immigration documents	On decision of the visa or immigration application	Set out in legislation	Payment on application
Asset recovery income	Borders and Enforcement & Homeland Security	Recovery of proceeds of crime	The Department has powers set out in legislation to recover this income	Value of penalty collected	Penalty payment by court order

Income stream	Operating Segment	Description of income stream	Performance obligation	Determination of transaction price	Payment terms
Certificate services	Customer Service (UKVI)	Supply of copies of birth, marriage and death certificates	Delivery of the certificate to the customer	Set out in legislation	Payment on application
DBS income	Arms Length Body (Disclosure and Barring Service)	Supply of criminal records checks by the Disclosure and Barring Service	Delivery of the information to the customer	Set out in legislation	Payment on application
EU income	Borders and Enforcement, Corporate Enablers & Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	Grants from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	Work done to meet the criteria for grant payment	Set out in grant agreement	Payment in arrears on satisfaction of grant obligations
Hendon Data Centre Income	Digital, Data and Technology and Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	Supply of IT services to police forces	The supply of IT services over time	Set out in agreement between the Department and police forces	Payment quarterly in accordance with the agreement

Significant judgements in the application of IFRS 15

The total consideration from contracts with customers is included in the transaction price for each of these income streams. None of these income streams contain variable consideration which may be constrained.

Income recognition

For **passport fees, visa and immigration fees, certificate services, and DBS income,** income is recognised when the relevant goods or services are supplied, which is when the relevant performance obligations are satisfied.

For **asset recovery income**, income is recognised when HM Courts and Tribunals Service has collected receipts against confiscation orders and those receipts become payable to the Department.

For **EU income**, the performance obligations are set out in the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) UK National Programme, and whether a performance obligation has been delivered is judged against the expectations set out in the National Programme.

For **Hendon Data Centre Income**, the performance obligations and transaction price are set out in an agreement between the Department and police forces, and revenue is recognised against the terms set out in that agreement.

Immigration health surcharge

The Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS), which the UK government introduced in April 2015, is payable as part of the immigration application with some exceptions. This fee is designed to help ensure the National Health Service (NHS) remains sustainable and receives a fair contribution to the cost of healthcare from temporary migrants. The Home Office collects this fee on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care and the devolved administrations and it is then transferred via the supply estimate process.

The IHS is out of scope of IFRS 15 as the funds are not retained by the Department. The income is recognised when the immigration application is approved. For work-in-progress (WIP) immigration applications, the income is deferred.

Assumptions are used to determine the IHS deferred income. The deferred income is estimated by identifying the volume of WIP immigration applications, isolating the applications liable to pay IHS, and then applying an average IHS fee. An average IHS fee is used due to the inability to assign actual IHS fees to individual visa applications. The average IHS fee is calculated using historic actuals, and a validation is performed to assess the accuracy of the average IHS fee.

Passport fees

Free passports issued for all British nationals born on or before 2 September 1929 that was introduced on 18 October 2004 is financed by Parliamentary Supply drawn down by the Home Office.

Passport fees include an element relating to consular protection services provided by the Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) worldwide. These fees are not retained by the Home Office and are remitted to HM Treasury as Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts. These fees are separately reported in the Home Office Trust Statement.

Contract balances

Contract assets (accrued income) primarily relate to the Department’s right to consideration for work completed but not yet billed at the reporting date. Contract liabilities (deferred income) primarily relate to the consideration received from customers in advance of transferring a good or service.

Most Departmental income comes from services for which payment is made in advance, which gives rise to a contract liability. Contract liabilities, reported under IFRS 15, are disclosed separately in the note for trade payables and other current liabilities (Note 11). Contract liabilities are recognised on receipt of cash for services and derecognised at the point of provision of those services.

The Department's contract liabilities balance also includes deferred income for Immigration Health Surcharge which is out of scope of IFRS 15 but is refundable when certain criteria is met. Passport fees and visa and immigration fees are refundable under certain circumstances. Detailed refund policies are set out on GOV.UK.

Contract assets are not material for the Home Office.

1.14 Pensions

The majority of past and present employees within the Home Office Departmental boundary are covered by the provisions of the civil service pension arrangements. The defined benefit schemes are unfunded.

Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS)

The Department recognises the expected costs on a systematic and rational basis over the period during which it benefits from employees' services, by payments to the PCSPS of amounts calculated on an accruing basis. Liability for payment of future benefits is a charge on the PCSPS.

Civil Servants and Others Pension Scheme (CSOPS)

CSOPS, known as Alpha, is an unfunded, defined benefit scheme which started on 1 April 2015. The Department recognises the expected costs on a systematic and rational basis over the period during which it benefits from employees' services by payments to the CSOPS of amounts calculated on an accruing basis. Liability for payment of future benefits is a charge on the CSOPS.

Partnership and stakeholder schemes

The employer made a basic contribution of between 3% and 12.5% of pensionable earnings up to 30 September 2015 and between 8% and 14.75% of pensionable earning from 1 October 2015 (depending on the age of the member) into a stakeholder pension product chosen by the employee from a panel of three providers. The employee does not have to contribute, but where they do make contributions, the employer will match these up to a limit of 3% of pensionable salary (in addition to the employer's basic contribution). Employers also contributed a further 0.8% of pensionable pay up to 30 September 2015 and 0.5% of pensionable pay from 1 October 2015 to cover the cost of centrally provided risk benefit cover (death in service and ill-health retirement).

Broadly by analogy (BBA)

The BBA pensions are unfunded, with benefits being paid as they fall due. Liabilities for the scheme rest with the core Department and the Independent Office for Police Conduct, its operators, and provision for these liabilities is reflected in the Statement of Financial Position. The annual cost of the associated pension contribution is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, and amounts relating to changes in the actuarial valuation of scheme liabilities are adjusted via the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity. The scheme liabilities have been calculated by the Government Actuary's department.

1.15 Home Office grants

Grant in aid

Grant in aid is recognised on a cash basis. Grant in aid is a funding mechanism to finance all or part of the costs of relevant entities within the Home Office group.

Other grants

Other grants are recognised on an accruals basis: grant expenditure is recognised at the point at which the relevant work is done by the grant recipient.

For most grants, the Department recognises grant expenditure monthly on the assumption of work done, which is confirmed and adjusted quarterly based on evidence from the grant recipient. Grant payments are made quarterly in arrears once in receipt of this evidence.

Significant grants given by the Department and the recognition treatment adopted are as follows:

Main police grant

Main police grants are based on funding levels set out in the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2023-24. This includes, among other grant streams, DLUHC formula funding and legacy council tax grants. The majority of this grant expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis across the year.

Home Office Police Core Settlement

Funding to local policing bodies made under Section 46 of the Police Act 1996.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Grant funding previously paid to local policing bodies by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under section 78A of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 through the Local Government Finance Report (England). It is now paid by the Home Secretary under Section 46 of the Police Act 1996. This is as a result of the Government decision that local policing bodies should be funded from outside the business rates retention scheme.

Legacy council tax grants

This funding comprises Council Tax Freeze Grant from the 2011-12, 2013-14 and 2014-15 schemes, payable to local policing bodies in England who chose to freeze or lower precept in those years and the Local Council Tax Support Grant, which was paid to local policing bodies in England from 2013-14 following the localisation of council tax support schemes.

It was previously paid by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under Section 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003. It is now paid by the Home Secretary under Section 46 of the Police Act 1996. This is a result of the Government's ambition to simplify police funding arrangements.

Counter-terrorism policing grant

The counter-terrorism policing grant is paid quarterly in arrears based on claims submitted by the National Counter Terrorism Police HQ (NCTPHQ).

Police pensions and fire and rescue pension top-up grant

Police pensions and fire and rescue pension top-up grants fund the difference between outgoing pension expenditure and incoming pension income in a single year with regards to the police and firefighters' pension scheme respectively.

The top-up grant accrual represents a significant source of estimation uncertainty for the Department.

Each police force and fire and rescue service participate in unfunded defined benefit pension schemes. Each authority recognises the associated long-term pension liability for these schemes in its own financial statements.

Because these schemes are unfunded, as part of the process the Department is required under legislation to make grants to police forces and fire and rescue services to match the estimated cash deficit in their pension schemes for the year. The grant is based on estimates provided in year by the police and fire and rescue services and adjusted for actual outturns from prior years.

There are inherent uncertainties involved with the calculation of the pension grant, for example the number of retirees and amounts taken in optional retirement lump sums, the impact of McCloud and Mathews remedies and any relevant compensation impacts (see section below) which means that the accrual is the best estimate of the liability at the year-end.

The top-up grant provides the mechanism by which cash funding is provided to the schemes to allow them to meet their liabilities as they fall due. The Department meets these commitments via the supplementary estimates process each year.

McCloud and Matthews component of pension top up grant

In 2023-24 these cash deficits include McCloud and Matthews remedies, the remedy for both cases results in an increase in historic pensions costs. These values have been calculated by the Government Actuary's Department in line with the methodology used for all impacted public sector pensions schemes. This adds complexity and uncertainty when estimating the pay out in year of the top-up grant required. The total value of these remedies included in the Police and Fire pensions accruals in Note 11 is £305 million.

The Department recognises an accrual at the year-end for the element of the grant that has not been paid by the year-end. This includes the grant to cover the remedies resulting from court rulings in the cases The Lord Chancellor vs McCloud and others (known as McCloud) and Matthews v Kent and Medway Towns Fire Authority and others (known as Matthews).

New legislation was introduced in October 2023 meaning that for the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2025 a remedy will be provided and any associated costs will occur.

For McCloud, eligible members of the police and firefighters' pensions scheme will be issued a remediable service statement providing a member an option to choose benefits from either the legacy scheme or the new reformed scheme for the remediable period (1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022), including paying any relevant compensation.

For Matthews, eligible members of the firefighters' pension scheme will be offered the opportunity to purchase past service, including any relevant compensation for certain benefits not covered by remedy. Both remedies increase the estimate uncertainty due to member choice adding complexity when estimating the top-up grant required which will be managed thorough the Annual Managed Expenditure (AME) process.

Capital grants

Financial support paid to third parties for the purchase or improvement of assets (including buildings, equipment and land), which are expected to be used for a period of at least one year.

1.16 Value added tax (VAT)

Most of the activities of the Department are outside the scope of VAT and, in general, output tax does not apply and input tax on purchases is not recoverable.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the relevant expenditure category or included in the capitalised purchase cost of fixed assets. Where output tax is charged or input tax is recoverable, the amounts are stated net of VAT.

1.17 Operating segments

IFRS 8 Operating Segments has been applied in full without interpretation or adaption in line with HM Treasury guidance. Segmental information is included in Note 2 to these accounts.

The Department recognises all revenues from external customers as within the United Kingdom. Similarly, the Department recognises all its non-current assets as within the United Kingdom. Non-current assets based in foreign countries are in aggregate of immaterial value to these accounts.

1.18 Financial instruments

The majority of the Department's financial instruments are trade receivables and payables.

Receivables are shown net of expected credit loss. The Department holds receivables with customers with low credit risk (mainly central government Departments and police forces), and other receivables are simple trade receivables held for collecting cash in the normal course of business.

1.19 International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) that have been issued but are not yet effective

IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

IFRS 17 is the new accounting standard for insurance contracts and aims to make risk transfer contracts more comparable between entities.

The standard sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts within the scope and replaces the previous standard IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts.

The new standard is being applied by HM Treasury in the FReM from 1 April 2025 (with limited options for early adoption). No material impact is anticipated from this standard.

2. Statement of Operating costs and Net Assets by Operating Segment

	2023-24			2022-23 Restated		
	Gross expenditure	Income	Net	Gross expenditure	Income	Net
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Reportable Segment						
Public Safety Group	14,504,547	(7,646)	14,496,901	13,362,745	(2,305)	13,360,440
Homeland Security Group	1,674,731	(228,534)	1,446,197	1,514,570	(267,786)	1,246,784
Migration and Borders Group	433,002	(1,630)	431,372	288,667	(904)	287,763
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	133,959	-	133,959	67,777	-	67,777
Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	1,556,185	(5,026,650)	(3,470,465)	1,325,540	(4,565,193)	(3,239,653)
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	5,427,172	-	5,427,172	4,342,634	-	4,342,634
Border Force	1,226,116	(44,660)	1,181,456	972,520	(46,221)	926,299
Immigration Enforcement	657,624	(20,116)	637,508	478,681	(40,678)	438,003
Corporate and Delivery	1,076,238	(318,532)	757,706	1,257,864	(338,686)	919,178
Digital, Data and Technology	681,672	(135,200)	546,472	627,582	(134,244)	493,338
Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	115,855	(31,810)	84,045	95,446	(20,674)	74,772
Strategy	205,887	(1,990)	203,897	210,571	(999)	209,572
Legal Advisors	11,649	-	11,649	11,131	-	11,131
Communications	11,362	-	11,362	8,558	-	8,558
Net Expenditure	**27,715,999**	**(5,816,768)**	**21,899,231**	**24,564,286**	**(5,417,690)**	**19,146,596**

	2023-24			2022-23 Restated		
	Gross expenditure	Income	Net	Gross expenditure	Income	Net
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Reconciliation between operating segments and SoPS note 1						
Add:						
Income payable to the Consolidated Fund	-	99,389	99,389	-	207,919	207,919
Capital grant income	-	7,665	7,665	-	5,778	5,778
NDPB income (reported as net expenditure in SOPS Note 1)	(287,321)	287,321	-	(284,879)	284,879	-
SoFP items with resource outturn impact	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less:						
Capital grants	(196,691)	-	(196,691)	(209,061)	7,387	(201,674)
Capital expenditure	(92,724)	-	(92,724)	(81,363)	(1,118)	(82,481)
Net resource outturn	**27,139,263**	**(5,422,393)**	**21,716,870**	**23,988,983**	**(4,912,845)**	**19,076,138**

Departmental net assets by operating segment			2023-24			2022-23 Restated
	Total assets	Total liabilities	Net assets	Total assets	Total liabilities	Net assets
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Reportable Segment						
Public Safety Group	686,376	(1,727,958)	(1,041,582)	517,314	(1,244,265)	(726,951)
Homeland Security Group	124,675	(414,987)	(290,312)	96,695	(433,608)	(336,913)
Migration and Borders Group	423,586	(22,448)	401,138	269,928	(14,919)	255,009
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	1,197	(9,728)	(8,531)	231	(153)	78
Customer Services (Visas & Passports)	774,557	(892,504)	(117,947)	717,109	(657,078)	60,031
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	225,368	(891,640)	(666,272)	111,917	(554,816)	(442,899)
Border Force	401,874	(92,627)	309,247	327,933	(93,995)	233,938
Immigration Enforcement	142,310	(31,334)	110,976	101,826	(34,166)	67,660
Corporate and Delivery	1,199,040	(1,531,330)	(332,290)	1,593,464	(1,684,230)	(90,766)
Digital, Data and Technology	195,471	(44,562)	150,909	199,967	(10,104)	189,863
Science, Technology, Analysis and Research	14,551	(51,960)	(37,409)	14,172	(80,215)	(66,043)
Strategy	5,612	(5,575)	37	5,757	(6,836)	(1,079)
Legal Advisors	8	(109)	(101)	8	-	8
Communications	80	(50)	30	69	(53)	16
Total balance	**4,194,705**	**(5,716,812)**	**(1,522,107)**	**3,956,390**	**(4,814,438)**	**(858,048)**

The operating segments are reported in a manner that is consistent with the organisational structure of the Department and the with the internal reporting provided to the Chief Operating Decision Maker (CODM). The CODM, who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance of the operating segments, has been identified as the Executive Committee (ExCo).

The new Home Office organisational structure became effective from 1 April 2023. The 2022-23 comparatives within this note have been restated for the new structure.

The Missions incorporates:

Public Safety Group – provides leadership to the public safety system, protecting the public from mainstream and domestic harms.

Homeland Security Group – responsible for the government's strategy, policy and legislation relating to national security threats and crisis response.

Migration and Borders Group – provides strategic leadership of the migration, borders and citizenship system, setting the policy and legislative framework with end-to-end design and functionality.

Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration – strengthen the oversight of the Department's work to deliver the Prime Minister's priority to tackle illegal migration.

The work of the Missions will be underpinned by our **Capabilities**, which includes operations and enabling functions:

Customer Services (Visas & Passport) – incorporates UK Visas, Settlement, Passports, Civil Registration and Citizenship aiming to control migration, deliver world-class customer service and safeguard the vulnerable.

Asylum Support Resettlement & Accommodation (ASRA) – incorporates delivery of the asylum system as well as delivery of refugee resettlement programmes.

Border Force is the operational law enforcement arm of the Home Office. It is responsible for immigration, security and prosperity at air, sea, post and rail ports in the United Kingdom and overseas.

Immigration Enforcement – tackle illegal migration, remove those with no right to be here, and protect the vulnerable.

Corporate and Delivery – supports the business and includes HR, Finance, Commercial, Portfolio, KIMU and Security and Estates.

Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) – part of Corporate and Delivery, provides support to all business areas including the technological support and development for front line operations, and driving forward the digital agenda.

Science, Technology, Analysis and Research (STAR) – draws together the whole business, to help inform, deliver and make sense of cross-cutting activity, and to ensure we are pulling together in pursuit of shared objectives.

Strategy – the Strategy group makes clear Home Office strategy; and uses its experience and expertise to push for the delivery of Home Office outcomes and other priorities. We work across the Department and with ministers to do this. The Group comprises Private Office Group (POG), Portfolio and Project Delivery (PPD), and Home Office Transformation and Strategy.

Legal – supports the delivery of the Home Office's aims and objectives by the provision of specified legal services to other parts of the Department.

Communications – leads on the Department's communication strategy and provides a shared communication service that has been created to maximise resources.

3. Expenditure

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies £000	2023-24 Departmental Group £000	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies £000	2022-23 Departmental Group £000
Staff costs[1]					
Wages and salaries		2,124,538	2,271,702	1,687,701	1,824,050
Social security costs		202,455	216,511	163,409	176,728
Other pension costs		453,631	485,830	361,773	392,286
Subtotal		**2,780,624**	**2,974,043**	**2,212,883**	**2,393,064**
Less recoveries in respect of outward secondments		(693)	(1,046)	(448)	(862)
Total net staff costs		**2,779,931**	**2,972,997**	**2,212,435**	**2,392,202**
Grants					
Main police grants					
Home Office police core settlement		5,334,689	5,334,689	5,315,391	5,315,391
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities formula funding		3,381,882	3,381,882	3,370,179	3,370,179
Legacy council tax grants		507,389	507,389	507,389	507,389
Total main police grants		**9,223,960**	**9,223,960**	**9,192,959**	**9,192,959**
Grants - police pensions grants		2,107,256	2,107,256	1,658,574	1,658,574
Grants - fire and rescue services top-up grants		759,770	759,770	419,393	419,393
Other current grants		4,146,475	4,146,475	3,344,877	3,344,877
Capital grants		194,289	196,691	206,659	209,061
Non-cash items					
Depreciation	5, 7	208,684	218,826	376,734	386,751
Amortisation	6	198,704	204,477	294,525	306,081
Impairments - non-current assets		3,357	3,357	6,563	6,563
Lease interest charge		9,915	10,164	5,655	5,921
Provision movements		30,324	29,656	73,312	73,564

	Note	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies	2023-24 Departmental Group	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies	2022-23 Departmental Group
		£000	£000	£000	£000
External auditors' remuneration		725	725	700	700
Bad debt movement		323	418	327	411
Revaluations		2,678	2,683	(1,681)	(1,700)
(Profit)/loss on disposal of non-current assets		21,836	22,033	(305)	(311)
Purchase of goods and services					
Publications, stationery and printing		25,843	26,206	20,098	20,586
Passport printing and stationery		130,455	130,455	169,053	169,053
Facilities management and staff services		303,765	325,901	266,385	286,535
Travel, subsistence and hospitality		97,464	104,784	82,596	89,901
Professional fees		370,650	388,616	214,883	229,039
External auditors' remuneration		-	390	-	384
Media and IT		480,589	494,953	203,572	218,018
Asylum costs		3,999,778	3,999,778	3,046,789	3,046,789
Detention costs		117,417	117,417	101,246	101,246
UK Visas & Immigration commercial partner costs		160,219	160,219	120,391	120,391
FCDO charges		35,081	35,081	51,004	51,004
Other operating expenditure					
Rental costs		3,054	3,261	(137)	333
Other IT and accommodation related service charges		1,186,031	1,256,442	1,576,496	1,646,460
Asset recovery costs		97,461	97,533	112,845	112,863
Other costs		612,728	675,475	420,879	476,638
Grant in aid to ALBs		131,044	-	131,218	-
Total		**27,439,806**	**27,715,999**	**24,308,045**	**24,564,286**

1. Further details are included in the Remuneration and Staff Report section of the report.

4. Income

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Revenue from contracts with customers				
Passport fees	510,047	510,047	573,913	573,913
Visa and immigration income	2,635,103	2,635,103	2,184,054	2,184,054
Hendon data centre income	135,100	135,100	131,659	131,659
Certificate services	23,934	23,934	23,108	23,108
DBS income	-	215,990	-	217,077
EU income	34,375	34,375	66,533	66,533
Asset recovery income	213,025	213,025	219,921	219,921
Other revenue from contracts with customers	185,273	256,604	176,260	244,062
Other operating income				
Immigration Health Surcharge	1,691,477	1,691,477	1,540,704	1,540,704
Other income	1,724	1,724	8,740	8,740
Total retained Income	**5,430,058**	**5,717,379**	**4,924,892**	**5,209,771**
Other operating income - payable to Consolidated Fund				
Immigration Health Surcharge	90,333	90,333	165,408	165,408
Other income	9,056	9,056	42,511	42,511
Total payable to Consolidated Fund	**99,389**	**99,389**	**207,919**	**207,919**
Total	**5,529,447**	**5,816,768**	**5,132,811**	**5,417,690**

5. Property, plant and equipment

2023-24 Departmental Group

	Land	Buildings	Transport Equipment	Information Technology	Plant & Machinery	Furniture & Fittings	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation								
At 1 April 2023	54,813	931,533	113,259	868,941	201,301	122,785	151,141	2,443,773
Additions	18,502	39,846	10,369	28,945	25,285	44,130	258,753	425,830
Disposals[1]	(91)	(350,850)	(34,625)	(379,966)	(100,593)	(43,261)	(948)	(910,334)
Reclassifications	49,688	6,948	17	23,037	(14,953)	3,345	(23,235)	44,847
Revaluations	1,714	24,222	119	(239)	1,796	3,477	-	31,089
At 31 March 2024	**124,626**	**651,699**	**89,139**	**540,718**	**112,836**	**130,476**	**385,711**	**2,035,205**
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2023	-	(473,281)	(84,148)	(676,631)	(139,716)	(83,812)	-	(1,457,588)
Charged in year	-	(26,571)	(9,069)	(34,219)	(15,467)	(19,460)	-	(104,786)
Disposals[1]	-	194,571	34,616	381,293	100,577	43,205	-	754,262
Reclassifications	-	(3,314)	(112)	(1,800)	5,774	29	-	577
Revaluations	-	(2,810)	(91)	98	(883)	(1,318)	-	(5,004)
At 31 March 2024	**-**	**(311,405)**	**(58,804)**	**(331,259)**	**(49,715)**	**(61,356)**	**-**	**(812,539)**

	Land	Buildings	Transport Equipment	Information Technology	Plant & Machinery	Furniture & Fittings	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**124,626**	**340,294**	**30,335**	**209,459**	**63,121**	**69,120**	**385,711**	**1,222,666**
Carrying amount at 1 April 2023	**54,813**	**458,252**	**29,111**	**192,310**	**61,585**	**38,973**	**151,141**	**986,185**
Asset financing:								
Owned	124,626	341,119	30,335	209,458	63,121	69,120	384,019	1,221,798
Leased	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,236	1,236
On balance sheet PFI/other concession arrangements	-	(825)	-	1	-	-	456	(368)
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**124,626**	**340,294**	**30,335**	**209,459**	**63,121**	**69,120**	**385,711**	**1,222,666**
Of the total:								
Core department	123,134	315,500	29,603	206,392	61,911	65,406	378,565	1,180,511
Arm's length bodies	1,492	24,794	732	3,067	1,210	3,714	7,146	42,155
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**124,626**	**340,294**	**30,335**	**209,459**	**63,121**	**69,120**	**385,711**	**1,222,666**

1. PPE net disposal of £156 million includes a correction of £117 million that was balances included in non-current assets and the SoCTE as a result of IFRS 16 transition review in 2022-23 which has been subsequently determined not to meet the criteria for recognition. The correction of £117 million is adjusted in the SoCTE Other movements.

2022-23 Departmental Group

	Land	Buildings	Transport Equipment	Information Technology	Plant & Machinery	Furniture & Fittings	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation								
At 1 April 2022	53,351	906,320	78,525	679,466	308,548	101,359	784,598	2,912,167
Additions	78	1,069	9,504	22,840	7,360	9,721	243,969	294,541
Disposals	-	(71,226)	(2,831)	(196,897)	(146,511)	(39,899)	(172)	(457,536)
Impairments	(187)	(2,263)	-	-	-	-	-	(2,450)
Reclassifications	(119)	77,873	25,976	358,715	26,038	50,154	(877,254)	(338,617)
Revaluations	1,690	19,760	2,085	4,817	5,866	1,450	-	35,668
At 31 March 2023	**54,813**	**931,533**	**113,259**	**868,941**	**201,301**	**122,785**	**151,141**	**2,443,773**
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2022	-	(447,354)	(52,253)	(503,644)	(283,186)	(81,773)	(220,230)	(1,588,440)
Charged in year	-	(86,282)	(33,691)	(365,784)	(752)	(41,124)	220,230	(307,403)
Disposals	-	70,439	2,880	196,360	146,405	39,814	-	455,898
Impairments	-	(187)	-	-	-	-	-	(187)
Revaluations	-	(9,897)	(1,084)	(3,563)	(2,183)	(729)	-	(17,456)
At 31 March 2023	**-**	**(473,281)**	**(84,148)**	**(676,631)**	**(139,716)**	**(83,812)**	**-**	**(1,457,588)**
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**54,813**	**458,252**	**29,111**	**192,310**	**61,585**	**38,973**	**151,141**	**986,185**

	Land	Buildings	Transport Equipment	Information Technology	Plant & Machinery	Furniture & Fittings	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Carrying amount at 1 April 2022	**53,351**	**458,966**	**26,272**	**175,822**	**25,362**	**19,586**	**564,368**	**1,323,727**
Asset financing:								
Owned	54,813	458,252	29,111	192,310	61,585	38,973	151,141	986,185
Leased	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
On balance sheet PFI/other concession arrangements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**54,813**	**458,252**	**29,111**	**192,310**	**61,585**	**38,973**	**151,141**	**986,185**
Of the total:								
Core department	53,422	433,734	28,257	187,861	60,502	34,694	146,174	944,644
Arm's length bodies	1,391	24,518	854	4,449	1,083	4,279	4,967	41,541
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**54,813**	**458,252**	**29,111**	**192,310**	**61,585**	**38,973**	**151,141**	**986,185**

6. Intangible assets

2023-24 Departmental Group

	Information Technology	Software Licences	Websites	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2023	1,693,821	61,996	4,510	598,602	2,358,929
Additions	160,488	10,391	192	250,604	421,675
Disposals	(627,287)	(37,127)	(3,496)	10,166	(657,744)
Impairments	-	-	-	(3,332)	(3,332)
Reclassifications	77,716	41	684	(78,401)	40
Revaluations	(3,316)	5	(5)	-	(3,316)
At 31 March 2024	**1,301,422**	**35,306**	**1,885**	**777,639**	**2,116,252**
Amortisation					
At 1 April 2023	(1,248,777)	(60,137)	(4,049)	-	(1,312,963)
Charged in year	(199,926)	(3,713)	(838)	-	(204,477)
Disposals	629,848	37,381	3,499	-	670,728
Reclassifications	(667)	90	-	-	(577)
Revaluations	1,862	(7)	3	-	1,858
At 31 March 2024	**(817,660)**	**(26,386)**	**(1,385)**	**-**	**(845,431)**
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**483,762**	**8,920**	**500**	**777,639**	**1,270,821**
Carrying amount at 1 April 2023	**445,044**	**1,859**	**461**	**598,602**	**1,045,966**
Asset financing:					
Owned	482,067	7,418	500	777,639	1,267,624
On balance sheet PFI/other concession arrangements	1,695	1,502	-	-	3,197
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**483,762**	**8,920**	**500**	**777,639**	**1,270,821**
Of the total:					
Core department	467,833	7,394	472	764,130	1,239,829
Arm's length bodies	15,929	1,526	28	13,509	30,992
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**483,762**	**8,920**	**500**	**777,639**	**1,270,821**

2022-23 Departmental Group

	Information Technology	Software Licences	Websites	Payments on Account & Assets Under Construction	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2022	1,541,110	65,702	4,235	313,579	1,924,626
Additions	110,394	693	215	262,345	373,647
Disposals	(281,254)	(9,370)	(228)	(9,432)	(300,284)
Impairments	(724)	-	-	(3,768)	(4,492)
Reclassifications	298,629	3,834	276	35,878	338,617
Revaluations	25,666	1,137	12	-	26,815
At 31 March 2023	**1,693,821**	**61,996**	**4,510**	**598,602**	**2,358,929**
Amortisation					
At 1 April 2022	(1,157,674)	(60,282)	(4,152)	(53,598)	(1,275,706)
Charged in year	(351,435)	(8,129)	(115)	53,598	(306,081)
Disposals	280,690	9,362	228	-	290,280
Revaluations	(20,358)	(1,088)	(10)	-	(21,456)
At 31 March 2023	**(1,248,777)**	**(60,137)**	**(4,049)**	**-**	**(1,312,963)**
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**445,044**	**1,859**	**461**	**598,602**	**1,045,966**
Carrying amount at 1 April 2022	**383,436**	**5,420**	**83**	**259,981**	**648,920**
Asset financing:					
Owned	443,375	357	461	598,602	1,042,795
On balance sheet PFI/other concession arrangements	1,669	1,502	-	-	3,171
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**445,044**	**1,859**	**461**	**598,602**	**1,045,966**
Of the total:					
Core department	432,584	945	436	584,536	1,018,501
Arm's length bodies	12,460	914	25	14,066	27,465
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**445,044**	**1,859**	**461**	**598,602**	**1,045,966**

7. Right-of-use assets

2023-24 Departmental Group

	Land	Buildings	Information Technology	Networked Assets	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2023	13,267	648,108	13,908	-	675,283
Additions	(186)	279,735	-	1,462	281,011
Disposals	-	(32,927)	-	-	(32,927)
Reclassifications	-	(44,887)	(13,908)	13,908	(44,887)
At 31 March 2024	**13,081**	**850,029**	**-**	**15,370**	**878,480**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2023	(1,050)	(78,229)	(1,166)	-	(80,445)
Charged in year	(516)	(112,740)	-	(784)	(114,040)
Reclassifications	-	-	1,166	(1,166)	-
At 31 March 2024	**(1,566)**	**(190,969)**	**-**	**(1,950)**	**(194,485)**
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**11,515**	**659,060**	**-**	**13,420**	**683,995**
Carrying amount at 1 April 2023	**12,217**	**569,879**	**12,742**	**-**	**594,838**
Of the total:					
Core department	11,515	641,885	-	13,420	666,820
Arm's length bodies	-	17,175	-	-	17,175
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**11,515**	**659,060**	**-**	**13,420**	**683,995**

2022-23 Departmental Group

	Land	Buildings	Information Technology	Networked Assets	Core Department & Agencies
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2022	11,735	662,481	10,624	-	684,840
Additions	1,532	172,918	3,284	-	177,734
Disposals	-	(187,291)	-	-	(187,291)
At 31 March 2023	**13,267**	**648,108**	**13,908**	**-**	**675,283**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	-	(1,097)	-	-	(1,097)
Charged in year	(1,050)	(77,132)	(1,166)	-	(79,348)
At 31 March 2023	**(1,050)**	**(78,229)**	**(1,166)**	**-**	**(80,445)**
Carrying amount at 31 March 2023	**12,217**	**569,879**	**12,742**	**-**	**594,838**
Carrying amount at 1 April 2022	**11,735**	**661,384**	**10,624**	**-**	**683,743**
Of the total:					
Core department	12,217	546,693	12,742	-	571,652
Arm's length bodies	-	23,186	-	-	23,186
Carrying amount at 31 March 2024	**12,217**	**569,879**	**12,742**	**-**	**594,838**

8. Financial instruments

As the cash requirements of the Department are met through the Estimates process, financial instruments play a more limited role in creating and managing risk than would apply to a non-public sector body of a similar size. The Department has very limited powers to borrow, invest surpluses, or purchase foreign currency. Financial assets and liabilities are generated by day-to-day operational activities and are not held to change the risk facing the Department in undertaking its activities.

The majority of financial instruments relate to contracts for goods and services in line with the Department's expected purchase and usage requirements and the Department is, therefore, exposed to little credit, liquidity or market risk.

9. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies £000	2023-24 Departmental Group £000	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies £000	2022-23 Departmental Group £000
Balance at 1 April	475,750	594,558	678,726	816,189
Net change in cash and cash equivalent balances	(254,469)	(246,452)	(202,976)	(221,631)
Balance at 31 March	**221,281**	**348,106**	**475,750**	**594,558**
The following balances at 31 March were held at:				
Government Banking Service	221,232	226,131	475,701	470,046
Commercial banks and cash in hand	49	121,975	49	124,512
Balance at 31 March	**221,281**	**348,106**	**475,750**	**594,558**

10. Trade receivables, financial and other assets

	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies £000	2023-24 Departmental Group £000	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies £000	2022-23 Departmental Group £000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade receivables	120,501	136,969	131,439	121,953
VAT receivables net of payables	40,164	41,635	34,028	33,794
Staff receivables	6,761	6,973	4,931	5,110
Receivables - government departments	163,979	163,979	139,592	139,592
Other receivables	3,308	3,308	1,080	1,235
Prepayments and accrued income	283,289	301,850	398,810	417,784
	618,002	**654,714**	**709,880**	**719,468**

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amounts falling due after more than one year:				
Other receivables	5,140	5,140	5,640	4,072
Lease receivables	4,058	4,058	4,393	4,393
Total	**9,198**	**9,198**	**10,033**	**8,465**

11. Trade payables and other current liabilities

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Other taxation and social security	22,674	27,408	17,800	22,485
Trade payables	47,787	52,889	109,000	111,204
Other payables	10,694	13,598	9,124	9,369
Staff payables	77,213	78,789	61,823	63,579
Accruals	2,403,437	2,446,083	1,956,075	2,002,289
Accruals - Police Pensions	583,788	583,788	393,033	393,033
Accruals - Fire Pensions	305,076	305,076	137,863	137,863
Contract liabilities	627,634	648,325	371,543	390,495
Payables - government departments	56,381	56,381	68,079	68,079
Current part of lease liabilities	97,735	101,969	76,629	78,242
Current part of imputed finance lease element of on balance sheet PFI contracts and other service concession arrangements	(1,748)	(1,748)	(1,748)	(1,748)

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amounts issued from the Consolidated Fund for supply but not spent at year end	119,799	119,799	266,410	266,410
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts due to be paid to the Consolidated Fund (received)	100,061	100,061	207,919	207,919
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts due to be paid to the Consolidated Fund (receivable)	6,626	68,314	28,838	28,838
	4,457,157	**4,600,732**	**3,702,388**	**3,778,057**
Amounts falling due after more than one year:				
Other payables, accruals and deferred income	11,824	14,115	11,824	12,977
Imputed finance lease element of on-balance sheet PFI contracts and other service concession arrangements	2,131	2,131	2,131	2,131
Lease liabilities	550,111	564,730	514,183	535,661
Total	**564,066**	**580,976**	**528,138**	**550,769**

11.1 Contract balances

	Contract liabilities
	£000
At 1 April 2023	390,495
Decrease due to revenue recognised in the period	(2,256,574)
Increase due to cash received in advance and not recognised as revenue during the year	2,514,404
At 31 March 2024	**648,325**
Presented within:	
Current	**648,325**
Non-current	-

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April	**477,463**	**482,810**	**483,618**	**488,789**
Provided in the year	174,832	175,385	101,790	102,130
Provisions not required written back	(81,994)	(83,215)	(27,448)	(27,536)
Provisions utilised in the year	(41,230)	(41,762)	(80,497)	(80,573)
Balance at 31 March	**529,071**	**533,218**	**477,463**	**482,810**
Comprising				
Not later than one year	291,856	292,654	289,928	290,687
Later than one year and not later than five years	86,756	88,350	104,817	107,675
Later than five years	150,459	152,214	82,718	84,448
Balance at 31 March	**529,071**	**533,218**	**477,463**	**482,810**

13. Provisions analysis

	Dilapidations	Legal Claims	Windrush Compensation Scheme	Pensions and Other	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2023	**62,173**	**285,882**	**110,935**	**23,820**	**482,810**
Provided in the year	63,907	45,641	-	65,836	175,384
Provisions not required written back	(11,388)	(60,926)	(6,000)	(4,900)	(83,214)
Provisions utilised in the year	(346)	(17,498)	(23,836)	(82)	(41,762)
Balance at 31 March 2024	**114,346**	**253,099**	**81,099**	**84,674**	**533,218**
Comprising:					
Not later than one year	32,157	230,333	30,000	164	292,654
Later than one year and not later than five years	17,016	20,236	51,099	-	88,351
Later than five years	65,173	2,530	-	84,510	152,213
Balance at 31 March 2024	**114,346**	**253,099**	**81,099**	**84,674**	**533,218**
Of the total:					
Core department	110,507	252,954	81,099	84,511	529,071
Arm's length bodies	3,839	145	-	163	4,147
Balance at 31 March 2024	**114,346**	**253,099**	**81,099**	**84,674**	**533,218**

	Dilapidations	Legal Claims	Windrush Compensation Scheme	Pensions and Other	Departmental Group Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2022	**61,012**	**310,023**	**102,591**	**15,163**	**488,789**
Provided in the year	1,249	59,224	33,000	8,657	102,130
Provisions not required written back	(88)	(27,448)	-	-	(27,536)
Provisions utilised in the year	-	(55,917)	(24,656)	-	(80,573)
Balance at 31 March 2023	**62,173**	**285,882**	**110,935**	**23,820**	**482,810**
Comprising:					
Not later than one year	291	260,175	30,000	221	290,687
Later than one year and not later than five years	3,889	22,851	80,935	-	107,675
Later than five years	57,993	2,856	-	23,599	84,448
Balance at 31 March 2023	**62,173**	**285,882**	**110,935**	**23,820**	**482,810**
Of the total:					
Core department	57,293	285,635	110,935	23,600	477,463
Arm’s length bodies	4,880	247	-	220	5,347
Balance at 31 March 2023	**62,173**	**285,882**	**110,935**	**23,820**	**482,810**

Dilapidations

The Home Office makes provisions to cover its obligations for the reinstatement of its leasehold buildings to their original state before its occupation.

Legal claims

Provision has been made for various legal claims against the Home Office. The provision reflects all known claims where legal advice indicates that it is more than 50% probable that the claim will be successful, and the amount of the claim can be reliably estimated. The amount provided is based on an estimate of the amount required to settle the liability. No reimbursement will be received in respect of any of these claims. Legal claims, which may succeed but are less likely to do so (or cannot be estimated), are disclosed as contingent liabilities in Note 14.

Windrush Compensation Scheme

On 3 April 2019, the Home Office launched the Windrush Compensation Scheme, which is one of the measures the Government introduced to help right the wrongs experienced by members of the Windrush generation.

The Windrush Compensation Scheme is open to:

- Commonwealth citizens who arrived in the UK before 1 January 1973 and who are lawfully here because they have a right of abode, or settled status, or are now British citizens;
- Commonwealth citizens overseas who settled in the UK before 1 January 1973;
- Any person of any nationality who arrived in the UK before 31 December 1988 and is lawfully here because they have a right of abode, or settled status, or are now a British citizen;
- The children and grandchildren of Commonwealth citizens, in certain circumstances;
- The estates of those who are now deceased but would have otherwise been eligible to claim compensation; and
- Close family members of eligible claimants where there is evidence of certain direct financial losses, or significant impact on their life.

These accounts report a provision of £81 million, being the best estimate of the total value of future compensation scheme payments.

The provision value is based on the likelihood of number of claimants, and the estimated costs for the different areas of loss for which claims may be made. There is a considerable amount of uncertainty in these assumptions, due to incompleteness of data on how many individuals have been impacted, and how they have been impacted. There is no limit to the amount of compensation available should the claims be accepted.

Pensions and other provisions

The Department has further provisions which do not fall into the above categories, but which satisfies the criteria for provision creation. The most significant of these are outlined below.

Pension provisions

A provision of £18.7 million relates to the value of the pension liability for Forensic Science Service (FSS) (2022-23: £23.6 million) The FSS was a government owned company in the UK which provided forensic science services to the police forces and government agencies of England and Wales, as well as other countries. Upon its closure in December 2005 the pension obligations of the FSS transferred to the Home Office. The decrease of £4.9 million in the provision during the year was predominantly due to the improvement in the pension scheme asset performance.

Other provisions

Other provisions also include an amount subject to ongoing legal proceedings. Additional details have not been disclosed to avoid prejudice to the Home Office's position in the dispute, in line with IAS 37 – Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets, paragraph 92.

14. Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities cover all known claims where legal advice indicates that the criteria for recognition of a provision has not been met or where the possibility of economic transfer is possible, but not probable.

Legal claims

The nature of the Department's operations involves managing a substantial volume of immigration claims in relation to asylum, refugee, residency status, nationality and entry clearance. There are a number of legal claims outstanding against the Department including unlawful detention and human rights claims that we would consider as falling within the category of contingent liability.

As part of the Department's risk management practices, claims are continually assessed for their potential to have high financial impact. The nature of these claims is such that it is not possible to predict the outcome with reasonable certainty nor to quantify the financial impact to the Department. These claims arise in the course of the Department's immigration processing operations and, given their generic nature and the Department's need to avoid prejudicing itself in the ongoing legal process, a case-by-case disclosure has not been made.

Airwave network contract

There is uncertainty about the outcome of an appeal by Motorola Solutions Inc. (Motorola) against a decision by the Competition Appeal Tribunal to uphold a decision by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) in favour of the Home Office.

The effect of the CMA ruling was to impose a charge control on Airwave Network prices incurred by the Home Office. If Motorola's appeal is successful, the Department would have to repay approximately £84 million in charge control reductions recognised as a result of CMA's original ruling.

15. Lease liabilities

	2023-24 Core Department & Agencies £000	2023-24 Departmental Group £000	2022-23 Core Department & Agencies £000	2022-23 Departmental Group £000
Amounts falling due:				
Not later than one year	97,735	101,969	76,629	79,801
Later than one year and not later than five years	337,858	347,056	255,660	267,405
Later than five years	267,045	272,962	298,169	307,314
	702,638	**721,987**	**630,458**	**654,520**
Less interest element	(54,792)	(55,288)	(39,646)	(40,617)
Total present value of obligations	**647,846**	**666,699**	**590,812**	**613,903**
Current	**97,735**	**101,969**	**76,629**	**78,242**
Non-current	**550,111**	**564,730**	**514,183**	**535,661**
	647,846	**666,699**	**590,812**	**613,903**

16. Commitments under PFI and other service concession arrangements

Off balance sheet (SoFP)

The total amount charged in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure in respect of off-balance sheet (SoFP) PFI or other service concession transactions was £11.1 million (2022-23: £7.8 million).

Total future minimum payments under off-balance sheet PFI and other service concession arrangements are given in the table below for each of the following periods:

	2023-24 Core Department & agencies £000	2023-24 Departmental group £000	2022-23 Core Department & agencies £000	2022-23 Departmental group £000
Not later than one year	10,483	10,483	7,659	7,659
Later than one year and not later than five years	8,229	8,229	103	103
Later than five years	-	-	-	-
Total commitment	**18,712**	**18,712**	**7,762**	**7,762**

17. Capital and other commitments

Capital commitments

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & agencies	Departmental group	Core Department & agencies (Reclassified)	Departmental group (Reclassified)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Property, plant & equipment	102,284	102,284	95,782	95,782
Intangible assets	76,515	76,515	41,087	41,087
Total commitment	**178,799**	**178,799**	**136,869**	**136,869**

These commitments include:

- £95 million of capital commitments at year end relate to the building of the Emergency Service Network. The largest supplier is EE Ltd, with capital commitments of £51.4 million for an Air to Ground network, and £33.5 million for Extended Area Service providing coverage for the three emergency services' airborne assets with transmission links and equipment the Extended Area Service sites cross England, Scotland and Wales. These extensions of coverage are part of the new Emergency Services Network critical communications system. This will replace the current Airwave service used by the emergency services in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) and transform how they operate. Other non-EE capital commitments includes £7.8 million for on the Shared Rural Network.
- £30 million relates to delivery of the Police National Database (PND). The PND programme is delivering a transformed service to better meet the needs of policing, replace, or upgrade obsolescent technology, move to Cloud, and secure service continuity to the 10yr+ horizon.
- £7.3 million of intangible capital commitments relate to the Strategic Matcher Programme, which will provide the key interlinking capability to match Fingerprint and Face data, a key component in providing a significant improvement to existing capabilities with further biometric developments planned to be implemented in the future. The largest supplier for the Strategic Matcher Programme is IBM, who all these costs currently relate to.
- £5.3 million for National Communications Data Service. These services will deliver efficiencies and enable more successful future transitions as well as the development of new capabilities. They include development and delivery costs for major programmes and client side services. The largest supplier is BAE Systems Applied Intelligence Limited with a commitment of £2.5 million.

Other financial commitments

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group	Core Department & Agencies	Departmental Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Not later than one year	32,517	32,517	277,772	293,915
Later than one year and not later than five years	11,557	11,557	50,569	50,569
Later than five years	-	-	610	610
Total commitment	**44,074**	**44,074**	**328,951**	**345,094**

The Department has entered into non-cancellable contracts (which are not leases, PFI contracts or other service concession arrangements). The payments to which the Department are committed are as follows:

- The Home Office has a contract with IBM to support IBM software relating to perpetual licences. The total contract value is £4.1 million.
- The Home Office has a contract with On Tower UK Limited for the use of mast sites for ESN Air until March 2032 with an option to extend. The approved value of the contract is £15.6 million.
- The Home Office has a software licensing agreement with Microsoft for all Microsoft products on the Home Office estate. The current contract commenced in 2020 and is valued at approximately £85 million over the 5-year term. The contract runs until March 2025 and a procurement for the replacement of the licensing agreement will take place in the Summer/Autumn of 2024.
- The Home Office has a contract with Oracle for the use of Metis (based on Oracle Cloud) across Home Office and Arms Length Bodies. The current contract, with a total value of £39 million, expires in May 2026.

18. Related party transactions

The Department is the parent of its agencies and other designated bodies, and the sponsor of the Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs) outlined in Note 19. These bodies are regarded as related parties with which the Department has had material transactions during the year. Details of related party of NPPBs are disclosed in their audited accounts.

In addition, the Department has had transactions with other government departments and other central government bodies. In particular there have been transactions with:

- **The Cabinet Office**: Civil Superannuation relating to the employees' pension scheme. The employer's contribution to this pension scheme can be found in the Staff Report within the accountability section
- The **Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office** relating to the overseas collection of both Visa income and the Immigration Health Surcharge.
- The **Forensic Archive Ltd** is considered a related party operating under the 'guardianship' of the Home Office with Home Office senior management sitting on the board.

No minister, board member, key manager or other related parties has undertaken any material transactions with the Department during the year.

Ministers' interests are declared and maintained through the Register of Members' Interests at the House of Commons and the Register of Lords' Interest at the House of Lords.

Board members and key senior management staff are subject to a standard annual interests review, stating whether they, their spouses or close family members have been in a position of influence or control in organisations with which the Home Office has transactions.

The remuneration report provides information on key management compensation. No minister, board member, key manager or other related parties has undertaken any material transactions with the Department during the year.

19. Entities within the Departmental boundary

The entities within the boundary during 2023-24 comprise supply financed agencies and those entities listed in the Designation and Amendment Orders presented to Parliament. They are:

Entities consolidated

The Home Office Departmental boundary encompassed the central Government Department and five Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs). The accounts of these entities form part of the Home Office's consolidated financial statements.

Executive NDPBs

Typically established in statute and carrying out executive, administrative, regulatory and/or commercial functions.

- Disclosure and Barring Service
- Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
- Immigration Services Commissioner
- Independent Office for Police Conduct
- Security Industry Authority

The accounts of the above NDPBs can be found at http://www.official-documents.gov.uk

Other entities

College of Policing Limited

The College of Policing is a company limited by guarantee. It is classified as an Arm's Length Body by HM Treasury, and is consolidated within the Departmental boundary as a NDPB.

Entities within the core Department

Advisory, tribunal and other NDPBs do not publish accounts as they do not have any money delegated to them. Where there are costs, these are met from Home Office budgets.

Advisory non-departmental public bodies

Provide independent, expert advice to ministers on a wide range of issues.

- Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs
- The Committee for the Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes
- Biometrics and Forensics Ethics Group
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme Advisory Board
- Migration Advisory Committee
- Police Advisory Board for England and Wales
- Police Remuneration Review Body
- Technical Advisory Board

Tribunal non-departmental public bodies

Have jurisdiction in a specialised field of law.

- Investigatory Powers Tribunal
- Police Appeals Tribunal

Other

- Commission for Countering Extremism
- Forensic Archive Ltd
- His Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary
- Independent Family Returns Panel
- Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office
- Office for Communications Data Authorisations
- Office of the Chief Inspector of the UK Border Agency
- The Office of the Commissioner for the Retention and Use of Biometric Material
- Office of the Director of Labour Market Enforcement
- Office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner
- The Office of the Forensic Science Regulator
- The Office of the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
- The Office of the Independent Monitor for the purposes of Part 5 of the Police Act 1997
- The Office of the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation
- The Office of the person appointed under sections 47H(4), 127H(4), 195H(4), 290(8) and 303E(9) of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002
- The Office of the Surveillance Camera Commissioner
- National Crime Agency Remuneration Review Body
- The National Crime Agency is outside the Departmental boundary and is not consolidated in this Report, but its operations are mentioned because the Home Office has a policy remit for the Agency.

20. Events after the reporting period date

In accordance with the requirements of IAS 10 Events After the Reporting Period, events are considered up to the date on which the accounts are authorised for issue.

The date the accounts are authorised for issue by Matthew Rycroft (Accounting Officer) is interpreted as the same date the accounts are certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Annexes – not subject to audit

A. Financial information by Arm's Length Body

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Arm's Length Body	Total Operating Income	Total Operating Expenditure	Net Expenditure for the Year (Including Financing)	Permanently Employed Staff Number of Employees	Permanently Employed Staff Staff Costs	Other Staff Number of Employees	Other Staff Staff Costs
	£000	£000	£000		£000		£000
College of Policing Limited	(36,029)	73,826	37,797	688	34,628	99	11,265
Disclosure and Barring Service	(216,105)	211,454	(4,651)	1,173	57,000	71	3,428
Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority	(1,317)	9,194	7,877	102	6,282	-	-
Immigration Services Commissioner	-	4,284	4,284	63	2,745	-	549
Independent Office for Police Conduct	(74)	74,480	74,406	993	57,630	1	36
Security Industry Authority	(33,796)	33,999	203	352	18,916	2	587
	(287,321)	**407,237**	**119,916**	**3,371**	**177,201**	**173**	**15,865**

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Arm's Length Body	Total Operating Income	Total Operating Expenditure	Net Expenditure for the Year (Including Financing)	Permanently Employed Staff		Other Staff	
				Number of Employees	Staff Costs	Number of Employees	Staff Costs
	£000	£000	£000		£000		£000
College of Policing Limited	(36,029)	73,829	37,800	632	34,628	98	11,265
Disclosure and Barring Service	(217,077)	196,859	(20,218)	1,218	50,470	151	2,006
Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority	(1,232)	7,190	5,958	119	5,607	1	-
Immigration Services Commissioner	-	3,449	3,449	58	3,381	1	79
Independent Office for Police Conduct	(64)	72,740	72,676	994	53,747	7	621
Security Industry Authority	(30,477)	33,392	2,915	301	16,405	8	1,558
	(284,879)	**387,459**	**102,580**	**3,322**	**164,238**	**266**	**15,529**

B. Core table

The Department had organisational structural changes in FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24. The expenditure categories in core tables below align with the operating segments of the Home Office in the corresponding financial year.

Total departmental spending 2018-19 to 2024-25

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Resource DEL							
Delivery	-	-	-	-	77,838	-	-
Strategy	-	-	-	-	-	70,726	81,862
Science, Technology, Analysis, Research and Strategy	-	-	-	148,986	34,561	43,192	31,137
Crime Policing and Fire Group	8,621,396	8,515,469	9,568,039	-	-	-	-
Office for Security and Counter Terrorism	927,053	1,005,080	1,007,702	-	-	-	-
Serious and Organised Crime	62,319	137,608	271,138	-	-	-	-
Homeland Security	-	-	-	1,021,788	1,125,074	1,243,481	1,145,358
Public Safety	-	-	-	10,473,220	11,204,367	11,577,218	12,089,505
BICS PSG, Europe, International and ICI	49,163	64,547	123,588	-	-	-	-
Migration & Borders	-	-	-	86,189	287,953	428,482	748,173
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	-	-	-	-	-	133,959	101,000
UK Visas & Immigration	(541,574)	(683,885)	702,069	-	-	-	-
HM Passport Office	(212,797)	(171,322)	(12,085)	-	-	-	-
Customer Service	-	-	-	333,376	(3,166,254)	(3,344,985)	(3,365,541)
Asylum & Protection	-	-	-	-	4,498,823	-	-

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	5,424,708	1,982,549
Immigration Enforcement	383,227	391,961	391,844	-	-	636,293	474,049
Border Force	533,582	616,198	686,815	-	-	1,182,934	666,237
Borders & Enforcement	-	-	-	1,183,216	1,404,808	-	-
Enablers	878,999	1,401,127	862,419	-	-	-	-
Corporate Enablers	-	-	-	930,201	945,611	-	-
Corporate & Delivery	-	-	-	-	-	775,994	1,397,877
Digital, Data and Technology	-	-	861,185	435,679	473,013	543,316	558,604
Legal	-	-	-	8,312	11,131	11,649	12,131
Communications	-	-	-	17,529	8,556	11,362	12,688
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	62,389	108,217	100,074	73,076	99,860	118,041	121,420
Total Resource DEL	**10,763,757**	**11,385,000**	**14,562,788**	**14,711,572**	**17,005,341**	**18,856,370**	**16,057,049**
Of which:							
Staff costs	1,575,852	1,779,988	1,867,098	2,007,041	2,359,736	2,938,318	2,889,255
Purchase of goods and services	2,362,585	2,538,154	2,927,859	3,680,548	3,731,229	7,155,851	5,156,127
Income from sales of goods and services	(1,969,209)	(2,097,970)	(1,214,940)	(1,860,975)	(2,640,506)	(3,100,019)	(3,514,449)
Current grants to local government (net)	8,892,945	9,473,876	10,552,489	10,759,739	12,046,520	12,738,568	12,084,882
Current grants to persons and non-profit bodies (net)	195,387	145,008	162,127	119,972	116,452	97,096	41,377
Current grants abroad (net)	(107,393)	(39,245)	(15,141)	(30,929)	141,701	194,475	43,014
Subsidies to private sector companies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Rentals	36,011	49,130	70,366	97,451	472	3,261	-
Depreciation[1]	264,658	303,937	419,127	595,117	692,833	423,303	771,416
Other resource	(487,079)	(767,878)	(206,197)	(656,392)	556,904	(1,594,483)	(1,414,574)
Resource AME							
AME Charges	(28,386)	207,553	(691)	132,718	(7,220)	(6,526)	3,000
Police and Fire Superannuation	2,698,443	2,371,238	2,304,824	2,515,542	2,077,967	2,867,026	2,714,720
AME Charges Arms Length Bodies (Net)	(797)	4,825	2,079	(865)	-	-	
Total Resource AME	**2,669,260**	**2,583,616**	**2,306,212**	**2,647,395**	**2,070,747**	**2,860,500**	**2,717,720**
Of which:							
Current grants to local government (net)	2,698,443	2,371,238	2,304,822	2,515,542	2,077,967	2,867,026	2,714,720
Take up of provisions	83,749	266,971	150,106	295,975	92,413	118,062	-
Release of provision	(112,932)	(54,593)	(148,716)	(164,122)	(99,633)	(124,588)	3,000
Total Resource Budget	**13,433,017**	**13,968,616**	**16,869,000**	**17,358,967**	**19,076,088**	**21,716,870**	**18,774,769**
Of which:							
Depreciation[1]	264,658	303,937	419,127	595,117	692,833	423,303	771,416
Capital DEL							
Delivery	-	-	-	-	3,048	-	-
Strategy	-	-	-	-	-	2,667	2,475
Science, Technology, Analysis, Research and Strategy	-	-	-	41,067	42,973	44,117	35,763
Crime Policing and Fire Group	251,161	111,375	53,845	-	-	-	-
Office for Security and Counter Terrorism	112,014	104,930	105,455	-	-	-	-

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Serious and Organised Crime	8,826	15,172	50,746	-	-	-	-
Homeland Security	-	-	-	190,326	157,771	242,003	172,078
Public Safety	-	-	-	181,558	225,351	225,722	135,076
BICS PSG, Europe, International and ICI	1,362	2,889	109,425	-	-	-	-
Migration & Borders	-	-	-	88,910	172,169	194,737	37,150
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	-	-	-	-	-	868	-
UK Visas & Immigration	65,012	50,000	57,358	-	-	-	-
HM Passport Office	38,369	40,409	44,792	-	-	-	-
Customer Service	-	-	-	97,248	87,420	85,747	48,063
Asylum & Protection	-	-	-	-	6,907	-	-
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	195,032	29,637
Immigration Enforcement	13,024	9,218	17,817	-	-	45,440	21,598
Border Force	61,480	76,123	112,372	-	-	127,025	98,343
Borders & Enforcement	-	-	-	153,936	135,437	-	-
Enablers	129,178	289,606	48,137	-	-	-	-
Corporate Enablers	-	-	-	(5,254)	37,929	-	-
Corporate & Delivery	-	-	-	-	-	(61,367)	264,989
Digital, Data and Technology	-	-	231,458	59,676	39,959	53,421	72,520
Communications	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	11,750	17,630	15,330	15,912	16,402	15,293	13,444
Total Capital DEL	**692,176**	**717,352**	**846,735**	**823,381**	**925,366**	**1,170,705**	**931,136**

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Of which:							
Staff costs	16,382	17,283	19,815	28,738	32,464	34,677	33,560
Purchase of goods and services	23,311	17,479	22,166	27,096	45,171	52,985	17,135
Income from sales of goods and services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current grants to persons and non-profit bodies (net)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subsidies to private sector companies	7,176	599	(88)	(90)	552	263	-
Subsidies to public corporations	7,065	10,397	10,204	15,476	3,775	4,799	-
Capital support for local government (net)	148,894	153,483	89,305	120,231	120,357	113,636	70,050
Capital grants to persons and non-profit bodies (net)	13,832	-	2	-	-	(300)	
Capital grants to private sector companies (net)	14,329	12,508	8,655	7,742	14,407	11,477	55,425
Capital grants abroad (net)	141	189	4,037	2,633	476	-	-
Purchase of assets	440,403	449,089	587,411	116,059	644,322	889,061	712,769
Income from sales of assets	(8,039)	2,895	(1,064)	4,422	(4,660)	(7,665)	3,116
Other capital	28,682	53,430	106,292	501,074	68,502	71,772	39,081
Capital AME							
AME Charges	-	-	-	-	-	63,544	-
Total Capital AME	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**63,544**	**-**

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Of which:							
IFRS 16 dilapidation provisions	-	-	-	-	-	63,544	-
Total Capital Budget	**692,176**	**717,352**	**846,735**	**823,381**	**925,366**	**1,234,249**	**931,136**
Total departmental spending[2]	**13,860,535**	**14,382,031**	**17,296,608**	**17,587,231**	**19,308,621**	**22,527,816**	**18,934,489**
Of which:							
Total DEL	11,191,275	11,798,415	14,990,396	14,939,836	17,237,874	19,603,772	16,216,769
Total AME	2,669,260	2,583,616	2,306,212	2,647,395	2,070,747	2,924,044	2,717,720

1. Includes impairments
2. Total departmental spending is the sum of the resource budget and the capital budget less depreciation. Similarly, total DEL is the sum of the resource budget DEL and capital budget DEL less depreciation in DEL, and total AME is the sum of resource budget AME and capital budget AME less depreciation in AME.

Administration budget 2018-19 to 2024-25

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Resource DEL							
Delivery	-	-	-	-	20,050	-	-
Strategy	-	-	-	-	-	18,118	19,320
Science, Technology, Analysis, Research and Strategy	-	-	-	46,276	15,015	14,743	14,381
Crime Policing and Fire Group	25,876	27,702	28,529	-	-	-	-
Office for Security and Counter Terrorism	33,131	35,334	42,713	-	-	-	-
Serious and Organised Crime	14,788	15,539	20,513	-	-	-	-
Homeland Security Group	-	-	-	48,467	53,053	58,930	52,759
Public Safety Group	-	-	-	47,437	49,937	52,685	49,647
BICS PSG, Europe, International and ICI	41,579	43,455	36,419	-	-	-	-
Migration & Borders	-	-	-	24,471	34,491	38,815	35,493
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UK Visas & Immigration	10,574	9,127	293	-	-	-	-
HM Passport Office	2,491	6,684	373	-	-	-	-
Customer Services	-	-	-	1,139	(22)	1,265	-
Asylum & Protection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Immigration Enforcement	6,379	6,567	2,354	-	-	5	-
Border Force	3,369	2,403	1,834	-	-	-	-

	2018-19 OUTTURN £000	2019-20 OUTTURN £000	2020-21 OUTTURN £000	2021-22 OUTTURN £000	2022-23 OUTTURN £000	2023-24 OUTTURN £000	2024-25 PLANS £000
Borders & Enforcement	-	-	-	2,445	(270)	-	-
Enablers	192,227	175,332	183,561	-	-	-	-
Corporate Enablers	-	-	-	70,324	153,472	-	-
Corporate & Delivery	-	-	-	-	-	188,246	128,719
Digital, Data and Technology	-	-	3,965	20,827	31,681	42,365	40,588
Legal	-	-	-	8,312	11,131	11,649	12,131
Communications	-	-	-	13,244	9,139	11,358	12,688
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total administration budget	**330,414**	**322,143**	**320,554**	**282,942**	**377,677**	**438,179**	**365,726**
Of which:							
Staff costs	196,888	224,596	234,053	238,850	245,715	283,982	247,128
Purchase of goods and services	81,868	59,192	89,877	96,942	128,020	123,405	119,038
Income from sales of goods and services	(5,421)	(6,538)	(7,292)	(4,502)	(13,140)	(4,953)	(5,599)
Current grants to local government (net)	206	-	-	-	350	(47)	-
Current grants to persons and non-profit bodies (net)	2,810	-	-	23,578	19,155	13,798	-
Current grants abroad (net)	(87,942)	(46,406)	(50,469)	(63,179)	(42,498)	(26,412)	(433)
Rentals	21,361	6	(7)	-	9	-	-
Depreciation	26,215	23,736	3,610	3,258	19,490	34,293	24,000
Other resource	94,429	67,557	50,782	(12,005)	20,576	14,113	(18,407)

Outturn Year 2023-24

	2023-24 Original Plans		2023-24 Adjusted Plans		2023-24 Final Plans		2023-24 Outturn	
	Resource £000	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**
Spending in Departmental Expenditure Limits (DEL)								
Voted expenditure	**14,607,973**	**931,299**	**4,956,526**	**468,474**	**19,564,499**	**1,399,773**	**18,856,370**	**1,170,705**
Of which:								
Strategy	69,273	2,070	6,515	231	75,788	2,301	70,726	2,667
Science, Technology, Analysis, Research and Strategy	31,953	36,718	8,294	1,102	40,247	37,820	43,192	44,117
Homeland Security Group	1,125,171	269,773	81,362	9,953	1,206,533	279,726	1,243,481	242,004
Public Safety Group	11,203,991	208,146	127,419	31,885	11,331,410	240,031	11,577,218	225,722
Migration & Borders Group	467,559	57,144	307,729	57,698	775,288	114,842	428,482	194,737
Strategic Operations for Illegal Migration	-	-	166,239	13,400	166,239	13,400	133,959	868
Customer Services	(2,520,036)	87,066	(794,780)	23,060	(3,314,816)	110,126	(3,344,985)	85,747
Asylum Support, Resettlement and Accommodation	1,085,970	26,030	4,336,284	105,830	5,422,254	131,860	5,424,708	195,031
Border Force	721,239	123,363	383,356	16,033	1,104,595	139,396	1,182,934	127,025
Immigration Enforcement	482,486	(5,088)	255,889	138,980	738,375	133,892	636,293	45,440
Corporate & Delivery	986,084	66,296	369,519	47,927	1,355,603	114,223	775,994	(61,367)
Digital, Data and Technology	451,500	39,777	57,502	22,375	509,002	62,152	543,316	53,421
Legal	13,072	-	-	-	13,072	-	11,649	-

	2023-24 Original Plans		2023-24 Adjusted Plans		2023-24 Final Plans		2023-24 Outturn	
	Resource £000	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**	**Resource £000**	**Capital £000**
Communications	12,674	-	702	-	13,376	-	11,362	-
Arms Length Bodies (Net)	122,142	20,004	5,391	-	127,533	20,004	118,041	15,293
DUP	354,895	-	(354,895)	-	-	-	-	-
Total Spending in DEL	**14,607,973**	**931,299**	**4,956,526**	**468,474**	**19,564,499**	**1,399,773**	**18,856,370**	**1,170,705**
Spending in Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)								
Voted expenditure	**2,717,720**	**-**	**346,273**	**110,000**	**3,063,993**	**110,000**	**2,860,500**	**63,544**
Of which:								
AME Charges	-	-	90,000	110,000	90,000	110,000	(6,526)	63,544
Police and Fire Superannuation	2,717,720	-	256,273	-	2,973,993	-	2,867,026	-
Total Spending in AME	**2,717,720**	**-**	**346,273**	**110,000**	**3,063,993**	**110,000**	**2,860,500**	**63,544**
Total	**17,325,693**	**931,299**	**5,302,799**	**578,474**	**22,628,492**	**1,509,773**	**21,716,870**	**1,234,249**
Of which:								
Voted expenditure	17,325,693	931,299	5,302,799	578,474	22,628,492	1,509,773	21,716,870	1,234,249

Trust statement

Introduction to the Trust Statement

Accounting Officer's Foreword to the Trust Statement

I am pleased to present the foreword to the Home Office Trust Statement.

This Statement provides an account of revenues collected which by statute or convention are due to the Consolidated Fund[81] where the Home Office undertakes the collection acting as agent rather than principal. The legislative requirement for the Statement is set out in the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921.

We fully acknowledge our responsibility to administer these revenues efficiently and fairly, and to pursue the amounts due so as to minimise the loss of revenue to the Exchequer where debt cannot be collected.

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

Scope of the Trust Statement

An accounts direction, issued by HM Treasury on 14 December 2023, in accordance with Section 2 of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921, requires the Home Office to prepare a Trust Statement for the financial year ended 31 March 2024. The Trust Statement must report the revenue and other income collected by the Department and payable into the Consolidated Fund (other than the Immigration Health Charge as explained below).

For the Home Office, this revenue comprises:

- Immigration Skills Charge (ISC)
- Consular fees associated with the issuing of passports and visas
- Fines for breaches of immigration law (civil penalties)

Immigration charges

Immigration Skills Charge

The Immigration Skills Charge Regulation 2017 came into force in April 2017 and requires persons licenced by the Secretary of State to assign certificates of sponsorship to skilled workers to pay a charge (the Immigration Skills Charge) to the Secretary of State. The charge was put in place to encourage employers to recruit more talent from the UK labour market rather than relying on workers from abroad.

The amount of the charge depends on the size of the organisation, if the sponsor is a small or charitable organisation, the charge is at a lower rate. The amount of the charge also varies depending on the

81 The Consolidated Fund is the central account administered by HM Treasury, which receives the proceeds of taxation and makes issues to fund Supply Services

period of employment, with set rates of charge applying for the period of prospective employment ranging from 12 months or less and up to 60 months. A refund of all or part of the charge may be made where, for example, a worker leaves their job early, is refused a visa, or withdraws their application.

The Department, as part of its visa process, collects the Immigration Skills Charge. The charge is payable by people who are sponsoring applications for a visa to work in the UK for six months or more under a Skilled Worker visa for skilled workers. This can be either as a general visa or as an intra-company transfer visa.

Operational costs incurred by the Department in the collection of this charge, as agreed with HM Treasury, are attributed to and reported in the Trust Statement.

Immigration Health Surcharge

The Immigration Health Surcharge was introduced by the government in 2015. It is intended to fund healthcare from the National Health Service that migrants requiring a UK visa will have access to. HM Treasury has directed that the revenue received for the collection of the Immigration Health Surcharge is reported in the Home Office Resource Accounts, and not in the Trust Statement.

Consular fees

Consular fees are an element of UK passport fees relating to consular protection services provided by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) worldwide. These fees are not retained by the Home Office and are remitted to HM Treasury as Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts.

The part of the UK passport fee for these consular services is £16.32 per adult standard passport, £4.47 per child passport and £24.22 per jumbo passport (for passports issued both in the UK and overseas, from January 2023).

Civil Penalties

There are a range of Civil Penalties levied by the Home Office that when collected are payable into the Consolidated Fund. These are principally:

- where investigations establish individuals have been found to be working in breach of employment restrictions.
- where investigations establish landlords have let a property to a person disqualified from renting in breach of the Immigration Act 2014.
- whereby passengers arrive in the UK who are not properly documented, under Section 40 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- whereby goods vehicles have not been adequately secured against unauthorised access or are found to be carrying clandestine entrants.

The Trust Statement is prepared in compliance with all relevant accounting and disclosure requirements given in Managing Public Money and other guidance issued by HM Treasury. This includes the Government Financial Reporting Manual and the principles underlying it as well as International Financial Reporting Standards as adapted or interpreted for the public sector.

Our Performance

This Trust Statement shows that gross revenues for the Consolidated Fund have increased from £726 million in 2022-23 to £808 million in 2023-24. The contributing factors are increases in revenue from Immigration Skills Charge and Civil Penalties, which has been offset with a slight decrease in Passport Consular Fees shown under "Other Income".

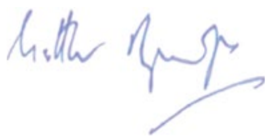
The expenditure that the Home Office set-off against revenues was £48 million in 2023-24, compared to £41 million in 2022-23. The increase of expenditure, in particular discounts, credit losses, costs of collection and retained income, is directly linked to the increase in Civil Penalty and Immigration Skills Charge income.

The Department undertook a review of its receivables in 2023-24, as done in prior years, to consider debts that are irrecoverable. Accordingly, there has been a further increase in the expected credit loss (ECL) provision (see note 3.3 in the Notes to the accounts) of £12.6 million in 2023-24, compared with £10 million in 2022-23. Debts amounting to £8.4 million were written off during the year (£11.1 million in 2022-23).

Other expenditure has increased from £31 million in 2022-23 to £36 million in 2023-24, which has been assisted by the increase in Immigrations Skills Charge and Civil Penalties revenue.

The cash position has decreased from £238 million to £228 million. Since 2020-21 regular monthly remittances are being made to HM Treasury of amounts due to the Consolidated Fund, and the balance at the year-end represents the last two months' activity (payable early in 2024-25), plus an allowance for unpaid debtors, which are not payable until received in cash.

During 2023-24 there has been a significant increase in demand of Immigration Skills Charge which has resulted in an increase in income. Overall civil penalties have increased which can be attributed to: an increase in illegal working enforcement activity; amendments in legislation to increase the maximum level of hauliers penalty; and a new type of hauliers civil penalty being introduced. Consular Protection Fee income has decreased due to a lack of latent demand.



Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

Our controls and governance

Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities

Under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921, HM Treasury has directed the Home Office to prepare, for each financial year, a Trust Statement ("the Statement") in the form and on the basis set out in the Accounts Direction. The Statement is to be prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the duties, fees and taxes, and of the collection of fines and penalties and of the related expenditure and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the Statement, the Accounting Officer is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) and in particular to:[82]

- Observe the Accounts Direction issued by Treasury, including relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis.
- Make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis.
- Have taken all steps that ought to have been taken to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the entity's auditors are aware of that information, and that they are not aware of any relevant information of which the entity's auditors are unaware of.
- State whether applicable accounting standards, as set out in the FReM have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the accounts.
- Prepare the Statement on a going concern basis.
- Confirm that the Statement, as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and take personal responsibility for the Statement and the judgments required for determining that it is fair, balanced and understandable.

HM Treasury has appointed the Permanent Secretary of the Department as Accounting Officer of the Home Office.

The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the Accounting Officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and for safeguarding the assets of the Department are set out in Managing Public Money published by HM Treasury.[83]

Governance Statement

As the Accounting Officer, I am responsible for ensuring there is an effective process in place for monitoring and reporting governance issues during the year. I am supported by Directors General and Directors who have delegated financial and risk management authority appropriate to their responsibilities.

The Home Office operates and follows the principles of good governance in accordance with HM Treasury guidance. The Governance Statement, which covers all aspects of the Home Office, including those reported here in this Trust Statement, is provided in the Accountability Report section of this report.

82 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-financial-reporting-manual-2022-23
83 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-public-money

Auditors

The Statement is audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921. The notional fee for this audit service is £100,000 (2022-23: £100,000), which is included in the Home Office Resource accounts. No non-audit work was carried out by the auditors.

So far as I am aware, there is no relevant information of which the auditors are unaware. I have taken all steps that I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the House of Commons

Opinion on financial statements

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Home Office Trust Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024 under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921.

The financial statements comprise: the Name of audited entity's

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024;
- Statement of Revenue, Statement of Other Income and Expenditure, and for the year then ended; and
- the related notes including the significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Home Office Trust Statement's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and its net revenue for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921 and HM Treasury directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects, the income and expenditure recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

Basis for opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs UK), applicable law and Practice Note 10 *Audit of Financial Statements and Regularity of Public Sector Bodies in the United Kingdom (2022)*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of my certificate.

Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's Revised Ethical Standard 2019. I am independent of the Home Office in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK. My staff and I have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the Home Office's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Home Office's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Accounting Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this certificate.

The going concern basis of accounting for the Home Office is adopted in consideration of the requirements set out in HM Treasury's Government Financial Reporting Manual, which requires entities to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements where it is anticipated that the services which they provide will continue into the future.

Other information

The other information comprises information included in the 'Introduction to the Trust Statement', 'Our Performance' and 'Our Controls and Governance' sections, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's certificate and report thereon. The Accounting Officer is responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my certificate, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion the part of the Remuneration and Staff Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921.

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the sections titled 'Introduction to the Trust Statement', 'Our Performance' and 'Our Controls and Governance' for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and is in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which I report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Home Office and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the sections titled 'Introduction to the Trust Statement', 'Our Performance' and 'Our Controls and Governance'.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Home Office or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my staff; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- the Governance Statement does not reflect compliance with HM Treasury's guidance.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities, the Accounting Officer is responsible for:

- maintaining proper accounting records;
- providing the C&AG with access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
- providing the C&AG with additional information and explanations needed for his audit;
- providing the C&AG with unrestricted access to persons within the Home Office from whom the auditor determines it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
- ensuring such internal controls are in place as deemed necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements to be free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view and are in accordance with HM Treasury directions issued under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921; and
- assessing the Home Office's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Accounting Officer anticipates that the services provided by the Home Office will not continue to be provided in the future.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My responsibility is to audit, certify and report on the financial statements in accordance with the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a certificate that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud

I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud. The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud is detailed below.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, I:

- considered the nature of the sector, control environment and operational performance including the design of the Home Office's accounting policies,
- inquired of management, the Home Office's head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to the Home Office's policies and procedures on:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations including the Home Office's controls relating to the Home Office's compliance with the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921, Managing Public Money and relevant legislation relating to levies, fines and penalties issued by the Home Office;
- inquired of management, the Home Office's head of internal audit and those charged with governance whether:
  - they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - they had knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud,
- discussed with the engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, I considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Home Office Trust Statement for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas: revenue recognition, posting of unusual journals, complex transactions, bias in management estimates and the significant accounting estimate on the impairment of civil and immigration penalty debts. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), I am required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

I obtained an understanding of the Home Office Trust Statement's framework of authority and other legal and regulatory frameworks in which the Home Office Trust Statement operates. I focused on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Home Office Trust Statement. The key laws and regulations I considered in this context included Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921, Managing Public Money and relevant legislation relating to levies, fines and penalties charged by the Home Office.

Audit response to identified risk

To respond to the identified risks resulting from the above procedures:

- I reviewed the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described above as having direct effect on the financial statements;
- I enquired of management and the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- I reviewed minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the Board; and internal audit reports;
- I addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements on estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business;
- I extended my substantive testing on the Immigration Skills charge as the income stream most susceptible to fraud in revenue recognition, confirming the sample had been accounted for correctly; and
- I have considered the appropriateness and reasonableness of the assumptions used in the impairment of the civil penalty debt, tested a sample of data input in the impairment model, and reviewed the sensitivity analysis performed by management to identify any management bias or indication of fraud.

I communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential risks of fraud to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my certificate.

Other auditor’s responsibilities

I am required to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to give reasonable assurance that the expenditure and income recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control I identify during my audit.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

Gareth Davies

Comptroller and Auditor General

29 July 2024

National Audit Office
157-197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London
SW1W 9SP

Statement of Revenue, Other Income and Expenditure

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Levies and Similar Revenue			
Immigration Skills Charge	2.1	667,798	586,029
Total Levies and Similar Revenue		**667,798**	**586,029**
Fines and Penalties			
Illegal Workers Civil Penalties	2.2	28,059	18,573
Hauliers Civil Penalties	2.2	15,277	5,407
Carriers Civil Penalties	2.2	3,224	4,941
Landlords Civil Penalties	2.2	272	44
Total Fines and Penalties		**46,832**	**28,965**
Other Income			
Duties and Fees	2.3	93,432	110,974
Total Other Income		**93,432**	**110,974**
Total Revenue and Other Income		**808,062**	**725,968**
Expenditure			
Discounts		3,014	1,983
Credit losses - increase/(decrease) in impairment of receivables	3.2	12,554	9,960
Element retained		19,000	16,921
Costs of collection		13,497	12,196
Administration costs		151	102
Total Expenditure		**48,216**	**41,162**
Net Revenue for the Consolidated Fund	6	**759,846**	**684,806**

There were no recognised gains or losses accounted for outside the above Statement of Revenue, Other Income and Expenditure.

Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	3.1	11,711	1,065
Cash and cash equivalents	4	228,001	238,348
Total current assets		**239,712**	**239,413**
Current liabilities			
Contract Liabilities	5	(37,591)	(49,758)
Trade and other payables	5	(38,277)	(12,056)
Total current liabilities		**(75,868)**	**(61,814)**
Net Assets		**163,844**	**177,599**
Balance on the Consolidated Fund Account	6	**163,844**	**177,599**

Sir Matthew Rycroft KCMG CBE

Accounting Officer

29 July 2024

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Net cash flow from operating activities	A	**763,254**	**696,876**
Cash paid to the Consolidated Fund	6	(773,601)	(604,957)
Increase / (decrease) in cash in this period	B	**(10,347)**	**91,919**
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement			
A: Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Net revenue for the Consolidated Fund	6	759,846	684,806
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	3	(10,646)	6,560
Increase / (decrease) in payables	5	14,054	5,510
Net cash flows from operating activities		**763,254**	**696,876**
B: Analysis of Changes in Net Funds			
Increase / (decrease) in cash in this period	4	(10,347)	91,919
Net funds at 1 April (Net cash at bank)	4	238,348	146,429
Net funds at 31 March (Closing Balance)		**228,001**	**238,348**
The following balances as at 31 March were held at:			
Government Banking Services	4	228,001	238,348
Total cash balances		**228,001**	**238,348**

Notes to the Trust Statement

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Trust Statement is prepared in accordance with the:

- 2023-24 Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury. The accounting policies contained in the FReM apply International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as interpreted for the public sector.
- Accounts Direction issued by HM Treasury on 14 December 2023 under Section 2 of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1921, specifying the three income streams which are in-scope, for this Trust Statement:

Sponsoring Department	Income Stream
Home Office	i) **Immigration Skills Charge** ii) The consular element of **Passport Fees** iii) **Civil Penalties** collected in respect of four "Profile Classes", namely: Illegal Workers, Hauliers, Carriers, and Landlords, net of discounts for prompt payment as appropriate, any allowance for uncollectible amounts measured in accordance with IFRS 9.

The income and associated expenditure contained in these statements are those flows of funds which the Home Office handles on behalf of the Consolidated Fund, that is, where it is acting as agent, rather than as principal.

The financial information contained in the statements and in the notes is rounded to the nearest £000.

1.2 Changes in accounting policies and disclosures

There has been no change in accounting policy in the reporting period.

1.3 Accounting convention

The Trust Statement has been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of the accounts in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates (see note 1.9). It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the accounting policies.

The income and associated expenditure recognised in these statements reflects those flows of funds which the Home Office receives and surrenders, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Consolidated Fund and other entities. As directed by HM Treasury, the income and associated expenditure relating to the Immigration Health Surcharge continues to be reported in the Home Office Resource Accounts even though these funds are also received by the Home Office and surrendered, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Consolidated Fund.

1.4 Revenue recognition

Levies and penalties are measured in accordance with IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. They are measured at the fair value of amounts received or receivable net of repayments. Revenue is recognised when:

An event to which a levy or similar charge has occurred (i.e. the supply of a visa or passport).

A penalty is validly imposed and an obligation to pay arises.

The Home Office, in its Trust Statement, recognises revenue from three main forms of income: levies and similar revenue, fines and penalties, and duties and fees.

The table below sets out, for each income stream reported within the Trust Statement, when performance obligations are typically satisfied, the significant payment terms, and the nature of the goods or services supplied. All income streams usually have a contract duration of one year or less, and therefore the transaction price allocated to remaining performance obligations is not disclosed, applying the practical expedient in IFRS 15.121.

Contract liabilities (deferred revenue) primarily relate to the consideration received from customers in advance of transferring a good or service.

There are no contract assets held within the Trust Statement. Of the three income streams within the Trust Statement, only Immigration Skills Charges have contract liabilities. Civil penalties and consular fees have no contract liabilities.

1.5 Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Home Office becomes a party to the contractual provisions of an instrument.

Income Stream	Description of Income Stream	Performance Obligation	Payment Terms
Immigration Skills Charges	A fee levied on businesses who are sponsors of skilled overseas workers recruited to work in the UK.	On delivery of application decision to the customer	Payment in advance
Consular Fees	Fee for the supply of passports and other services by HM Passport Office	On delivery of the passport to the customer	Payment in advance
Civil Penalties	Recovery of civil penalty	The powers of the Home Office to recover this income is set out in legislation. Income is recognised when a penalty is issued.	Penalty payment by legislation

1.6 Financial assets

For the purposes of this Trust Statement, the Home Office holds financial assets (see note 7) in the following categories:

- Receivables held at amortised cost
- Cash and cash equivalents

Both receivables and cash and cash equivalents are held at amortised cost following the adoption of IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments'. Amortised costs entail valuing Statement of Financial Position items based on expected cash flows, adjusted for impairment in accordance with the requirements of the FReM and IFRS 9. IFRS 9 allows a practical expedient called a provision matrix to be used to measure impairment losses, (see 1.9 below).

Receivables held at amortised cost comprise:

- Illegal workers civil penalties, the amounts due from individuals and companies in breach of employment restrictions for which, at the financial year end, payments have not been received.
- Civil penalties levied against landlords in breach of the Immigration Act 2014, amounts for which payments have not been received at the financial year end.
- Civil penalties levied against individuals and companies for the carriage of clandestine entrants, or failure to secure a goods vehicle in breach of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, amounts for which payments have not been received at the financial year end.
- Civil penalties levied against carriers in breach of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, amounts for which payments have not been received at the financial year end.

The present value of receivables is determined by making an assessment to reduce the carrying value of receivables to the estimated future flow of repayments, using our judgement on likely debt collection rates, discounted at HM Treasury's discount rate currently at 2.05% (2022-23: 1.9%). IFRS 9 as applied in the public sector (in accordance with the FReM), requires that the higher of the effective interest rate (0% in this case) and 2.05% be used for 2023-24, for non-indexed linked financial instruments.

Cash and cash equivalents comprise current balances with banks and other financial institutions, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value and have an original maturity of three months or less.

1.7 Financial liabilities

For the purposes of this Trust Statement, the Home Office holds financial liabilities (see note 7) in the following categories: Payables, and contract liabilities.

Payables

Payables in the Statement of Financial Position are amounts established as due at the reporting date, but where payment is made subsequently. Payables are amounts relating to Immigration Skills Charges refunds which have not yet been processed at the reporting date. Since these balances are expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date there is no material difference between fair value, amortised cost and historical cost.

Contract Liabilities (see note 1.4).

Contract liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position are amounts relating to Immigration Skills Charges recorded as payments in advance at the reporting date, until such time when either a visa is delivered, or an application decision is made to the customer.

A cash component for the Immigration Skills Charge is received as part of the sponsorship visa application being lodged. The revenue for the Immigration Skills Charge is deferred until a decision is made regarding the outcome of the visa application. At this point, a transfer is made from deferred income to earned income, or alternatively, a refund is given to the applicant removing the amount of the refund from deferred income.

1.8 Receivables

Receivables are shown net of impairments in accordance with the requirements of IFRS 9.

Each class of debt has been assessed separately, using performance reports to provide data concerning recoverability, and the time for debt to be repaid.

Receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted on any market. Receivables are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired.

1.9 Critical accounting judgements and estimates

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. When preparing the Trust Statement, the Home Office makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will rarely equal the actual results. The only key estimate in the Trust Statement is the impairment of immigration civil penalty debt addressed below.

Impairment of debt and credit losses
Receivables are shown net of impairments, in accordance with the requirements of the FReM and IFRS 9.

Under IFRS 9, allowances are made for credit losses on an 'expected loss' basis. The amortised cost of receivables is determined by making an impairment to reduce the carrying value of receivables to the estimated future flow of repayments, which is dependent on ongoing collection rates over the previous six years. The current year's impairment has been calculated based on a provision matrix, which uses 'lifetime expected credit losses' to measure impairment losses for each class of civil penalty debt. The lifetime of a civil penalty is expected to be six years, at which point recovery of the debt is deemed as 'statute-barred', meaning it is no longer legally enforceable owing to a prescribed period of limitation being six years having now lapsed since the penalty was raised.

1.10 Cash

Consular fees income is recorded at the same time as cash is received. Immigration Skills Charges income is recorded when a visa decision is made. For civil penalties, the determination of cash received is calculated by the increase or decrease in the Receivable balance, adjusted by the in-year income. Expenses incurred in the production of the Trust Statement are deemed paid in cash. Surrendering of Consolidated Fund Receipts to HM Treasury are made in cash at regular intervals throughout the year.

1.11 Trust Statement Expenses

Discounts
The amount of a civil penalty imposed can be reduced by 30% where payment is received in full within 21 days. There are also circumstances where the penalty imposed is reduced on appeal. The amount paid into the Consolidated Fund is net of any prompt payment discount and net of any reduction decision made on appeal.

Costs of Collection
Costs of collection include bank charges relating to the payment handling charges associated with collecting the Immigration Skills Charge including the recharge of the cost of staff involved.

Payment handling charges associated with the Immigration Skills Charge are estimated based on the proportional split between the visa sponsorship fee and the Immigration Skills Charge.

Administration Costs
Administration costs relate to the costs incurred in producing and preparing the Trust Statement, and supporting the associated audit, such as staff costs and publication costs.

1.12 Retained Income

£19 million has been retained from the total Civil Penalty Income (2022-23: £17 million), by agreement with HMT (Spending Review 2021). Retained income is calculated as Civil Penalty Income, less discounts, credit losses and administration costs, up to the maximum of £19 million. We estimate the proportion of Civil Penalty Income against which cash has been received in the year and which is still receivable, using available reports and assumptions based on past performance.

1.13 International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) that have been issued but are not yet effective

IFRS 17: Insurance Contracts
IFRS 17 is the new accounting standard for Insurance Contracts and aims to make risk transfer contracts more comparable between entities.

The standard sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts within the scope and replaces the previous standard IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts.

The new standard is being applied by HM Treasury in the FReM from 1 April 2025 (with limited options for early adoption). No material impact is anticipated from this standard.

2. Revenue and other income

2.1 Levies and similar revenues

The Immigration Skills Charge was introduced in April 2017 as a result of changes under the Immigration Act, 2016. The Immigration Skills Charge levies employers who employ migrants in skilled areas and is collected as part of the Skilled Worker visa applications. This income is not retained by the Home Office and is remitted to HM Treasury as Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts.

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
2.1 Levies and Similar Revenue		
Immigration Skills Charge	667,798	586,029
Total levies and similar revenues	**667,798**	**586,029**

The Immigration Skills Charge is levied as part of the process to apply for Skilled Worker visas and accounted for as deferred income until the visa application has been properly considered by the Home Office. If that consideration determines that the visa application is declined, the Immigration Skills Charge levy is refunded and removed from deferred income. If the consideration approves the visa application, the income is recognised as earned.

2.2 Fines and penalties

Immigration Civil Penalties are levied on individuals and business for a range of reasons, such as; working or employing individuals working without permission to enter or remain in the UK; carrying clandestine entrants or failure to secure vehicles to prevent unauthorised access by clandestine entrants; failure to comply with aviation information requirements; and renting to individuals without the right to rent in the UK. In 2023-24, the Department retained £19 million of this income (see also note 1.12).

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
2.2 Fines and Penalties:		
Illegal Workers Civil Penalties	28,059	18,573
Hauliers Civil Penalties	15,277	5,407
Carriers Civil Penalties	3,224	4,941
Landlords Civil Penalties	272	44
Total fines and penalties	**46,832**	**28,965**

2.3 Other Income

Consular fees are an element of Passport fees relating to consular protection services provided by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) worldwide. These fees are not retained by the Home Office and are remitted to HM Treasury as Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts.

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
2.1 Other Income		
Passport Consular Fees	93,432	110,974
Total other income	**93,432**	**110,974**

The amount of the consular services element of the Passport fee is set within the Passport (fees) Regulations. The Consular services element is recognised in the same way and as part of the same process as the Passport fee income – recognised when services and goods are issued. The monies collected for Consular Services are paid over periodically to the Consolidated Fund, but not at the time of collecting each fee.

3. Receivables

3.1 Amounts due at 31 March 2024

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
3.1 Amounts falling due within one year:		
Receivables before impairment	78,825	64,057
Estimated impairments	(67,114)	(62,992)
Receivables net book value at 31 March	**11,711**	**1,065**

Receivables represent the amounts due from individuals and businesses on whom financial penalties have been imposed prior to, and remain unpaid as at, 31 March 2024.

Receivables on the Statement of Financial Position are reported after the deduction of the estimated value of impairments, using an ECL model (see Note 3.3).

3.2 Credit losses

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
3.2 Credit Losses		
Increase / (decrease) in the value of impairment (see 3.3 below)	12,554	9,960
Total Credit Losses / (Gains)	**12,554**	**9,960**

3.3 Change to impairment of receivables

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
3.3 Change to Impairment of Receivables		
Balance at 1 April	62,992	64,177
Debts written off, offset against provision	(8,432)	(11,145)
Net remeasurement	12,554	9,960
Balance at 31 March	**67,114**	**62,992**

Debts are written off when the debtor is dissolved, bankrupt or in liquidation and the debt is deemed irrecoverable through any further means, or the debt is deemed as ‘statute-barred’.

The table over sets out the series of actions that the Home Office undertakes as part of its debt management procedures before considering that a debt has become irrecoverable:

Income Stream	Initial Activity	Further Action	Final Action
Illegal Workers Civil Penalties (IWCP) and Landlords	Home Office Shared Services undertake initial phone calls to promote a faster payment option of 30% discount if the debt is paid within 28 days. Where the debt is not paid and becomes overdue, cases then flow through to the Debt Management Services (DMS) collections contract for further recovery actions.	Where Shared Services have been unsuccessful in collecting debts, cases are placed with a Debt Recovery Agent (as part of the Home Office DMS contract) for Pre-legal and then Legal debt recovery action. This consists of calls, texts and letters to debtors in attempts to obtain either full repayment or repayment plans. Uncollected debt, once all Pre-legal, Legal and potential Litigation action has been considered, is returned to us to consider for Write-Off.	Write Off consideration - A check is performed on the company, to confirm if still trading, and a decision is then reached regarding write-offs.
Hauliers	Home Office Shared Services undertake initial collections activities to recover the debt. The Clandestine Entrants Civil Penalty Team will also place the vehicle related to the fine on the Vehicle Action List (VAL). CECPT run BAU targeting activities six days a week, intercepting companies and vehicles on the VAL and holding the vehicles until payment is made. If payment is not made the vehicle will be detained and sold. Where the debt is not paid through both of the above methods and there remains an outstanding amount, the case will then flow through to the Debt Management Services (DMS) collections contract for further recovery actions.	Targeted lists of repeat offenders and large unpaid debts are shared with specialist teams and targeted via joint Border Force/Police operations, detaining vehicles, and obtaining payment.	Aged Debt process: once a debt is approaching six years since issue a review is performed, with checks where possible to confirm if the company is still trading/travelling and a decision is then reached regarding write offs.
Carriers Liaison	Home Office Shared Services undertake all debt collection activity, up to the 90-day stage.	If debt collection is unsuccessful the debt is returned to the business area after 90 days, for additional recovery attempts, for which there is an established process. If all stages are exhausted, referral to the Government Legal Department (GLD) is considered.	If referral to GLD is not appropriate, the debt is considered by the business area for write off.

The debt impairment or provision balance has increased from £63 million in 2022-23 to £67 million in 2023-24. The provision model estimates “expected credit losses”, based on the average of individual historical debtor performance over the previous six years.

IFRS 9 requires year-end financial accounts to adopt an expected credit loss (ECL) approach. This means that debt provisions must be adjusted for expected losses, such as non-payment.

Under IFRS 9, this impairment loss estimation can be measured using a provision matrix, which calculates the ECL for each segment of civil debt using the historical loss experience for each segment. Debt collection data for the previous six years, for both Illegal Workers and Hauliers Civil Penalties, prior to the balance sheet date has been used, to estimate the expected future flow of repayments.

The estimated future ECL is discounted at HM Treasury’s discount rate currently at 2.05% (2022-23: 1.9%).

A Macroeconomic Overlay is produced by the Home Office Central Economics Unit which looks at macro-economic relationships, and the extent to which the future macro-economic environment may impact the propensity to settle unpaid fines. From 2020-21 to 2022-23, Macroeconomic Overlay was applied as additional impairment on the top of the ECL calculated by HO Finance. In financial year 2023-24, the Home Office Central Economics Unit found no significant relationship between the macroeconomic indicators and civil penalty repayments and hence no macroeconomic overlay has been applied to the ECL.

The estimated future flow of repayments after taking ECL into consideration is then deducted from the debt outstanding at the balance sheet date, to calculate the estimated impairment provision.

Because of the degree of uncertainty in developing these estimates, we have used sensitivity analysis to show a range of potential outcomes. Further detail is included in note 7.2 (a).

4. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023-24	**2022-23**
	£000	**£000**
Balance at 1 April	238,348	146,429
Net change in cash and cash equivalent balances	(10,347)	91,919
Balance at 31 March	**228,001**	**238,348**
The following balances at 31 March were held at:		
Government Banking Service	228,001	238,348
Total	**228,001**	**238,348**

5. Payables and contract liabilities

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
Contract liabilities	37,591	49,758
Payables	38,277	12,056
Total payables and contract liabilities at 31 March	**75,868**	**61,814**

Payables represent Immigration Skills Charge refunds which are due but not yet paid.

Contract liabilities represent revenue for the Immigration Skills Charge as deferred until a decision is made regarding the outcome of the visa application. The following table provides an analysis on significant changes to contract liabilities during the year.

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
Contract Liabilities		
Balance at 1 April	(49,758)	(50,772)
Decrease due to revenue recognised in year	667,798	586,029
Increase due to cash received in advance and not recognised as revenue in year	(655,631)	(585,015)
Balance at 31 March	**(37,591)**	**(49,758)**
Presented within:		
Current	(37,591)	(49,758)

6. Balance on the consolidated fund account

	2023-24	2022-23
	£000	£000
Balance on the Consolidated Fund at 1 April	177,599	97,750
Net Revenue for the Consolidated Fund	759,846	684,806
Amounts Paid to the Consolidated Fund	(773,601)	(604,957)
Balance on the Consolidated Fund at 31 March	**163,844**	**177,599**

7. Financial instruments

7.1 Classification and categorisation of financial instruments

	Note	2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Financial Assets			
Cash	4	228,001	238,348
Civil penalties receivables	3	11,711	1,065
Total financial assets		**239,712**	**239,413**
Financial Liabilities			
Payables and contract liabilities	5	(75,868)	(61,814)
Total financial liabilities		**(75,868)**	**(61,814)**

On behalf of the Consolidated Fund, the Home Office is party to financial instrument arrangements as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments include bank accounts, receivables and payables.

IFRS 7, 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures', requires disclosure of the role that financial instruments have had during the year in creating or changing risks an entity faces in the course of its operations.

As the Home Office is acting as agent on behalf of the Consolidated Fund in collecting levies, fines and penalties and similar revenues and surrendering these funds when received, it cannot incur losses through the Trust Statement.

Write-offs and impairment charges disclosed in the Income and Expenditure Statement reflect the non-recoverability of gross debt since the Home Office obligation to surrender financial penalties is limited to the amount it is able to collect in revenue.

The Home Office, on behalf of the Consolidated Fund and other parties, has no requirement to borrow or invest surplus funds. As such, the Home Office, in its capacity as agent, is not exposed to the degrees of financial or market risk facing a business entity acting as principal.

7.2 Risk exposure to financial instruments

a) Carrying amount and fair values

The fair value of cash balances approximates to their carrying amount, largely owing to the short-term maturity of this financial instrument (less than three months).

The amortised cost of receivables is determined by making an impairment to reduce the carrying value of receivables, to the net present value of the estimated future flow of repayments, discounted at the Treasury rate of 2.05% (2022-23: 1.9%).

The impact of a change in the discount rate is reflected in the table below:

		2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Change in Discount Rate			
Projected Cash Collections	+1%	(2,199)	(112)
Projected Cash Collections	-1%	2,078	115

The key assumption behind the impairment provision is that the estimated future flow of repayments reflects historical trends.

The table below is a sensitivity analysis showing the impact on trade receivables across alternative assumptions:

Increase / (decrease) in net receivables		2023-24	2022-23
		£000	£000
Change in Assumption			
Projected Cash Collections	+40%	4,984	3,159
Projected Cash Collections	+30%	3,738	2,370
Projected Cash Collections	+20%	2,492	1,580
Projected Cash Collections	+10%	1,246	790
Projected Cash Collections	+5%	623	395
Projected Cash Collections	-5%	(623)	(395)
Projected Cash Collections	-10%	(1,246)	(790)
Projected Cash Collections	-20%	(2,492)	(1,580)
Projected Cash Collections	-30%	(3,738)	(2,370)
Projected Cash Collections	-40%	(4,984)	(3,159)

b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Home Office, on behalf of the Consolidated Fund and other parties, will encounter difficulty raising liquid funds to meet commitments as they fall due. The Home Office is obliged to surrender only those funds that it has collected and banked and, as such, in its capacity as agent, does not have significant liquidity risk.

c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to the Home Office on behalf of the Consolidated Fund and other parties, thereby causing the Consolidated Fund and other parties, for whom the Home Office acts as agent, to incur a loss. Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and receivables. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the balance sheet date is:

	£000	£000
Cash at bank	228,001	238,348
Trade and other receivables	11,711	1,065
Total	**239,712**	**239,413**

Cash at bank comprises liquid bank balances held with commercial banks, which are all administered through the GBS.

The size of the risk inherent within the trade receivables balance (shown net of impairment above) is reflected in the receivables impairment which totals £67 million in 2023-24 (£63 million in 2022-23)). The Home Office, through the Governance and Risk management structures outlined in the Governance Statement, continues to assess and implement programmes to increase collection of receivables.

d) Currency risk and interest rate risk

There is no exposure to currency risk as all fees, charges and penalties are imposed, collected and payable in sterling. The Home Office Trust Statement has no exposure to interest rate risk.

8. Related party transactions

In relation to this Trust Statement, the Home Office has had transactions with HM Treasury and the Exchequer relating to payments made into the Consolidated Fund.

Ministers' interests are declared and maintained through the Register of Members' Interests at the House of Commons and the Register of Lords' Interest at the House of Lords.

Board members and key senior management staff are subject to a standard annual interests' review, stating whether they, their spouses or close family members have been in a position of influence or control in organisations with which the Home Office has transactions. Further detail is included in the Home Office Resource Accounts.

9. Events after the reporting period

There were no significant events after the reporting period that require disclosure.

In accordance with the requirements of IAS 10 Events After the Reporting Period, events are considered up to the date on which the accounts are authorised for issue.

The date the Accounts are authorised for issue is interpreted as the same date the Accounts are certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

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