

Classification **PUBLIC**

Meeting **February 13, 2012**

Agenda Item **Cost of Policing Services Ends Report: 2010
Results**



Recommended Motion:

THAT the Board find that all provisions of the Cost of Policing Services Ends Policy have been complied with.

I hereby submit my report on your Ends Policy “Cost of Policing Services” according to the schedule set out. I certify that the information contained in this report is true.

Signed: _____
Chief of Police

Date: _____

Policy Statement

Policing is a critical public service, and an expensive one for the taxpayer. Financial resources must be treated with great respect and diligence, and the potential for efficiencies examined continually.

It is the policy of the Durham Regional Police Services Board that policing shall be provided at a competitive cost, relative to the following similar communities in Ontario:

- Halton,
- Hamilton,
- Niagara
- Ottawa,
- Peel,
- Toronto,
- Waterloo, and
- York.

Reporting

The following measures will be considered in an assessment of policing costs:

- Cost per police officer
- Cost per police member (officers and civilians)
- Cost per capita

The Chief shall report annually on this policy.

Chief's Interpretation:

It is my interpretation that the Board End of Costs of Police Services is directly related to 4 (1) (3) of the *Police Services Act* which imposes a duty on municipalities to provide adequate and effective police services in accordance with its needs, and the associated infrastructure and administration necessary for providing such services.

It is my interpretation that the Board, in developing the three year business plan will take into consideration the costs of providing those essential services as outlined in Sec 4 (2) (3) of the *PSA*, and the budgeted costs associated with other services or programs that are deemed to be within the purview of the Service. The Service is required to examine the potential for efficiencies as part of the business planning and budgeting process.

It is my interpretation that assessing cost effectiveness in policing involves annual reporting in relation to cost per capita, cost per police member (civilian and sworn) and cost per police officer. These measures will be derived from the Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) reports which provide historical reporting based a standard methodology for all municipal contributors.

It is my interpretation that a competitive cost is one which is similar in quantity to the comparator services and/or to the average of those services.

Data in Support:

The Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) is a voluntary organization sponsored by the Chief Administrative Officers of a number of Ontario Municipalities in which the Region of Durham is an active participant. Police Services are represented on an OMBI Expert Panel which reviews and advises on performance measures to be compiled, compared and analyzed to aid in improving the provision of services to the public. The OMBI data will be used to assess DRPS compliance with this Board policy.

The OMBI data for 2010 has been collected and certain of the measures collected will become public in January, 2012. Cost Per Capita is one of those measures. Cost Per Staff Member and Cost Per Police Officer are not publicly reportable so individual municipal results may not be released publicly. We have presented municipal averages compared to Durham to make those comparisons for this report.

Note on Comparator Group: Peel Regional Police decided not to participate in OMBI in 2010 so their results are not available for comparison for 2010.

Cost Per Capita

Rank	PLCE227M	Operating Cost for Police Services per Capita			
	Publicly Reportable:	Yes			
	Priority Measure:	No			
	Municipality	2010 Result	2009 Result	2008 Result	2007 Result
1	Halton	\$216	\$207	\$202	\$193
2	Waterloo	\$217	\$216	\$198	\$190
3	York	\$222	\$213	\$200	\$188
4	Durham	\$241	\$233	\$219	\$208
5	Hamilton	\$264	\$254	\$244	\$230
6	Ottawa	\$271	\$254	\$231	\$227
7	Niagara	\$272	\$285	\$266	\$250
8	Toronto	\$377	\$333	\$317	\$306
9	Peel		\$235	\$225	\$216
	Average	\$260	\$248	\$234	\$223

Conclusion: Durham ranks 4th lowest in cost per capita compared to the Board's comparator group. Durham's cost per capita is 7% lower than the average. The cost per capita is therefore competitive compared to the comparator group.

Cost Per Staff Member

Rank	PLCE320	Police Operating Cost per Total Police Staff (Officers & Civilians)			
	Publicly Reportable: Priority Measure:	No			
	Municipality	2010 Result	2009 Result	2008 Result	2007 Result
5	Durham	\$124,804	\$119,604	\$112,901	\$107,314
	Average	\$124,382	\$118,609	\$113,292	\$109,080

Conclusion: Durham's cost per staff member (total operating costs divided by the number of staff) is average for the comparator group and is therefore competitive.

Cost Per Police Officer

Rank	Calculated	Police Operating Cost per Total Police Officers (Not OMBI Measure) Calculated for Durham Region PSB)	
	Municipality	2010 Result	2009 Result
3	Durham	\$171,945	\$166,863
	Average	\$173,444	\$168,325

Conclusion: Durham's cost per police officer (total operating costs divided by the number of police officers) is competitive at 1% below the average of the comparator group.