

Classification **PUBLIC**

Meeting **March 06, 2018**

Agenda Item **Cost of Policing Services Ends Report: 2016  
Results**



Recommended Motion:

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

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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,
- Peel,
- Toronto,
- Waterloo and
- York.

## **Reporting**

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

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

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) and 4 (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) and 4 (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 competitiveness 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 Municipal Benchmarking Network Canada reports (formerly known as the Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative) which provide historical reporting based on 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 Municipal Benchmarking Network Canada is a voluntary organization sponsored by the Chief Administrative Officers of a number of Canadian Municipalities in which the Region of Durham is an active participant. Police Services are represented on an 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 reported data will be used to assess DRPS compliance with this Board policy.

The reported data for 2016 has been collected and certain of the measures collected became public in November 1, 2017. Cost Per Capita and Cost Per Staff Member are publicly reported. Cost Per Police Officer is not publicly reportable so individual municipal results may not be released publicly. We have presented the municipal average compared to Durham to make that comparison for this report.

**Note on Comparator Group: In 2010, the Peel Regional Police decided to cease participation. As a result, no reported data for Peel is available after 2009.**

## Cost Per Capita

PLCE227M Operating Cost for Police Services (excluding amortization) per Capita						
Publicly Reportable:		Yes				
Priority Measure:		No				
Municipality	2016 Result	2015 Result	2014 Result	2013 Result	2012 Result	
1 Halton	\$240	\$238	\$245	\$250	\$244	
2 York	\$278	\$274	\$264	\$258	\$238	
3 Durham	\$280	\$281	\$270	\$267	\$258	
4 Waterloo	\$292	\$282	\$280	\$258	\$247	
5 Hamilton	\$303	\$301	\$287	\$286	\$286	
6 Niagara	\$343	\$347	\$354	\$351	\$315	
7 Toronto	\$387	\$392	\$383	\$374	\$368	
<b>Average of Municipal Results</b>	<b>\$303</b>	<b>\$302</b>	<b>\$298</b>	<b>\$292</b>	<b>\$279</b>	

**Conclusion:** Durham ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in cost per capita compared to the Board's comparator group. The 2015 operating cost result includes operating costs related to the PanAm games. The result excluding these costs would be \$277 for 2015.

Durham's 2016 cost per capita is 8.4% lower than the average. It is also worth noting that the increase in Durham's Cost Per Capita over the period shown was \$22 dollars, representing the median position between Halton with the lowest growth of -\$4 and Waterloo with the highest at \$45. The cost per capita is therefore competitive compared to the comparator group.

## Cost Per Staff Member

PLCE320 Operating Cost for Police Services (excludes amortization) per Police Staff Member (Officers and Civilians)						
Publicly Reportable:		Yes				
Priority Measure:		No				
Municipality	2016 Result	2015 Result	2014 Result	2013 Result	2012 Result	
1 Halton	\$136,672	\$133,496	\$135,855	\$136,192	\$133,234	
2 Toronto	\$141,070	\$140,682	\$136,578	\$131,563	\$128,155	
3 Hamilton	\$146,717	\$144,230	\$143,236	\$142,738	\$141,660	
4 York	\$148,075	\$146,361	\$141,608	\$139,747	\$129,346	
5 Durham	\$152,615	\$149,864	\$142,065	\$140,128	\$133,464	
6 Niagara	\$155,273	\$155,230	\$155,664	\$153,194	\$137,333	
7 Waterloo	\$155,460	\$149,797	\$146,866	\$135,260	\$130,570	
<b>Average of Municipal Results</b>	<b>\$147,983</b>	<b>\$145,666</b>	<b>\$142,065</b>	<b>\$139,747</b>	<b>\$133,234</b>	

**Conclusion:** Durham's Operating Cost per Police Staff Member in 2016 was \$152,615 which was higher than the average of the comparator group at \$147,983 and represents a 1.8% increase from the 2015 result (3.3% over the 2015 result of \$147,689, excluding operating costs related to the PanAm games).

## Cost Per Police Officer

Computed		Operating Cost for Police Services (excludes amortization) per Police Officer				
Publicly Reportable:		No				
Priority Measure:		No				
Municipality	2016 Result	2015 Result	2014 Result	2013 Result	2012 Result	
5 Durham	\$219,924	\$214,680	\$203,148	\$199,195	\$191,057	
<b>Average of Municipal Results</b>	<b>\$210,551</b>	<b>\$206,714</b>	<b>\$203,200</b>	<b>\$196,976</b>	<b>\$188,073</b>	

**Conclusion:** Durham's cost per police officer (total operating costs divided by the number of police officers) for 2016 was higher than the average of the comparator group. However, Durham's 2016 cost is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest in the comparator group versus being the 6<sup>th</sup> highest in 2015.

**Data Reference – OMBI 5 Year Results Report 2012-2016, for 6 comparators only**