

JURISDICTIONAL SCAN OF POLICE FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION

That the October 3, 2022, Financial and Corporate Services report FCS01332, be received for information.

Requested Council Action		Information only	
ConnectEdmonton's Guiding Principle		ConnectEdmonton Strategic Goals	
CONNECTED This unifies our work as we achieve our strategic goals.		Healthy City	
City Plan Values	LIVE		
City Plan Big City Move(s)	Inclusive and compassionate	Relationship to Council's Strategic Priorities	Conditions for service success
Corporate Business Plan	Serving Edmontonians		
Council Policy, Program or Project Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Edmonton Police Service Funding Formula Policy C604 (suspended)Community Safety and Well-being Strategy		
Related Council Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">OCM00569 Edmonton Police Service Funding Formula Policy C604 Further Analysis - May 18, 2022CR_8453 Community Safety and Well-being Task Force Recommendations - April 6, 2021		

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the June 7/8/10/13, 2022, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration conduct a jurisdictional scan of all current sources of police funding included but not limited to municipal tax supported funding, provincial funding, grants,

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and traffic fines and enforcements funding broken down per capita for comparable municipalities within Canada with over 500,000 population using publicly available data and report back to Council in third quarter 2022.

Executive Summary

- Five municipalities that had similar funding models and publicly available information were selected as relevant comparators for the jurisdictional scan.
- For each selected comparator police service, the key information provided includes: total funding, the amount of funding by source, the source of funding per capita and total per capita amount, and the source funding as a percentage of total funding.
- A number of comparator cities were excluded due to insufficient availability of funding information (often because budgets were determined on a net basis).
- Administration performed the analysis for 2021 as that was the year information was publicly available for all five comparable municipalities.
- Edmonton Police Commission (EPC) provided an analysis of the 10-year (2010 to 2020) average of total revenue through municipal tax-supported funding and found that Edmonton municipal tax support was 81 per cent, compared to the overall average of 86 per cent in the comparator cities. The information provided by EPC was collected through the participation of the identified police jurisdictions.
- Caution should be applied to drawing comparisons between jurisdictions, including the per capita information provided, due to the differences in how each province and municipality manages and funds policing.

REPORT

Administration completed a jurisdictional scan of current publicly available sources of police funding for police services with a population of greater than 500,000 from across Canada. As the level of public data was limited and had several inconsistencies in how funding sources were categorized and reported, Administration was only able to obtain consistent information for five comparator cities for the 2021 year. As a supplement to this information, Administration obtained a 10-year average for the period of 2010 to 2020, from the “Police Budgeting Review” (Attachment 1) report provided by the Edmonton Police Commission (EPC). Administration obtained permission from the Edmonton Police Commission to publish tables 2 and 3 in Attachment 2 as part of this report. Attachment 2 includes the EPC findings, as well as the information related to the jurisdictional scan:

- Table 1 provides details on the funding source as a proportion of total funding, expressed as a percentage for the selected police services.
- Table 2 was provided by the Edmonton Police Commission and provides the 10-year average funding by funding source and a per capita amount for selected police services for the following sources of funding: municipal tax supported funding, provincial funding (including grants), federal and other grants, fees, fines and charges, and other.

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- Table 3 was provided by the Edmonton Police Commission and provides a summary of funding source as a proportion of total funding for other Canadian municipalities with a population over 500,000.

Selection of Comparable Municipalities

To select the comparable police services, Administration used Statistics Canada Table: 35-10-0077-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. The data is derived from the Police Administration Survey and collects data from police services across Canada under the authority of the Statistics Act. All municipal, provincial and federal police services are surveyed. Using this survey ensured that all cities with a population more than 500,000 were identified and ensured that municipal regions were appropriately captured. This identified the following municipalities for comparison:

- Calgary, AB
- Durham Region (Oshawa/Whitby/Ajax), ON
- Halton Region (Oakville/Burlington), ON
- Montreal, QC
- Ottawa, ON
- Peel Region (Mississauga/Brampton), ON
- Quebec, QC
- Surrey, BC
- Toronto, ON
- Vancouver, BC
- Waterloo Region (Kitchener), ON
- Winnipeg, MB
- York Region (Markham/Vaughn), ON

Administration reviewed publicly available budget documents from either the police commissions/boards or municipal budget documents. A number of police services budget on a net basis, showing only the net cost to the municipality (expenses less revenue) therefore revenue information was not available for all police services. The five police services that had the relevant data publicly available and are part of the jurisdictional review include: Edmonton (Alberta), Calgary (Alberta), Winnipeg (Manitoba), Peel Region (Ontario), York Region (Ontario) and Ottawa (Ontario).

Of the Canadian municipalities with populations over 500,000, the police services of the City of Mississauga and the City of Brampton are captured within the Peel Region.

The other municipalities or regions identified above were not included in the information due to the police services having either a significantly different governance or police delivery model, or an inability to access the relevant information publicly.

Summary of Information

As a percentage of total funding, the comparator group of police agencies received an average of 86 per cent of annual revenue through municipal tax-supported funding for the period of 2010 to 2020 (Edmonton 81 per cent) (Attachment 2, Table 2). Alberta's major cities, Edmonton and

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Calgary, received a higher percentage of revenue for police from provincial funding (approximately seven per cent), compared to the municipalities in other provinces (two to five per cent).

The 2021 information in Table 1 of Attachment 2 was collected from publicly available information. Tables 2 and 3 of Attachment were provided by the Edmonton Police Commission and the information was collected through the participation of other police jurisdictions.

Caution should be applied to drawing comparisons, including the per capita information provided, due to the differences in how each province and municipality manages and funds policing. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Variability and volume of services police provide and how they contract out and recover revenues for these services. Examples include: contract airport services (Peel); Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) chargebacks (exception of Calgary); Officer secondment to other agencies; and Cadet program recoveries
- How traffic fine and enforcement revenue is determined varies between each municipality
- Revenues received by each province vary
- Non-provincial grants
- Use of reserves to offset net operating requirements
- Types of revenues categorized in Fees, Fines and Charges and Other varies between jurisdictions

COMMUNITY INSIGHT

As this report was related specifically to police funding in other municipalities, Administration did not seek community input for this report.

GBA+

As this report was related specifically to police funding in other municipalities, GBA+ was not conducted for this report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Safety Knowledge Alliance: Police Budgeting Review (Edmonton Police Commission and Peel Regional Police Board)
2. Funding Source and Amount Comparison of Canadian Police Services