

Please can you provide me with any guidance - either external or internal - which you have (perhaps in paperwork or on your websites) where you reference how the force is dealing with the Cost of Living Crisis.

Examples might be:

- a ban on plugging in personal items (e.g. officers being told not to charge their mobile telephones)
- increase in car parking costs

Basically, anyway to save cash as a result of the COLC.

In terms of reducing our energy bills, please see the following;

- **WMP is investing in renewable energy sources, in particular solar panels. We have installed solar panels at several sites.**
- **WMP has also secured £50k of external funding to introduce low carbon solutions (heat decarbonisation plans) to five further sites across WMP, supporting the reduction of our carbon footprint and energy costs.**
- **Across our estate we are continuing to look at ways to be greener and reduce costs by installing boiler control upgrades, improving insulation and upgrading LED lighting as part of the scope of any refurbishment work.**
- **We have an environmental strategy in place, and an ambition set out by the Police and Crime Commissioner to be carbon net zero by 2035.**
- **Higher energy and fuel costs are driving inflation and prices and impacting on organisations and people across the country. Like other public sector organisations, the force is also impacted by these rising costs and is experiencing significant financial pressures.**
- **In the current financial year, our spending on utilities and vehicle fuel is expected to increase and is also expected to increase again next year. Many of our contracts for supplies and services also have annual cost increases built in which are linked to inflation so we will see higher costs as a result.**
- **All of these pressures mean that we need to take action to balance the books this year and identify higher budget savings for the years to come.**
- **We are working through a number of options to help us to do this, including reviewing non-pay budgets, seeking further income generation opportunities, identifying invest to save opportunities such as environmental projects, reviewing agile working policies to identify further savings through different ways of working, and bringing forward savings linked to turning off legacy IT systems earlier than planned.**

We also have Simple Steps To Save Energy posters displayed to promote the following information:

At WMP Heating on? Keep windows and doors closed
Last one out? Turn the Air Con off
Finished for the day? Power down your IT and switch off lights
Go paperless - Only print what you need
Support our Net Zero mission