ACCOUNTING POLICIES for the YEAR ENDED 31 March 2017 for NYPCC and the NYPCC Group

1. General and Changes in Accounting Policy

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 and proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 (the Code) and the Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2016/17 (SeRCOP), supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance.

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis using a historical cost convention, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2. Accounting Principles

Balance Sheet

All payments on behalf of the Group are made by NYPCC from the Police Fund and all income and funding is received by NYPCC on behalf of the Group. NYPCC has the responsibility for managing the financial relationships with third parties and has legal responsibilities for discharging the contractual terms and conditions of suppliers.

Based on the statutory powers and responsibilities as designated by the Act, and the local agreements and practice in place, and taking account of the guidance included in the Code, it has been determined that substantially all the assets and reserves of the Group are recognised on the NYPCC Balance Sheet. Each individual entity balance sheet includes the assets and liabilities arising from transactions included in the relevant CIES.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

Under the Act, CCNY is responsible to NYPCC for the day to day provision of the policing functions, including the direction and control of police officers. Staff providing Corporate Support Services (comprising Information Communications and Technology, Estates, Transport and Logistics, Corporate Communications, Legal Services and Finance) are no longer under the direction and control of CCNY.

Expenditure related to the provision of policing services by officers and staff under the direction and control of CCNY appears in the CCNY CIES. Expenditure related to the provision of Corporate Support Services appears in the NYPCC single entity CIES with effect from 1 April 2014, and is then recharged to CCNY, so that all of the Cost of Police services appears in the CCNY CIES. The Cost of Police Services is funded by a recharge to NYPCC.

Income and funding directly controlled by NYPCC is included in the NYPCC single entity CIES.

The Group CIES shows the consolidated income, funding and expenditure of the whole Group.

Intra-Group Charges

NYPCC makes charges to CCNY:

- for the use of Long-Term Assets, equivalent to the debits made to the NYPCC CIES for the impairment, depreciation, amortisation and revaluation of the assets
- for the provision of Corporate Support Services

CCNY makes charges to NYPCC:

- for the cost of policing services

These charges are eliminated in the Group accounts.

3. Transition to International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS")

In 2010/11 accounts were presented in accordance with IFRS for the first time. Local authorities were required to account for the transition to IFRS in accordance with IFRS 1 First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards, except where interpretations or adaptations to fit local authorities are detailed in the Code.

The exemptions that are applicable to the Group in preparing financial statements are detailed below:

- The depreciated historical cost of an asset as at 1 April 2009 remains the depreciated historical cost of that asset as at 31 March 2009 under the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2009 - A Statement of Recommended Practice ("the SORP"), rather than requiring a retrospective review of the depreciation policy, measurement of useful life and residual cost;

- In adopting International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC") Interpretation 4 - Determining Whether an Arrangement Contains a Lease, it has been determined whether an arrangement existing as at 1 April 2009 contained a lease on the basis of facts and circumstances existing at that date. Where it has been determined that an arrangement contains a lease, that lease has been accounted for retrospectively from the commencement of the lease;

- The requirements of the Code in relation to accounting for the depreciation of significant components of an asset and the de-recognition of old components and recognition of new components have been applied to new assets completed on or after 1 April 2010 and to significant improvements to existing assets incurred from 1 April 2010.

4. New International Accounting Standards Adopted for the first time in this Financial Period

Under the Code, the amendments to the following International Financial Reporting ("IFRS") Standards and International Accounting Standards ("IAS") apply to these accounts for the first time:

IFRS 13 - Fair Value Measurement.

This standard provides guidance on fair value measurement and disclosure on fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for assets and liabilities which the code permits or requires should be measured at fair value. In particular the application of this standard has changed the measurement requirements for surplus assets i.e. assets that are not being used to supply services and that do not meet the criteria of assets held for sale.

The code requires this standard to be adopted with effect from 1 April 2016, but does not require the restatement of opening balances.

The application of this standard is not expected to have a significant impact on the valuations disclosed in the financial statements, although some additional disclosures will be required.

5. Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Fees, charges and rents due from customers are accounted for as income at the date of provision of the relevant goods or services;

- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed - where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet;

- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made;

- Interest payable on borrowings and receivable on investments is accounted for on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;

- Where income and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

6. Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions are recognised as income when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the conditions attached to the payments will be complied with; and

- that the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due are not credited to the CIES until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the CIES.

Police Pension Top-Up Grant

The top-up grant receivable from the Home Office in respect of the Police Pension Fund is credited to the CIES after Net Cost of Services, as part of Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income. The equal and opposite amounts payable to the Police Pension Fund are shown within the Other Operating Income and Expenditure line of the CIES, so that the impact on council tax payers is eliminated. This treatment is in line with the requirements of the Police Pension Fund Regulations 2007 (SI 1932/2007) (updated by SI 1887/2008).

Donated Assets

Donated assets received are recognised immediately on receipt as Property, Plant and Equipment and the value of the donation is recognised in the relevant service line in the CIES, provided that conditions have been satisfied. The fair value of donated assets received for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet in the Donated Assets Account. When conditions are satisfied, the donation is credited to the CIES. When donation income is credited to the CIES, it is reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Capital Grants

Where capital grants are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

7. Employee Benefits

Short-Term Employee Benefits

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include wages and salaries, annual leave, flexitime, time-off in-lieu and re-rostered rest days and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service. An accrual is made for the costs earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the relevant service line in the CIES and then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that benefits are charged to the council tax payer in the financial year in which the absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date, or an employee’s decision to accept voluntary redundancy, and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service or, where applicable, to the Non-Distributed Costs line in the CIES when there is a demonstrable commitment to the termination of the employment of an employee or group of employees or to the making of an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Retirement Benefits

Officers and staff participate in pension schemes, with separate schemes for police officers and for police staff. All schemes provide members with defined benefits (retirement lump sums and pensions) related to pay and service.

The main aspects of these pension schemes are:

(a) The attributable assets of each scheme are included in the Balance Sheet at fair value;

(b) The attributable liabilities of each scheme are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method - i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc. and projections of earnings for current employees;

(c) Scheme liabilities are discounted at a rate that is determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds;

(d) The surplus/deficit in each scheme is the excess/shortfall of the fair value of assets in the scheme over/below the present value of the scheme liabilities;

(e) The change in the net pensions liability for each scheme is analysed into seven components:

- Current service cost - the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year. The current service cost is stated net of employees' contributions, so as to reflect the part of the total pensions liabilities that are to be funded by the Group - allocated in the CIES to the services for which the employees worked;

- Past service costs - the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years - debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES as part of Non-Distributed Costs;

- Net interest on the defined benefit liability - the change during the year in the net defined benefit liability or asset that arises from the passage of time - debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES;

- Return on assets - the annual investment return on the fund assets attributable to the Group, based on an average of the expected long-term return (excluding any amounts included in the net interest on the defined benefit liability) - charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;

- Gains or losses on settlements or curtailments - the result of actions to relieve the Group of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees - debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES as part of Non-Distributed Costs;

- Actuarial gains/losses - changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions - debited to the Pensions Reserve;

- Contributions paid to the fund - cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities - not accounted for as an expense.

Statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable to the pension funds or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated in accordance with relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension funds and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

A separate statement of Police Pension Fund Accounts is prepared to reflect the transactions in respect of funding for the Police Pension Schemes.

8. Funding of Police Pension Fund

The top-up grant receivable from the Home Office in respect of the Police Pension Fund is included in the CIES. The amounts payable to the Police Pension Fund are shown within Other Operating Income and Expenditure so that the impact on council tax payers is eliminated. This treatment is in line with the requirements of the Police Pension Fund Regulations 2007 (SI 1932/2007) (updated by SI 1887/2008).

9. Value Added Tax (VAT)

Income and expenditure excludes any amounts related to recoverable VAT. All VAT collected is payable to HM Revenue and Customs and the majority of VAT paid is recoverable.

10. Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those services that benefit from the supply or service in accordance with the costing principles of the *CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2012/13* (SeRCOP). The total absorption costing principle is used - the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

• Corporate and Democratic Core - costs relating to the Group's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation;

• Non-Distributed Costs - the cost of discretionary pension benefits awarded to employees retiring early and impairment losses chargeable on Assets Held for Sale.

These two cost categories are defined in SeRCOP and accounted for as separate headings in the CIES, as part of Net Cost of Services.

11. Segmental Reporting

Decisions about resource allocation within the Group are made using internal management reports which show net expenditure on a segmental basis, using methodologies which in some cases are different from the accounting policies in the financial statements. The cost of retirement benefits is based on payment of employers' pension contributions rather than the current service cost of benefits accrued during the year. Segment information in these financial statements is based on the Group's internal management reporting.

Internal management reporting does not include information on segment assets or liabilities and, accordingly, information on segment assets and liabilities has not been included in the notes to the accounts.

12. Jointly Controlled Operations - Regional Working

The Group engages in collaborative working in partnership with the other Yorkshire and the Humber forces (YATH) to deliver a number of specific services on a regional basis. The governance for this regional programme of activity is via a Regional Collaboration Board, constituted in accordance with the Heads of Agreement.

The YATH regional programme is a lead force model and each lead force is responsible for the financial administration of the programme they lead.

The participating Commissioners use their own resources to undertake this venture and the accounting arrangements for regional working are to account for this as a Joint Arrangement Not an Entity ('JANE') in line with CIPFA guidance:

• Each Commissioner accounts for the assets it controls, the liabilities it incurs, the expenses that it incurs and the income receivable in relation to amounts recharged to the venture.

The Group also engages in collaborative working in partnership with Cleveland and Durham forces for Specialist Operational Services (Evolve). The governance for this programme is via a Joint Governance Board, constituted of the Police and Crime Commissioners plus other officers of the participating forces in accordance with the section 22a agreement.

13. Property, Plant & Equipment

Property, Plant and Equipment are assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the provision of services, for rental purposes, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year.

Recognition
All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis (subject to a de minimus level of £1,000), provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, such components are separately recognised, either on initial acquisition of the assets, or when the asset is enhanced or re-valued.

Measurement
Property, Plant and Equipment are initially measured at cost, comprising:

• Purchase price;

• Any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management;

• The initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item at the end of its useful life and restoring the site on which it is located.

Borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction are not capitalised - these are debited to the CIES as incurred.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the relevant service line in the CIES, unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the fair value of donated assets received for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet in the Donated Assets Account. When conditions are satisfied, the donation is credited to the CIES.

Assets acquired under finance leases are measured at their fair value or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the Balance Sheet as a finance lease obligation.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement basis:

• Land and Buildings, Police Houses, Plant and Equipment and Vehicles - fair value, determined as the lower of net current replacement cost (existing use value) and net realisable value in existing use. For non-property assets that have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost is used as a proxy for fair value;

• Assets in the course of construction - cost less any accumulated impairment losses until brought into use, when they are valued and reclassified.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are re-valued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying value is not materially different from their fair value at the year end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Gains are credited to the CIES where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service. Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for as follows:

• Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains);

• Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve, or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the CIES.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only (the date of its formal inception). Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Revaluation gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. Any gains and losses charged to the CIES are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

14. Investment Properties

Investment Properties are properties that are held to earn rentals, and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or for administrative purposes. Investment Properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset takes place either:
a) in the principal market for the asset, or
b) in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset.

NYPCC measures the fair value of an asset or liability using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. When measuring the fair value NYPCC takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

NYPCC uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs. Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the authority's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:
Level 1 - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date
Level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
Level 3 - unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

Gains or losses on revaluation are debited or credited to the Financing and Investment Income line in the CIES. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal, but disposals are otherwise accounted for in accordance with Accounting Policy 19.

Revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. Gains are credited and losses charged to the CIES are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

All lease agreements entered into in respect of investment properties let to third parties are operating leases. Rental income from investment property is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease and is credited to Financing and Investment income and expenditure in the CIES. Any lease incentives granted are recognised as an integral part of the total rental income.

15. Assets Held for Sale

Non-current assets are reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale when it becomes probable that the carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than its continuing use. This condition is regarded as met when:

- a sale is highly probable;
- the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition;
- management are committed to the sale;
- the asset is being actively marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value; and
- the sale is expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification.

Assets Held for Sale are carried at fair value. They are revalued immediately before reclassification and then annually, using the same basis as for investment properties as set out in AP14. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. Assets Held for Sale are not depreciated.

If an asset no longer meets the criteria to be classified as an Asset Held for Sale, it is classified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of:

- the carrying amount before it was classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation and/or revaluations that would have been recognised had it not been classified as held for sale; and

- the recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

The eventual disposal of an Asset Held for Sale is accounted for in accordance with Accounting Policy 19.

Disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. Gains and losses charged to the CIES are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

16. Intangible Assets

Purchased Software

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Group as a result of past events, is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset.

Expenditure on software is recognised initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no software licences held meet this criterion and they are therefore carried at amortised cost.

Revaluation gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. Any gains and losses charged to the CIES would therefore be reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Expenditure incurred on an intangible asset after it has been recognised does not meet the recognition requirements of the Code and is charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES.

All expenditure on website development is charged to the CIES, since the website is primarily intended to promote services.

Internally Generated Assets
All expenditure on the development of intangible assets is charged to the CIES, since the expenditure does not meet the recognition requirements of the Code.

Other Intangibles
At 31 March 2017 no other intangible assets were held.

17. Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets

This policy applies to the impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Properties, Assets Held for Sale and Intangible Assets, modified as set out in the specific accounting policies for these categories of assets.

Tangible and intangible assets are reviewed annually to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment. Where such indication exists, and if the differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall (if any).

The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value (less costs to sell) and value in use. Value in use of a non-cash generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. Value in use of a cash generating asset is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment in respect of a non-revalued asset is recognised as an expense against the relevant service line in the CIES. An impairment loss on a revalued asset is recognised in the Revaluation Reserve to the extent that the impairment does not exceed the amount in the Revaluation Reserve for the same asset and thereafter in the CIES.

Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line in the CIES, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Impairment gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance by statutory arrangements. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and, for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000, the Capital Receipts Reserve.

18. Disposals of Tangible and Intangible Assets

This policy applies to the disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Properties, Assets Held for Sale and Intangible Assets, modified as set out in the specific accounting policies for these categories of assets.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Where a significant separate component of an asset is replaced or restored, the carrying amount of the old component is de-recognised to avoid double counting. This includes de-recognition of significant parts of an asset not previously recognised as a separate component.

Amounts received for a disposal are categorised as Capital Receipts and are credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve (the usable element) or the Capital Adjustment Account (the set-aside element, if applicable) and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the underlying need to borrow (the Capital Financing Requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Where there is deferred credit held in respect of the asset disposed off (e.g. a balance on the Donated Assets Account) this is written off to the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal.

Disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance by statutory arrangements. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and the Capital Receipts Reserve.

19. Depreciation of Tangible Assets and Amortisation of Intangible Assets

This policy applies to Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets, modified as set out in the specific accounting policies for these categories of assets.

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets with a determinable finite life (i.e. excluding Land) that are available for use by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Amortisation is similarly charged on Intangible Assets.

Depreciation is calculated in the following bases:

- Land is not depreciated;

- Buildings (excluding Assets under Construction) - straight line allocation over the life of the asset, as assessed by the valuer at the time of valuation. Lives used range between 20 and 50 years;

- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment - a percentage of the value of each class of asset in the Balance Sheet. Percentages used are based on estimated lives of up to 5 years, as advised by a suitably qualified officer.

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is calculated on the following basis:

- A percentage of the value in the Balance Sheet. Percentages used are based on finite useful lives of between 2 and 7 years, as advised by a suitably qualified officer.

Where an asset has major components with different estimated useful lives, these are depreciated or amortised separately.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Depreciation and amortisation are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance by statutory arrangements. The amounts charged to the CIES are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

20. Charges to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for the Use of Tangible and Intangible Assets

The CIES is debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding tangible and intangible assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to tangible fixed assets;

- Amortisation attributable to intangible fixed assets;

- Revaluation and impairment losses where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which they can be written off.

The Group is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, amortisation or revaluation and impairment losses. However, an annual provision from revenue is required to contribute towards the reduction of the overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, amortisation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

21. Short-Term Investments

Short-Term Investments comprise interest-bearing deposits, held with banks and other financial institutions, maturing more than three months from the date of acquisition. They are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains and losses are recognised in income when the deposits are derecognised or impaired, as well as through the amortisation process.

22. Inventories

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at average prices. Obsolete and slow moving items are written off during the year and reduce the value of inventories shown in the Balance Sheet.

This treatment differs from the requirements of the Code, which requires stocks to be shown at the lower of cost and net realisable value. It is considered that this difference in treatment does not have a material effect on the accounts.

All inventories comprise supplies that are intended for use in the provision of services.

23. Debtors

Debtors are recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration receivable when the revenue has been recognised.

Where consideration is paid in advance of the receipt of goods or services or other benefit, a debtor is recognised in respect of the payment in advance.

In most cases, the consideration receivable is in the form of cash or cash equivalents and the amount of revenue is the amount receivable. However if payment is on deferred terms, the consideration receivable is recognised initially at the cash price equivalent. The difference between this amount and the total payments is recognised as interest revenue in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES. Short duration receivables with no interest rate are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

There is no difference between the delivery and payment dates for non-contractual, non-exchange transactions (e.g. revenue from precepts) and therefore these transactions are always measured at the full amount receivable.

A provision for impairment of debtors is established when there is evidence that all the amounts due will not be able to be collected.

The amount of the provision is based on the best estimate of the likelihood of the recoverable amount. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of a doubtful debt provision account and the amount of the loss is recognised in the CIES within Cost of Services. When a debtor amount is uncollectable, it is written off against the Doubtful Debt Provision Account. Any subsequent recovery of amounts previously written off are credited to the CIES.

24. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents include cash-in-hand and deposits that are repayable on demand. Cash equivalents are defined as deposits which:

- are repayable on demand or maturing within three months of the date of acquisition;
- are readily convertible to known amounts of cash; and
- are not subject to a significant risk of change in value.

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of outstanding bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

25. Creditors

Creditors are recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration payable when the ordered goods or services have been received.

In most cases, the consideration payable is in the form of cash or cash equivalents and the amount of the expense is the amount payable. However if payment is on deferred terms, the consideration payable is recognised initially at the cash price equivalent. The difference between this amount and the total payment is recognised as interest expense in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES. Short duration payables with no interest rate are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

There is no difference between the delivery and payment dates for non-contractual, non-exchange transactions (e.g. expense relating to council tax and general rates) and therefore these transactions are always measured at the full amount payable.

Where consideration is received in respect of revenue, but the revenue does not meet the criteria for recognition of revenue, a creditor is recognised in respect of the receipt in advance.

26. 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. The term financial instrument covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes both the most straightforward financial instruments (e.g. trade payables and receivables) and the most complex such as equity instruments.

Typical financial instruments are trade payables and trade receivables, borrowings, bank deposits and investments.

Financial Liabilities
Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was initially recognised. This means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest) and interest charged to the CIES is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

The Group has not given any financial guarantees.

The Group has not had any gains or losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing, nor any premiums or discounts on financial liabilities.

Financial Assets
Financial assets are classified into two types:

- loans and receivables - assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market;

- available-for-sale assets - assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments. The Group does not hold any available-for-sale assets.

Loans and Receivables
Loans and receivables are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the CIES for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. This means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

Immaterial Transaction Costs
Immaterial transaction costs that the Code would usually require to be applied to adjust a financial instrument's initial carrying amount are written off immediately to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services line in the CIES.

The Group has not made any soft loans and no assets have been identified as impaired. There have not been any gains or losses arising on the de-recognition of a Financial Asset.

The Group has not transferred any financial assets.

Compliance
In compliance with CIPFA guidance, the Group has:

- Adopted CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice;

- Set treasury management indicators to control key financial instrument risks in accordance with CIPFA's Prudential Code.

27. Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Provisions
Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives rise to an obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation but where the timing of the transfer is uncertain.

Provisions are charged to the appropriate service line in the CIES in the year the Group becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year and where it becomes more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will not now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service in the CIES.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be met by another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the obligation is settled.

Contingent Liabilities
A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives rise to a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Group. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but are disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Contingent Assets
A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives rise to a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Group.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but are disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

28. Leasing

Leases are classified as finance leases when the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership from the lessor to the lessee. Leases that do not meet the definition of finance leases are accounted for as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets. This would include Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts, but the Group does not have any contracts of this type.

Lessee

Finance Leases
Assets held under finance leases are recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the Balance Sheet as a finance lease obligation. Initial direct costs are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid are applied to write down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- a finance charge debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES;
- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the asset - applied to write down the lease liability.

Assets recognised under finance leases are accounted for using policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the Group at the end of the lease period.

NYPCC is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, amortisation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, amortisation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the CIES on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease, even where this does not match the pattern of payments.

Benefits receivable as an incentive to enter into an operating lease are included within deferred income and recognised in the CIES on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Lessor

No component of the Group has any assets acquired under finance leases or operating leases that have been subsequently sub-let to third parties.

The Group has not granted a finance lease over any assets.

Certain freehold properties are let to third parties. These arrangements are all operating leases and the properties are classified as Investment Property. Rental income from investment property is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease and is classified as income within the appropriate segment in the CIES, even where this does not match the pattern of payments receivable.

29. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Events after the balance sheet date are those events, favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. There are two types of events:

- Adjusting events are those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period. Where any adjusting events are found amounts recognised in the Statement of Accounts are updated to reflect those adjusting events;

- Non-adjusting events are those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period. The Statement of Accounts is not updated for non-adjusting events, but where material, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature and estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

30. Exceptional Items and Prior Period Adjustments

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the CIES or in the Notes to the Accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the financial performance.

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or when the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

31. Reserves

Specific amounts are set aside as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the CIES in that year to count against the Net Cost of Services. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net impact on council tax payers.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting process for non-current assets, financial instruments, retirement and employee benefits. These do not represent usable resources - these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

The Group has a policy on Provisions and Reserves. This policy was adopted by NYPCC on 22 November 2012 and reviewed on 30 May 2014. The treatment of reserves and provisions within the accounts is in line with this policy.

32. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In applying the Accounting Policies, the Group has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The following critical judgements have been made in the Statement of Accounts:

Future government funding
There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for police services. However it has been determined that this uncertainty is not sufficient to provide an indication that the assets might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and/or reduce levels of service provision.

Accounting principles
As set out in Accounting Policy 2, it has been determined that substantially all assets and reserves of the Group are recognised on the NYPCC Balance Sheet.

33. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures based on assumptions about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2017 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of maintenance and repairs that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain whether current spending on repairs and maintenance will be sustainable, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.

If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of assets falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for buildings would increase by £42k (PCC £42k) for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.

Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Properties and Assets Held for Sale.

Valuation of assets and consideration of impairment depends on a number of complex judgements and a firm of Surveyors and Valuers is engaged to provide expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. The valuation (and any impairment review) is commissioned in accordance with UKPS 1.3 of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation Standards.

When it is not possible to measure the fair value of assets using observable inputs, judgement is required in establishing fair values. These judgements typically include considerations such as uncertainty and risk. Changes in the assumptions used could affect the fair value of assets. Significant changes in any of the unobservable inputs would result in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement for investment properties and assets held for sale.

The effects on the asset valuation of changes in the assumptions interact in complex ways and are difficult to evaluate.

Pensions Liability
Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Firms of consulting actuaries are engaged to provide expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

The actuaries have provided the following sensitivity information:

Impact on Defined Benefit Obligations	**PCC**	**Group**	**Group**
Change in Assumptions	**LGPS**	**LGPS**	**Police Pension Schemes**
Longevity (increase or decrease by 1 year)	£1.4m	£6.7m	£42.5m
Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	£0.2m	£1.3m	£3.6m
Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	£0.9m	£4.6m	£30.0m
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	£1.2m	£5.7m	£30.5m

Provisions

A provision has been made for the settlement of ongoing claims not covered by insurers, based on claims received, historical experience of claims not received at the balance sheet date and estimated settlement values.

An increase over the forthcoming year of 10% in either the number of claims or the estimated average settlement would have the effect of adding £236k (PCC £34k) to the provision needed.

Due to the nature of the claims experience it is difficult to make a dependable assessment of the window during which particular litigation might determine, and consequently when any cost may be incurred.

A change of 10% between long-term and current provisions would result in a change of £113k (PCC £32k) between current liabilities and long-term liabilities.

Employee Benefits

The Group has made an accrual for employee benefits outstanding at the year-end, comprising flexitime, annual leave and re-rostered rest days. The accrual is estimated based on returns from each department and data captured from the Resource Management system.

Approximately 61.6% (PCC 4%) of the accrual (£794k) (PCC £6k) relates to rest days in lieu (RDIL). An increase or decrease of 5% in the number of RDIL owed would change the accrual by £40k (PCC £1k).

34. Accounting Standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

The following standards have been issued but have not yet been adopted at 31 March 2017. Both will come into effect for the 2018/19 accounts. Early adoption is not permitted under the Code.

IAS 9 - Financial Instruments

CIPFA/LASAAC consider that there is a possibility that the changes introduced by the standard will have a timing and budgetary impact, depending on the individal circumstances of the Group, and are seeking to understand the practical implications before confirming the impact on the Code for 2018/19.

IFRS 15 - Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The core principle in the IFRS 15 is the recognition of revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to the service recipient or customer in an ammount that reflects the consideration to which the Group expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.

CIPFA/LASAAC consider that the recognition of revenue has rarely been a complex issue. However, for the more complicated transactions, IFRS 15 will require that professional judgement is made. CIPFA/LASAAC consider the additional disclosures for revenue from contracts with service recipients should only be included in the financial statements if the information relating to the disclosure is material and are seeking to understand the potential impact of the standard and the substantial new disclosure requirements on resources and financial statements before confirming the impact on the Code for 2018/19.