

No Extra Money for Police

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No extra money is currently allotted in next year's federal budget for the much-touted police reform, which means that it may be de-facto implemented only from 2012, RBK Daily reported Thursday, citing a letter by Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin.

So far, no 2011 funding is planned for badges and new uniforms, estimated to cost about 500 million rubles (\$16 million), as well as for other proposals like free medical insurance for officers, their transportation expenses and subsidies for housing purchases.

Kudrin asked Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to hold a meeting to decide whether to allot extra funding or postpone the reform until 2012, when 138 billion rubles (\$4.4 billion) is earmarked for the project, RBK said. ▣

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