

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

DATE	8th February 2023
REPORT OF	Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
SUBJECT	Precept Proposal
STATUS	Open

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides the Police and Crime Panel with a summary of the precept consultation and the Commissioner's proposed precept rise of £14.99 on a Band D property.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members of the Police and Crime Panel note the details of the Medium-Term Resource Strategy attached as Appendix 1 and approve the Commissioner's precept proposal of £14.99 on a Band D property.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a duty to consult the public in regard to the intention to increase the policing precept. The proposed rate should then be considered by the Police and Crime Panel.

4. **PROPOSED PRECEPT**

- 4.1 The Commissioner issued an online Survey and Council Tax Police Precept consultation which asked for views on either freezing the Council Tax Precept or increasing it by £9.99, £14.99 or £19.99 on a Band D property. The Survey ran from 22 December 2022 to 20 January 2023.

Due to the reach of My Community Alert, social media, distribution through partnership networks and funding recipients we attracted a total of 1,590 responses, an increase of 360 compared to last year. The options are set out in the table below:-

Option	Number of responses	% of overall
No change	488	30.7
£9.99	241	15.2
£14.99	471	29.6
£19.99	389	24.5

The results show strong support of 69.3% for an increase of £9.99 or above on a band D property. The referendum threshold set by Government for 2023/24 is any increase above £15 on a Band D property. The key headlines from the consultation are as follows:

Survey Report online link -

https://reporting.alchemer.com/r/260480_63ca90b4b18a69.98972109

- Total of 1,590 respondents
- 69.3% of respondents in favour of an increase in precept (24.5% in favour of £19.99; 29.6% in favour of £14.99; 15.2% in favour of £9.99)
- People responded from every one of the 47 Humber region postcode areas
- Neighbourhood Policing, 999 Response Patrol and Protecting Vulnerable People were the top three areas of policing teams the public felt were most important to them
- 77% of respondents were aged over 45, 38% were over 65 years.
- The 18-24 years bracket had the least engagement; 1% of the sample
- 13% of the sample were non-White British or preferred not to say
- 20% of the sample considered themselves to have a disability

Top 10 Postcode response areas:

YO25 (East Yorkshire Rural) – 129
HU5 (West Hull) – 90
DN15 (Scunthorpe North/Winterton) – 72
HU17 (Beverley) – 72
DN17 (Scunthorpe West) – 71
HU7 (North East Hull/Bransholme) – 65
DN16 (Scunthorpe South) – 57
DN14 (Goole) – 49
DN35 (Cleethorpes) – 48
DN32 (Grimsby East) - 48

Many additional comments were also provided which will be used to inform our programme of assurance of the Force.

4.2 The Medium-Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) for 2023/24 to 2027/28 attached includes the Commissioner's income and expenditure plans for the next five years.

The MTRS has been updated to take account of budget pressures, efficiency savings and productivity gains and the recent provisional Police Finance Settlement that was issued on 14 December 2022. The capital programme and the projections for the Commissioner's reserves are also included.

The MTRS sets out a challenging but sustainable financial position over the medium-term and includes the following key elements:-

- An underspend for the current financial year (2022/23) of £0.1M;
- Financing included in the MTRS for a capital programme of circa £47M over the period 2023/24 to 2027/28;

- Impact of the 2023/24 Police Finance Settlement including continued funding for Operation Uplift;
- Savings requirement over the period 2023/24 to 2027/28 of circa £7.5M;
- Budgeting for increased pay and non-pay pressures of £14.2M in 2023/24;
- A total draw on reserves of £14.8M between 2023/24 and 2025/26;
- Total Reserves of £17.9M by 1/4/28;
- The MTRS includes an annual council tax precept increase of £14.99 a year on a Band D property for 2023/24 and £9.99 on Band D property for each of the years to 2027/28 inclusive.

**KEVIN WILSON
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER
OFFICE OF THE
POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR HUMBERSIDE**