

This matter is being dealt with by:

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Commissioner Caroline Henry  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
Joint Headquarters  
Sherwood Lodge  
Arnold  
Nottingham  
NG5 8PP

6 February 2024

Dear Commissioner Henry

**Outcome of the Panel's consideration of the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed precept and Budget 2024-25**

I am writing to share feedback from today's meeting of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel and to confirm the Panel's support for your proposed precept for 2024/25. A majority of members who were present at today's meeting voted in favour of the proposed increase (13 members voting in support with 1 voting against).

During the Panel's debate yesterday, you will have seen the strong support for delivering a high quality, forward-looking, community-focused policing service. It was also noted that the results of your public consultation showed that members of the public would support an increase if they could see tangible improvements in service and visibility.

This was balanced against concerns about the impact on any increase in precept in context of the current cost of living pressures. In light of these, Panel members wanted to understand what the impacts if you did not maximise the precept both in terms of access to other grants and income and on reserves were they to be used to make up the difference between £10 and £12.96. the impact on reserves was noted together with the lack of certainty around grants that are due to come to an end in March 2025.

We are grateful for your clarification about the additional officers taken on through the police Uplift programme, the funding you are currently expecting and what would happen should that funding be withdrawn.

There was a lot of discussion about reserves, understanding the reserves strategy and plans for the use of reserves. As suggested by your Chief Finance Officer, I'm sure Panel members would welcome a more detailed look at reserves as part of next year's budget workshop.

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel, c/o County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP

Members balanced the information provided across the two workshops, where Panel members were able to explore your proposals in depth; the continued transfer of costs from the national taxpayer to the local taxpayer; pressure to maximise precept to avoid being disadvantaged in future years; the effects of the cost of living and the consultation that showed a majority of respondents were prepared to support an increase if they saw an improvement in service. Taking all of that into account, a majority of members were in support of the proposed increase of £12.96 for a Band D property.

Finally, I would like to formally pass on my thanks and that of the Panel to you and your team. We're grateful for your support of the workshop, answering questions so comprehensively in advance of the meeting and the further information that was provided during the meeting itself. It was very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Goldstraw OBE  
Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel

CC: Gillian Holder, Chief Finance Officer  
Dan Howitt, Head of Strategy and Performance