

This matter is being dealt with by:

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W www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/partnerships/police-and-crime-panel

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

7 February 2023

Dear Commissioner Henry

Outcome of Panel's consideration of the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed precept and Budget 2023-24

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 2023/24. A majority of members who were present at today's meeting voted in favour of the proposed increase (10 members voting in support with 2 voting against).

The Panel notes that the proposal to increase the precept is in line with other forces.

Much consideration was given to the impact of the increase at the same time people were faced with other cost of living pressures. This was of particular concern to Panel members, and you were cognisant of that. This was set against the landscape of increased demands in public services.

The focus groups, the online poll and the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Survey provided a significant number of responses to base your decision on and a majority of those were supportive of the increase. There was some critique at the small number of focus group attendees and whether they were truly representative of the diverse population of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

Panel members noted that if you did not increase the precept by the proposed amount, you would be further relying on reserves to balance the budget and you would not be able to recoup any "missed" funding in future years. There was also recognition about the lobbying work that you are undertaking and how not optimising precept income could have a detrimental impact on the power of future lobbying. As a Panel we are also supportive of your lobbying around the Fairer Funding formula and hope for a swift decision.

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

Members note that the OPCC re-structure is now completed with all posts filled. We look forward to the additional capacity being able to deliver and leverage in more money. Panel members were disappointed that they could not establish what the full time police officer establishment should be and therefore the effect of workforce turnover and Uplift. To assist Panel members in future years, setting clear definitions and comparing figures on a defined date each year would be helpful in supporting understanding.

Thank you for addressing questions on the robustness of estimates and articulating your confidence in the figures. Panel members also acknowledged the assurances provided by your Chief Finance Officer.

Thank you for your replies on slippage in the capital programme. Like you, the Panel has concerns about the delays and we would be grateful if you could keep us updated as anything new emerges.

We note the responses you've provided around reserves.

We would like to conclude by thanking you and your team for all of your work, both in supporting the workshop with Panel members, responding to questions in advance of the meeting and the succinct way matters were presented during the Panel meeting itself. We were very grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Goldstraw OBE
Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel

CC: Sharon Caddell, Chief Executive
Gillian Holder, Chief Finance Officer