

For Information and Decision	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Police & Crime Panel Audit and Scrutiny Panel – for information
Date of Meeting:	6th February 2020
Report of:	The Chief Finance Officer
Other Contacts:	Head of Finance
Agenda Item:	5

Precept and Budget Reports 2020-21

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 Members are required to make a decision in respect of the Precept Report and the proposed increase to Council Tax for 2020-21.
- 1.2 To assist in this decision making members are provided with budget reports and financial strategies that provide detail on the use of such funding.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to support the proposed increase in Band D Council Tax by £9.99 to £229.32.
- 2.2 Members are also asked to provide feedback, where appropriate, in respect of the proposed budget and financial strategies.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Statutory requirement and good financial governance.

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 In providing the provisional settlement for Policing the Minister has assumed that Police & Crime Commissioners will take advantage of the temporary relaxation in the referendum principles in respect of setting a precept.
- 4.2 The Minister had announced on 21st January 2020 that Commissioner can raise the Band D precept by £10, provided certain efficiencies were met nationally. The Minister also provided additional grant for Operation Uplift – an additional 20,000 police officers over the next three years.
- 4.3 The Government grant for policing has also increased to reflect the commitment to increase the number of police officers by 20,000 over the next three years.

- 4.4 The Minister also requires further efficiencies to be met in 2020-21 and these have been set nationally at £120m.
- 4.5 In light of the later grant announcement this year, it has not been possible to circulate all background information reports at this point (see the list below). Those reports that are marked 'To Follow' will be circulated to Panel Members once finalised and added to the published agenda online.
- 4.6 The precept report is attached as **Appendix A** for decision. The other reports provided for information are:
- Revenue Budget report 2020-21 – **APPENDIX B**
 - Capital Programme 2020-25 – **APPENDIX C**

 - Medium Term Financial Strategy – **APPENDIX D – To Follow**
 - Reserves Strategy – **APPENDIX E – To Follow**
 - Capital Strategy – **APPENDIX F – To Follow**
 - Treasury Management Strategy – **APPENDIX G – To Follow**
- 4.7 The MTFS provides the latest prediction for balancing the budget over the next five years.
- 4.8 The Reserves Strategy shows that the increase in reserves recently will be utilised to meet significant capital expenditure plans over the medium term.
- 4.9 The Revenue budget is a balanced budget report and builds on recruitment plans in paragraph 4.4 above.
- 4.10 The Capital Programme provides detail on proposals for 2020-21, with specific plans relating to buildings and ensuring they are fit for purpose. An indicative capital programme to 2022-25 is also provided. But the schemes are subject to full business cases being approved.
- 4.11 The Capital Strategy is a recent requirement to show how we consider the long term, even life cycle of our most significant assets. This brings together stock condition surveys, asset management plans and the need for continued investment in assets to provide for future needs.
- 4.12 The Treasury Management Strategy provides detail on how the proposed capital programme will be financed.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 5.1 Each of the reports set of the budgetary and financing requirements.

6. Human Resources Implications

6.1 The budget report provides for the recruitment of additional Police Officers.

7. Equality Implications

7.1 None as a direct result of these reports.

8. Risk Management

8.1 These reports set out clear principles to limit any financial or operational risk related to the budget.

9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

9.1 This complies with statutory reporting and decision making requirements. These reports also provide evidence of good financial governance.

10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

10.1 These reports comply with financial legislation.

11. Details of outcome of consultation

11.1 The details on the consultation with the public on the precept has been included within the Precept Report.

12. Appendices

Report for Decision:

- Precept report 2020-21 – **APPENDIX A**

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