



SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

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Christian Mitchell
Chairman
Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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Office of the Sussex Police and Crime
Commissioner
Sackville House
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31 January 2022

Re: Proposed Precept 2022/23

Dear Commissioner Bourne,

The proposed policing precept for 2022/23 was considered at the meeting of Sussex Police and Crime Panel on 28 January 2022.

I am writing to confirm that the Panel supported, by a unanimity of votes, the proposed increased precept of £224.91 (on a Band D property), an increase of £10 (equivalent to 4.7%).

The Panel raised a number of points, including those which follow:

- Questioned whether an assumed rate of inflation of 2% was sufficiently high.
- Whether tackling the shift in crime patterns might lead to a reduction in a visible policing presence.
- Observed that while the 7.7% staff vacancy rate had produced a saving which had eased the budget gap, in the longer term it would be better if these vacancies could be filled.
- Asked what Sussex Police is doing to tackle climate change.
- Asked whether better use could be made of emerging technologies in policing.
- Asked whether the Commissioner could use her influence to highlight that the totality of this year's council tax increase would place an unsustainable burden on those on low incomes, and that there needed to be a different funding solution in future.

We look forward to receiving your response in due course.

With best wishes,

Councillor Christian Mitchell
Chairman, Sussex Police and Crime Panel