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| <b>CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL</b> | <b>Agenda Item No. 6</b> |
| <b>31<sup>st</sup> January 2018</b>          | <b>Public Report</b>     |

## **Report of Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner**

**Contact Officer – Dorothy Gregson**

**Contact Details – [cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk) 0300 333 3456**

### **PRECEPT REPORT 2018/19 AND POLICE AND CRIME PLAN VARIATION TO APPENDIX – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To notify the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) proposed budget and precept for 2018/19 and to enable the Panel to review the proposed precept.
- 1.2 The Panel are also notified of the consequential amendment to the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan (the “Plan”) ‘Appendix – Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 to 2021/22’.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to review and make a report to the Commissioner on the proposed Council Tax precept for 2018/19 (as given in the report at Appendix 1). The proposed Council Tax is an increase of £11.97 bring the policing element of Council Tax (Band D equivalent) to £198.72.
- 2.2 The Panel are asked to note the Commissioner’s Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) at Appendix 2.
- 2.3 The Panel to review the consequential variation to the Plan, that being ‘Appendix – Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 to 2021/22’, as given at Appendix 3.

#### **3. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 3.1 Item 1 – To review and make a report or recommendation on the draft Plan, or draft variation, given to the Panel by the Commissioner
- Item 5 - To review and make a report and recommendation (as necessary) on the proposed precept.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012, the Commissioner must notify the Panel of the precept which the Commissioner is proposing to issue for the financial year by 1 February. The Panel must review the proposed precept notified to it by 8 February.

#### **5. KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 Since taking office in May 2016, the Commissioner has been ensuring that, in the face of complex economic and social pressures, the Commissioner and Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”) think and act differently and continue to transform the way they work through collaboration and ways of working. The Constabulary never works in isolation.

- 5.2 Transformation of the way in which the Commissioner and the Constabulary deliver public services in the county is key to providing the savings required to deliver the Commissioner's Plan. This work is not limited to collaboration with other police forces, through tri-force or seven-force alliances, but is now looking much more widely. The Commissioner awaits a decision from the Home Secretary on the business case for the governance of Fire and Rescue. The Commissioner has a seat on the Combined Authority and works closely with Community Safety Partnerships to deliver his Plan.
- 5.3 When considering the precept, the Commissioner has ensured all efficiencies are identified, performance is protected, and that the reserve levels are at an appropriate level to meet the needs of policing. The Commissioner's guiding principle in setting the precept is to achieve value for money policing and he stated during his election campaign in early 2016 that he would ensure frontline services continue to be protected.
- 5.4 The MTFs was approved by the Commissioner's Business Co-ordination Board at its meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The Board approved:
- The MTFs 2018/19 to 2021/22
  - The 2018/19 Revenue Budget
  - The 2018/19 Capital Programme
  - The increase of the policing element of Council Tax (Band D equivalent) of £11.97 bringing the council tax to £198.72 per annum.
- 5.5 As a result of the new 2018/19 budget and forecast budgets for 2019/20 and 2020/21 there is a need to update Appendix of the Plan. The updated Appendix is given at Appendix 3 of this report.
- 5.6 The Panel is recommended to review the proposed precept in the context of ensuring continued and sustainable effectiveness and efficiency in policing in Cambridgeshire.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The draft budget the Commissioner's presents to the Panel is balanced for 2018/19 and further details of how this has been achieved are presented in the Commissioner's precept-setting report at Appendix 1. If accepted, the precept will ensure a £137.1m budget for policing in Cambridgeshire for 2018/19. This would see the policing element of a 2018/19 Band D council tax increasing from £186.75 to £198.72 per annum, an increase of £1 a month.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 As well as the Commissioner's extensive public engagement via meetings, surgeries and his newsletter, a Survey Monkey survey was made available from 5<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018 with a link to the survey being available on the Commissioner's website. News of the Commissioner's proposal was also covered by the media across Cambridgeshire and on social media. As at 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 2,949 survey responses were received with 78.2% of respondents in agreement with a precept increase. A verbal update on the final figures will be provided at the Panel meeting.

## **8. NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 The Panel must make a report to the Commissioner on the proposed precept and review the variation to the Plan.

## **9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents>

Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/2271/made>

Provisional Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2018/19, Home Office, December 2017

<https://www.gov.uk/government/.../provisional-police-grant-report-2018-to-2019>

## **10. APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1** - Precept Report 2018/19

**Appendix 2** - Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018/19 – 2021/22

**Appendix 3** - Police and Crime Plan variation

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