

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

Mr John Campion
West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner
Hindlip Hall
Worcester
WR3 8SP

By e-mail

8 February 2021

Dear Mr Campion

PROPOSED PRECEPT

In accordance with Schedule 5 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to confirm that the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel reviewed your proposed precept on 4 February 2021 in a public meeting held on-line due to restrictions in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Thank you to you and the Chief Constable for attending and answering questions.

As required in the Act the Panel must formally make a report to you as Commissioner on your proposed precept; please accept this letter as the formal report of the Panel.

The precept proposal you recommended to the Panel was to increase the precept by 6.6% for 2021/22, adding £15.00 to the annual Council Tax bill for a typical band D home.

The Panel also considered the report of the Budget Task Group and supported the following comments arising from the this:

- Subject to the results of the PCC's 2021/22 Budget Consultation which closed on 20 January (details of which were reported to the Panel) the Task Group was supportive of the PCC's financial strategy for the Budget Proposals for 2021/22 and the MTFP through to 2024/25 in the context of the West Mercia Policing Plan, although there were reservations about the 6.6% Council Tax increase given the current economic climate.
- The Task Group also thought that it was optimistic for the Medium-Term Financial Plan to assume that the Council Tax Collection Fund would return to surplus over three years. The rationale being neither a surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund for 2021/22 (distributed or recovered the following year in 2022/23), a surplus of £700k on the Collection fund for 2022/23 (distributed in 2023/24) and £1m a year thereafter distributed from 2024/25 onwards.

Cllr Stephen Mackay
Chairman, West
Mercia Police and
Crime Panel

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Having taken into account the presentation you and the Chief Constable made at the meeting and the answers you gave to questions put by Panel members, a majority of the Panel voted to support the proposed precept.

I note that you are required to have regard to the Panel's report and provide a response which will be published; I look forward to receiving this response in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Mackay', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Stephen Mackay
Chairman of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel