

Contact: Helen Bradley
Main Tel: 03000 260000
email: helen.bradley@durham.gov.uk
Your ref:
Our ref:



Ms Joy Allen
Durham Police Crime Commissioner
Durham Constabulary Headquarters
DURHAM
DH1 5TT

06 February 2024

Dear Joy

Response to Police and Crime Commissioner Precept Consultation 2024/25

On behalf of the Durham Police and Crime Panel, I would like to thank you for attending the Panel's meeting on 1 February 2024 together with the Chief Constable to present your report and respond to questions from Panel members.

Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the Police and Crime Panel to provide a report to its Police and Crime Commissioner following consideration of the proposed precept for 2024/25.

The Police and Crime Panel considered your report and voted to agree your precept proposal for a Council Tax increase of £13 for a Band D property with the same percentage increase applied to all Council Tax bands as detailed in your report.

The Panel reviewed the OPCC achievements in the context of your Police and Crime Plan and noted the operational priorities and challenges together with performance. Your plan to improve technology, for additional staff for the control room and the maintenance of police officer and PCSO numbers was welcomed.

The Panel considered the continuing significant financial pressures that face Durham Constabulary and the financial settlement that had been received. They noted the lack of capital funding within the settlement.

The Panel also considered the outcome of your consultation on the proposed precept. They noted the findings for the residents of County Durham and Darlington and the impact this had on delivering an efficient and effective police service.

It was recognised there was a difficult balance to be found between an increase in the precept and the revenue funding this would achieve. They acknowledged the challenge that the low council tax base made to the level of settlement. The Panel considered the impact of the rise of the precept on residents during the cost of living crisis.

Resources

Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UF
Main Telephone (03000) 26 00000

Text Messaging Service 07860 093 073– Your message must start with the word: INFO

Yours Sincerely
Councillor Liz Brown
Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel

Cc:
Andrea Petty, Chief of Staff
Sweety Sahani, Head of Private Office, Office of the Durham PCC
Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources, Durham County Council
Helen Bradley, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Durham County Council
Luke Swinhoe, Assistant Director Law and Governance