

Report of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel**To: The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner****Date: 1 February 2021****WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT ON THE PROPOSED PRECEPT
2021/2022****1) Introduction**

In accordance with Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report to the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

On 1 February 2021, the Police and Crime Panel considered the Commissioner's proposed precept for 2021/2022. We would like to thank the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and OPCC Officers for presenting the report and responding to our questions.

2) Commissioner's Proposed Precept 2021/2022

The Police and Crime Commissioner proposed that the Band D precept for 2021/2022 should be set at £177.55.

3) Panel Members Present

Cllr N Kooner (Chair) Birmingham
Cllr P Akhtar – Coventry
Cllr P Bradley - Dudley
Cllr J Butler - Solihull
Cllr R Jones - Sandwell
Cllr A Khan - Coventry
Cllr J Lines – Birmingham
Cllr Z Russell - Wolverhampton
Cllr S Samra – Walsall
Cllr F Shaeen - Sandwell
Cllr S Shah – Birmingham
Cllr D Tyler - Dudley
Kristina Murphy Independent Member
Lionel Walker Independent Member

4) Panel Decision

The Police and Crime Panel agreed to support the proposed Band D precept for 2021/2022 of £177.55.

The vote was 13: 1 in favour.

5) Panel Comments

In addition to supporting the proposed precept, the Panel made the following comments for the Commissioner to consider: -

- a) Public Consultation and Transparency – The Panel noted the low response rate to the PCC’s public consultation on the budget and precept proposals and learnt publicity was largely based around social media. The Panel would urge the Police and Crime Commissioner to look at how to extend the reach of the consultation, above and beyond social media, to gather more public views in future years.
- b) Reports to Panel – The Panel requested that going forward there is greater clarity in the budget report that informs the members’ decision on the precept. It was suggested this might be achieved by having a table for income and another for expenditure (detailing any extra income and expenditure received/expected for the year). We ask that the OPCC work with the Panel, through the Chair, in developing the 2021/22 report.
- c) Police Funding – The Panel supports the Police and Crime Commissioner in continuing to request additional funding for the West Midlands from the Government.

6) Next Steps

The Panel will publish this report on its website: www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk

The Panel looks forward to the Police and Crime Commissioner’s consideration and response to this report.