

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SOUTH WALES POLICE

TITLE: Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales' Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2024 & Precept Proposal 2020/21

DATE: 20th January 2020

PURPOSE: For Approval

1.	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u> That the Police and Crime Panel approves the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2024 and notes the potential range of Precept proposal for 2020/21, subject to final confirmation following notification of Police Grant funding for 2020/21.
2.	<u>INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND</u> The Police and Crime Commissioner is required by law to set the Annual (Balanced) Budget requirement including the Police Precept element of the Council Tax (Council Tax Precept) and a Medium Term Financial Strategy. The General Election in December 2019 delayed the Home Office's notification to Police & Crime Commissioners of their grant allocations for 2020/21. Whilst an updated Medium Term Financial Strategy and Precept Report are submitted, final approval can only be given once the settlement is known. This is likely to be before the Panel meets on 30 th January, and so a firm Precept proposal will be submitted by the Commissioner at the Panel meeting. Attached are the Commissioner's Report on the Precept proposal, supported by the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer. Also attached is the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2024.
3.	<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u> Precept Proposal Report – this summarises the context, cost pressures and various scenarios relating to the basis of the proposal for the Precept. Given the absence of knowledge of core grant, the range of Precept increases is 5% to 7.85%. The Medium Term Financial Strategy contains a comprehensive analysis of all salient financial information, including cost pressures, capital programme and financing and the Treasury Management Strategy.
4.	<u>NEXT STEPS</u> The Commissioner will provide an update on the information provided on the

	<p>day of the Panel. This will include a firm proposal for the Precept increase for 2020/21 and show implications in terms of Precept income to be recovered from each of the seven Local Authorities that make up the South Wales Police footprint.</p>
5.	<p><u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u> The financial implications are fully articulated within the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Commissioner’s report.</p>
6.	<p><u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u> South Wales Police’s People and Organisational Development Strategy is included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy in Appendix 16. It covers all personnel considerations.</p>
7.	<p><u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u> The report is in accordance with the Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012. These 2012 Regulations set deadlines for the taking of steps set out in Schedule 5 of the 2011 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act. The Commissioner must also comply with sections 25-28 of the Local Government Act 2003, which require the Commissioner to set a balanced budget.</p>
8.	<p><u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u> This proposal has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group. In preparing this report, consideration has been given to the requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.</p>
9.	<p><u>RISK</u> Various financial risk scenarios are included and explained in the attached documentation.</p>
10.	<p><u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u> This report will be placed on the website of both the Commissioner and the Police and Crime Panel.</p>
11.	<p><u>CONTACT OFFICER</u> Peter Curran, Chief Finance Officer to the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales.</p>
12.	<p><u>ANNEXES</u> Executive Summary of the Medium Term Financial Strategy Medium Term Financial Strategy</p>