

Cllr John Robini
Chairman
Surrey and Crime Panel

Sent via email.

7th February 2024

Dear Chairman,

Re Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner Precept

I am responding to your letter of 6th February regarding council tax precept, in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Thank you for confirming the Panel's acceptance of the proposal to increase the Band D precept by £13 to £323.57. This will ensure that the hard-working officers and staff of Surrey Police are supported in the coming year to deliver the Chief Constable's Plan for Surrey Police, focusing on fighting crime and protecting people. It is always a difficult decision to propose an increase in council tax and all the more so in straitened financial times. However, I was heartened that a £13 increase received more support than any other option by respondents to my survey and that over half said they would support an increase of either £12 or £13.

I note the panel's commentary in respect of the funding formula and share members' frustration that there is a disproportionate impact on Surrey's residents. I will continue to lobby for a fairer formula for Surrey, as I have done throughout my term in office. However, it would have been remiss to propose a lower precept and place the Force at further financial disadvantage this year (and in future years) whilst work on the formula continues.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Townsend
Police and Crime Commissioner

cc. Clare Madden – Surrey County Council