

ORIGINATOR: PCC CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

DECISION NUMBER: 5 - 2025

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRECEPT LEVEL AND COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT
2025/26**

SUMMARY:

1. This paper describes the steps that have been taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in determining his proposed precept level and council tax requirement for 2025/26.


RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. The Police and Crime Panel is notified of the PCC's proposal to increase the precept by 5.1% in 2025/26, which equates to an increase of £13.95 a year for a Band D property.
2. This proposal is submitted to the Police and Crime Panel for consideration at its meeting on 31 January 2025.

APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendations set out above are agreed.

Signature: 

Date: 17 January 2025

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 1.1 Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the process for issuing a precept, including the Police and Crime Panel's role in reviewing the proposed precept, their power to veto the precept and the steps to be taken if they do veto the proposed precept.
- 1.2 The Home Office has previously issued guidance that supports the process described above, and includes the requirements of Section 5 of the Act, the Regulations' requirements and reporting requirements, together with the process for Police and Crime Panel scrutiny of the PCC's proposed precept, including key dates.
- 1.3 This report is based on figures within the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2025/26 to 2028/29, the recommendations within which were approved by the PCC on 17 January 2025 (Decision number 3 – 2025).

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The MTFP includes particular sections and appendices relating to the two options under consideration, which are:
 - **Option 1** - increase council tax by 3.6% (£9.99 for a Band D property) in 2025/26 and 2% in each of the three remaining years of the MTFP.
 - **Option 2** - increase council tax by 5.1% (£13.95 for a Band D property) in 2025/26 and by 2% in each of the three remaining years of the MTFP.
- 2.2 Based on the planning assumptions set out in the MTFP, Option 1 would result in the Constabulary incurring a budget deficit of (£1.1m) in 2025/26, with cumulative savings of £5.8m required to achieve a balanced budget over the MTFP period.
- 2.3 Based on the planning assumptions set out in the MTFP, Option 2 would result in the Constabulary delivering a balanced budget in 2025/26. Further savings of £4.6m will need to be identified in the period 2025/26 to 2028/29 to achieve a balanced budget over the MTFP period.

<p>Under Option 2, increasing the precept by 5.1% in 2025/26 would result in an increase in the policing element of a Band D council tax bill of £13.95, from £275.58 per annum to £289.53 per annum.</p>
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- 2.4 Monitoring delivery of performance from the additional policing resources provided through the increased budget will occur at each of the publicly held Accountability and Performance Panel meetings, chaired by the PCC.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 3.1 There are no other implications and risks outside of those presented in this report.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	Yes
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	Yes

In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

Acting Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.



Signature:

Date: 17 January 2025