



Councillor Christian Mitchell
Chairman
Sussex Police & Crime Panel
County Hall
West Street
Chichester
West Sussex
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13 February 2023

Proposed Precept 2023/24

Thank you for your letter dated 31 January 2023.

I am grateful to the Sussex Police & Crime Panel for supporting my proposed £15 increase in the precept to £239.91 on a Band D property for 2023/24 at its meeting last month.

I have worked closely with Chief Constable Shiner and her senior team to understand, in detail, the operational needs of Sussex Police for 2023/24. This additional funding will be used by the Force to maintain the improvements made to operational policing capacity, capability, visibility and accessibility since 2018/19, together with meeting the unprecedented increases resulting from inflation and pressure on pay and costs.

The additional investment will also support the continued delivery of the three Public Priorities contained within my Police & Crime Plan 2021/24 - to strengthen local policing, tackle crime and prevent harm; relentless disruption of serious and organised crime; and support and safeguard victims and tackle violence against women and girls.

I do not underestimate the pronounced financial challenges that many residents in Sussex continue to face during this difficult time. However, it remains vital to ensure the Force is supported and that residents continue to receive the best possible policing service in Sussex. It is also important to recognise that this increase is equivalent to an additional 29p per week / £1.25 a month per [Band D] household and that, despite the rise, Sussex still remains within the lowest quartile for all police precepts in England.

The support of the Panel will enable Sussex Police to build on the investment made in previous years whilst meeting the increased costs and inflationary pressures. It will also support the cost of delivering the transformational change programmes required to ensure that the Force has the most efficient and effective model possible to deliver smarter, evidence-based policing.

Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

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**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

As discussed at the meeting, I remain concerned about the processes used by the Panel to classify and categorise allegations of complaints about me in my role as Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner, specifically how these are cited and presented within the quarterly report of complaints. This is particularly pertinent in respect of any allegations of criminal conduct [i.e., serious complaints and conduct matters] which, I understand, should be automatically referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) for consideration, as per Schedule 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Based on this and the views echoed by other Panel members at the meeting, I respectfully submit that the alleged complaint set out within 3.1.3 of the report should have been presented within the 'Correspondence Recorded and Considered by the Clerk to be a Non-Serious Complaint within the Panel's Remit' section of the report instead.

All Panel documents are rightly published and thus will remain in the public domain in perpetuity so I would respectfully request an amendment is made to the version of the report that is available online, and that this revised position is accurately reflected within the minutes of the meeting.

Thank you for your continued support and I very much look forward to building on our collective achievements during 2023/24 and beyond.

Yours Sincerely


Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner