



Councillor Andrei Czolak
Chair of the Sussex Police & Crime Panel
County Hall
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10 February 2025

Proposed Precept 2025/26

Thank you for your letter dated 3 February 2025.

I am grateful to the Sussex Police & Crime Panel for supporting my proposed £14 increase in the precept to £266.91 on a Band D property for 2025/26 at its meeting last month.

The support of the Panel will enable Sussex Police to maintain the collective improvements made to operational policing capacity, capability, visibility and accessibility since 2018, together with meeting the continued and unprecedented increases to costs of pay and inflation. As highlighted at the meeting, there is no appetite to go backwards in Sussex.

Maximising the resources available to Sussex Police in 2025/26 will also enable the Chief Constable to continue to deliver the transformational change programmes required to invest in technology and telephony to ensure that the Force has the most efficient and effective systems and capabilities possible to deliver smarter evidence-based policing.

I share your concerns about the existing Police Allocation Formula (PAF) and recognise that this needs to be updated and adjusted to reflect the actual costs of policing locally. The existing model and formula used to allocate central Government funding to the 43 police force areas in England and Wales is widely acknowledged to be complex, opaque and out-of-date by police leaders and Government officials.

Through the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, my colleagues and I consistently lobbied the previous Government to amend the PAF and we will continue to ask the new Government for a fairer funding formula as part of their plans to move to multi-year police funding arrangements.

I understand the financial challenges facing households on the lowest incomes so it is important that council tax exemptions and discounts are applied fairly.

Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

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**Sussex
Police & Crime
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As we heard at last month's meeting from the Police & Crime Panel's own Budget and Precept Working Group, it is not only vital to take advantage of the maximum permitted precept increase to sustain services locally but to avoid embedding a financial disadvantage into the budget for years to come.

It is also important to recognise that this increase is equivalent to an additional 27p a week / £1.17 a month per [Band D] household and that Sussex remains within the lowest quartile for all police precepts in England, despite this increase.

Thank you for your continued support. I very much look forward to building on our collective achievements during 2025/26 and beyond.

Yours sincerely
Katy

Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner