



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Finance Officer

**Date:** 19 January 2023

## **PRECEPT REPORT 2023/24 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)**

### **1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Business Coordination Board (the "Board") for submission to the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the "Panel").

### **2. Recommendation**

2.1 The Board is recommended to approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and precept proposal at Appendix 1.

2.2 The Board is asked to approve the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27 included as Appendix D in the MTFS.

2.3 Considering all the information contained in the MTFS the Chief Finance Officer is recommending that the Board endorse his recommendation to increase the policing element of council tax by £14.94; this will increase the policing element of Band D council tax from £257.58 in 2022/23 to £272.52 per annum, an increase of 29p per week.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Medium-Term Financial Strategy has been developed throughout 2022 for the 2023/24 to 2026/27 medium term financial period.
- 3.2 The draft MTFS will be submitted to the Panel for information and in support of reasoning for the precept proposal. The Panel will consider the proposed precept by the Commissioner at their meeting on 1 February 2023.
- 3.3 The Panel have a Budget Briefing scheduled for 24 January 2023 to provide information on the development of the MTFS and precept proposal.
- 3.4 The final MTFS will be submitted to a later Board in 2023 for final approval and adoption.

### **4. MTFS Development**

- 4.1 Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”) held their Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) process to identify current and anticipated operational pressures to meet the Constabulary’s priorities in February and March 2022. This allowed for early development of savings proposals and efficiencies.
- 4.2 The Police Funding Settlement for 2023/24 was announced in mid-December
- 4.3 The funding settlement was an increase of £0.3m to revenue grant which includes an increased ringfenced Uplift grant of £2.8m and a pension grant of £1.4m.
- 4.4 The funding settlement also gave Police and Crime Commissioners (the “Commissioners”) the ability to raise Council Tax precept by up to £15 a year. This would raise additional £523m nationally assuming full take-up of precept flexibility.
- 4.5 The Commissioner launched a survey to gather the views of the public on 20 December 2022. This survey asked the public for their views on paying an additional 19p on a Band A property or 29p per week for policing services on a Band D property. It also asked for views on the public’s feeling of safety, effectiveness of the Constabulary and the public’s priorities.

- 4.6 The survey closed at 5pm on 13 January 2023, a verbal update will be provided to the Board. The survey had 646 respondents. Of these respondents 61% agreed that the increase represented value for money.
- 4.7 A comprehensive report on the precept survey will be reported at a later date.

## 5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Board is recommended to approve the MTFs and precept proposal at Appendix 1.
- 5.2 The Board is asked to approve the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27 included as Appendix D in the MTFs.
- 5.3 Considering all the information contained in the MTFs the Chief Finance Officer is recommending that the Board endorse his recommendation to increase the policing element of council tax by £14.94; this will increase the policing element of Band D council tax from £257.58 in 2022/23 to £272.52 per annum, an increase of 29p per week.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

<b>Source Document</b>	Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2026/27
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Matthew Warren, Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner