WMPCP West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

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Scrutiny Office
Birmingham Council House
Victoria Street
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Mr Bob Jones
West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner
Lloyd House
Birmingham

cc. Jacky Courtney,
Chief Executive, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

8 February

Dear Bob

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel Report on the Proposed Precept 2013/14

Thank you for your attendance at the Panel meeting this week. Please find attached the Panel's statutory report on your proposed precept.

Yours Sincerely

Darren.C. Cooper.

Councillor Darren Cooper
Chair, West Midlands Police & Crime Panel
Leader Sandwell MBC

Report of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

To the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

8 February 2013

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT ON THE PROPOSED PRECEPT 2013/14

Introduction

In accordance with Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report to the PCC on the proposed precept

On 6 February 2013 the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel considered the Commissioner's proposed precept.

Commissioner's Proposed Precept

To increase the precept for 2013/14 by 3%, setting the Band D precept at £102.43.

Members Present:

Cllrs Cooper, Phillips, Meeson, Sparkes, Alden, Smith, Duggins and Bains and Lionel Walker. Cllr Sleigh was present prior to Cllr Meeson's arrival.

Panel Decision

a) The Panel supports the precept and makes the following recommendations:

1 The Panel would like more detail provided to it on the PCC Capital Programme 2013/14 – 2016/17 (sections 1, 2 and 3).

2 The Panel welcomes the transfer of community safety grants to the districts as promised, but would like further detail regarding these. The Panel also notes the PCC's commitment that this year's cut does not set a precedent for community safety activity taking the brunt of funding cuts in the future.

3 The Panel requests an ongoing discussion about adjusting the balance of precept / grant income in the overall budget.

4 The Panel considers that the balance of pressure against the precept and the reserves is incorrect and that the PCC should have considered greater use of reserves.

5 The Panel is concerned that further changes, which Members will not be able to then consider, could be made following the Partnership Summit on Friday.

The Panel will publish this report on www.wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk on Friday 8 February.

The Panel looks forward to the Commissioner's consideration of these recommendations/ comments and his response.