

MAYOR FOR WEST YORKSHIRE

RESPONSE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

I would like to thank members of the Police and Crime Panel for carefully considering my precept proposal on 3 February 2023 and unanimously endorsing an increase of 6.78% so that we can continue to invest in the future of policing and community safety in West Yorkshire.

The proposal was supported by 67% of respondents to my survey and means a £15 a year increase on Band D properties with approximately 61% of Council Taxpayers paying less than 22 pence a week more.

As part of its approval the Panel has sought assurance on the following commitments to:

- Continue to prioritise neighbourhood policing; building and developing the problem-solving skills needed to tackle community crime and anti-social behaviour, and ensure that PCSO numbers are not reduced below 509.
- Ensure that, along with increasing sustainability, the Energy Management Strategy exploits all opportunities for delivering energy cost efficiencies enabling savings to be reinvested within the overall budget.
- Provide the Panel with a half year revised MTFE to assure them that required efficiencies are on track in line with projections.
- Engage in early discussion with Panel about the content and format of future budget consultation with the aim of providing the public with detail of the implications of different options and seeking to understand the reasoning behind people's choices.

I am pleased to confirm my commitment to:

- Continue to prioritise neighbourhood policing and subject to the risks set out in the paper to the Panel, will seek to ensure PCSOs numbers are not reduced below 509
- Provide a report to the Panel during the year on the energy efficiency of the operations of West Yorkshire Police
- Provide a half year update on the MTFE including progress on efficiency savings
- Involve the Panel in my considerations of the content and format of the precept consultation for next year.

In light of the Panel's support for the proposed precept I confirm my approval of a Band D annual precept of £236.28 which is a £15 increase (6.78%) giving a police precept figure of £159.5m.

Tracy Brabin

Mayor of West Yorkshire