

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<p>Report reference number: PFCC/024/19</p>
<p>Classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted):</p>
<p>Title of report: 2019/20 PFCC and Essex Police Precept</p>
<p>Area of county / stakeholders affected:</p> <p>Countywide</p>
<p>Report by : Abbey Gough</p> <p>Date of report: 14th February 2019</p> <p>Enquiries to: Abbey.gough@essex.pnn.police.uk</p>

1. Purpose of the report

To approve the 2019/20 PFCC and Essex Police precept proposal as presented at the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on 24th January 2019.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the PFCC approves the decision to increase the police precept by 14.16%, an equivalent increase of £23.94 a year to £192.96 for a Band D property.

3. Benefits of the proposal

This proposal will achieve £15.3m in additional council tax receipts raised for Essex Police, which will contribute to a total budget requirement of £300.478m. The full budget proposal was presented to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on 24th January and outlined a number of areas of investment in Essex Police. These areas of investment included:

1. Increase of 215 police officers
2. Increase of 50 police staff
3. Further investment in IT infrastructure including Body Worn Video

4. Additional investment in roads policing

4. Background and proposal

The PFCC proposed a precept increase of 14.16%, equivalent to an increase of £23.94 a year from £169.02 to £192.96 for a Band D property, raising £15.3m of additional council tax receipts. This budget proposal was presented to and approved by the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on 24th January 2019.

The PFCC had previously noted a number of significant cost increases for the 2019/20 budget. These increases were raised in the Finance Update Paper which was presented to the Panel in December 2018. Cost pressures to the PFCC include police officer pensions, delays to the Emergency Services Network (ESN), increased motor insurance premium, fuel costs and the introduction of the Police Educational Qualification Framework (PEQF).

Further details can be viewed in the 'Proposed Essex Police Precept for 2019/20' report presented at the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on 24th January 2019.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

A number of alternative budget scenarios were considered by the PFCC and Chief Constable ahead of the presentation to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel. These discussions took into account the different national and local pressures on Essex Police, including increased demand across the county.

Whilst a number of options were considered, the PFCC has a statutory responsibility to set a balance budget. The proposed budget achieves this.

6. Police and Crime Plan

The proposal sets the 2019/20 Essex Police budget which has been developed to deliver against all the PFCC's priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

7. Police operational implications

The Chief Constable has been fully consulted on the 2019/20 budget proposal. The approved budget will allow the Chief Constable to deliver operational policing throughout Essex for 2019/20. The budget does also provide for an additional 215 police officers and 50 police staff. The Chief Constable will be responsible for the recruitment, training and deployment of officers and staff.

8. Financial implications

This proposal results in a precept increase of 14.16%, equivalent to an increase of £23.94 a year from £169.02 to £192.96 for a Band D property, raising £15.3m of additional council tax receipts. Full details of this proposal are within the approved budget papers.

9. Legal implications

The PFCC has a requirement to set a balanced budget under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

10. Staffing implications

There are no additional staffing implications other than those highlighted within the budget proposal.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no equality and diversity implications.

12. Risks

The PFCC has approved a balance budget for 2019/20. There is a risk that due to unforeseen circumstances Essex Police may overspend in year or not deliver on the proposals outlined in the budget. The PFCC will monitor the expenditure and performance of Essex Police through regular monitoring meetings including the quarterly Strategic Board and monthly Performance and Resources Scrutiny Board.

13. Governance Boards

This proposal was discussed at the Essex Police Strategic Board and the Police Fire and Crime Panel in December 2018 and January 2019.

14. Background papers

PFCC Finance Update – December 2018
The Proposed Essex Police Precept for 2019/20



PFCC Finance
Update.pdf



The Proposed Essex
Police Precept for 20

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign: [Signature]

Print: P. Stewart-Isheerwood

Date: 21 March 2019

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign: [Signature]

Print: 21.13.19 ABSEN GOSN

Date:

Publication

Is the report for publication?

YES
NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

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If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet? YES NO 2. Of Appendix? YES NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

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Date redaction carried out:

Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed:

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed:

