

Cllr David Reeve
Chairman, Surrey Police & Crime Panel

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9th February 2022

Dear Cllr Reeve,

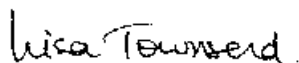
Re: Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner Precept for 2022/23

In accordance with Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act and having had regard to your report of 7th February, I am writing to set out my formal response to the Panel's recommendations. I am very pleased that the Panel unanimously accepted my proposed increase to the precept for a Band D property by £10 and am grateful for Members' time and engagement on this issue, both at the meeting and at the finance sub-committee meetings. This increase will help to sustain the policing service for Surrey that residents expect and deserve.

I note the Panel's second recommendation concerning the budget for the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC). This subject was discussed exhaustively at the meeting last Friday, with the debate and resulting vote split almost evenly between those who supported my position and those who did not. I was heartened however, to see support across the board for the hard work of those staff currently in the OPCC and an understanding of the pressures currently placed on them. I do not propose to rehearse again my rationale for increasing my operational budget, as the report and debate will be matters of public record. Whilst I note the concerns of some members, I will not be making changes to my budget and strongly maintain that this small increase in staffing will bring benefits to Surrey Police, to victims of crime and to Surrey residents.

Thank you once again for the contribution of the Panel on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Townsend
Police and Crime Commissioner