

WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2020 AT WESSEX ROOM - THE CORN EXCHANGE, MARKET PLACE, DEVIZES, SN10 1HS.

Present:

Cllr Junab Ali, Cllr Abdul Amin, Maime Beasant, Cllr Alan Bishop, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Vinay Manro, Cllr Tom Rounds and Cllr Jonathon Seed

Also Present:

Angus Macpherson – Police & Crime Commissioner
Kieran Kilgallen – OPCC
Clive Barker – OPCC
Adrian Jones - OPCC

Kevin Fielding – Wiltshire Council

66 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Anna Richardson, Cllr Nick Murry and Cllr John Smale.

67 Declarations of interest

It was agreed that all the panel members had an interest – as council tax payers.

This should not however bar them from debating and voting on the Commissioner's proposals.

68 Chairman's Announcements

That the panel members should remember that they were at the meeting to listen to the Commissioner's proposals, and not to approve the precept.

69 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

70 **PCC Budget 2020/21 and MTFS**

The Commissioner introduced his draft budget settlement 2020-21 and outlined how he was consulting on two options:

- Option A – To increase council tax by £12 per annum (5.8%)
- Option B – To increase council tax by £8.25 per annum (4%)

He reported that:

The paper had been written with more uncertainty than the normal draft budget paper.

With the general election occurring in December 2019 the OPCC had not received a provisional grant settlement from the government nor any indication on precept capping rules. This meant rather than definitive options the Commissioner had to prepare scenarios reflecting the range of budgetary possibilities. It was not clear whether the funds available would allow the Commissioner to invest in policing or require him to make savings.

The MTFS forecasts the estimated financial position over the next 4 years and the impact this had on the Commissioner's ability to commission services. With the lack of funding certainty and the multiple scenarios being considered it meant financial planning beyond 2020-21 was more uncertain than usual.

It was acknowledged that decisions made today would impact on the Commissioner's finances over the medium and long term.

The Commissioner advised that the current precept consultation was having a better response than previous precept consultations, and that the OPCC were working hard to gauge where responses were coming from.

Clive Barker, Chief Financial Officer, explained the detail of the budget proposals and the Medium Term Financial Strategy and answered questions.

The chairman thanked Clive Barker for a comprehensive and professional paper and presentation.

The Chairman felt that the meeting had been a frustrating one, due to the uncertainty surrounding the draft budget paper.

Decision

- **That the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel noted the report.**

The Chairman thanked the Commissioner for his report.

71 Forward Work Plan

The Forward Work Plan was noted.

72 Future meeting dates

Future meeting dates were:

- Thursday 6 February – County Hall
- Thursday 19 March – Monkton Park, Chippenham
- Thursday 4 June – City Hall, Salisbury
- Thursday 3 September – Corn Exchange, Devizes
- Thursday 10 December – Swindon Borough Council Offices

(Duration of meeting: 10.00 - 11.10 am)

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