

AGENDA

Meeting: **WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**
Place: Committee Room A - Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham
SN15 1ER
Date: Thursday 2 February 2017
Time: **10.00 am**

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Kevin Fielding, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01249 706612 or email Kevin.fielding@wiltshire.gov.uk

Membership:

Cllr Junab Ali, Swindon Borough Council
Cllr Abdul Amin, Swindon Borough Council
Cllr Alan Bishop, Swindon Borough Council
Cllr Richard Britton, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Trevor Carbin, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Chris Caswill, Wiltshire Council
Cindy Creasy, Co-Opted Independent Member
Chris Henwood, Co-Opted Independent Member
Cllr Peter Hutton, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Julian Johnson, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Gordon King, Wiltshire Council
Cllr John Smale, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Caryl Sydney-Smith, Swindon Borough Council

Substitutes:

Cllr Charles Howard, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Maureen Penny, Swindon Borough Council
Cllr Nick Fogg MBE, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Sue Evans, Wiltshire Council

CLlr Chuck Berry, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Linda Packard, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Glenis Ansell, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Ian Thorn, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Anthony Trotman, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Brian Dalton, Wiltshire Council
CLlr Ernie Clark, Wiltshire Council

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AGENDA

Part I

Items to be considered when the meeting is open to the public

1 **Apologies for Absence**

2 **Declarations of interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

3 **Chairman's Announcements**

4 **Public Participation**

The Panel welcomes contributions from members of the public.

Statements

If you wish to make a statement at this meeting on any item on this agenda, please register to do so at least 10 minutes prior to the meeting. Speakers are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes on any agenda item. Please contact the officer named on the first page of the agenda for any further clarification.

Questions

Members of the public are able to ask questions in relation to the responsibilities and functions of the Panel at each meeting. Those wishing to ask questions are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the Head of Democratic Services at Wiltshire Council no later than **5.00 pm** on Friday 27 January 2017. Please contact the officer named on the first page of the agenda for further advice. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

5 **Formal consideration of PCC Precept proposal**

For the Police and Crime Panel to receive formally and vote on the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Council Tax precept for the year 2017-18.

6 **Victim Support Service (Horizon) update**

To receive an update on the Victim Support Service (Horizon).

7 **Review of Community Policing**

To receive a Review of Community Policing.

8 **Member Questions**

9 **Forward Work Plan (Pages 7 - 8)**

To note the forward work plan.

10 **Future meeting dates**

To note the future meeting dates below:

- **Thursday 2 March 2017 – City Hall, Salisbury**
- **Thursday 29 June 2017 – Corn Exchange, Devizes**
- **Thursday 7 September 2017 – County Hall, Trowbridge**
- **Wednesday 7 December 2017 – Swindon Borough Council Offices**

Part II

Item(s) during whose consideration it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed

None



PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2017-18

Purpose

1. This paper notifies the Panel of the precept I am proposing for 2017-18.

Background

2. In January 2017 I presented to the Panel a paper which disclosed my thinking surrounding the 2017-18 budget. This paper, which also included a copy of my Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), reported that I was thinking of increasing the Police part of the Band D Precept by 1.9% to £170.27, a £3.17 increase from the 2016-17 Police part of the Council Tax of £167.10.
3. At the January meeting I also informed the Panel on how I would be consulting with the public this year. I have expanded the consultation process and combined this with my draft Police and Crime Plan.

Consultation

4. I have held a significant consultation exercise to seek the views of residents on my precept proposal and the draft Police and Crime Plan (P&C Plan). The consultation opened on the 3 January 2017 and closes on the 27 January 2017. This has been by far the biggest communication and engagement exercise my office has delivered to date.
5. This has included a wide range of approaches to raise awareness and encourage debate and formal responses. It included:
 - High profile media campaign launching the precept recommendation and draft P&C Plan
 - Short video to communicate new Plan and precept recommendation
 - 4 public social media Q&As sessions – where the public could ask questions directly
 - Wiltshire Police officer and staff drop in sessions
 - Online consultation survey
 - Twitter poll on “do you agree with the precept increase?” Yes-67%, No 32% (total 120 people)
 - Press releases identifying the proposal and highlighting to the public how they can make their views heard via the PCC’s website
 - Stakeholder distribution including Councillors and MP’s asking for their views on behalf of the people they serve
 - Video and offer of attendance to every area and locality board

6. As of 24 January 2016, the consultation has had a reach of at least 490,000 through the channels mentioned above. Of those, the total campaign was engaged with at least 105,000 times through social media. The use of channels such as community messaging, local media and stakeholder networks is in addition to these numbers.
7. The 124 responses that specifically mention the precept are as follows. 91 have stated they agree with a rise in precept, with 43 people disagreeing with the increase.

The Precept

8. My initial proposal to increase the precept by 1.9% was based on the knowledge that the Government has announced 2% as the referendum 'trigger' level, i.e. any increase of 2% and above would require a referendum to validate the decision. With the cost of a referendum estimated at over £600,000 I have decided that I do not wish to spend public money on such a course of action.
9. The Government have announced that police funding will be cash neutral in 2017-18. This can only occur with a precept increase of 1.9%. Hence there is an expectation that PCC's will increase the precept by 1.9%.

The Funding Available

10. The table below outlines the funding available to me based on a 1.9% precept increase. The table assumes that the provisional central funding allocations are confirmed.

	2016-17	2017-18
Main Home Office Grant	£37.485m	£36.961m
Main DCLG Grant	£20.683m	£20.393m
Legacy Council Tax Grants	£5.235m	£5.235m
Total Central Funding	£63.403m	£62.589m
Precept Income	£41.160m	£42.458m
Council Tax Collection Fund Surplus	£0.882m	£0.602m
Total Funding Available	£105.445m	£105.649m

11. The table above shows a £0.814m reduction in total central funding. The Legacy Council Tax includes the grant payable surrounding Council Tax Localisation and any previous freeze grants.
12. Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council have reported a new council tax base of 249,356; this is a 1.2% increase on 2016-17. This with the 1.9% increase in precept will result in additional funding of £0.204m (0.2%).

Funding Allocation

13. I am expected to commission services from the funding available. In addition to the funding reported in the table in paragraph 7 I do receive investment income (estimated at £0.250m in both 2016-17 and 2017-18). Therefore my funding available to commission with is £105.899m in 2017-18. The table below identifies how I intend using these resources.

	2016-17	2017-18
OPCC Office Costs	£0.712m	£0.713m
OPCC Capital Contribution	£0.741m	£0.742m
OPCC Commissioning Funds	£1.226m	£1.229m
OPCC Chief Constable Allocation	£103.016m	£103.215m
	£105.695m	£105.899m

Impact on the Chief Constable's Budget

14. The Chief Constable has identified a budget requirement of £106.934m (this is disclosed in the MTFs). When compared to my funding allocation to him (£103.215m) a financial gap of £3.719m exists. With 81% of his budget spent on staff the only way to close a gap this size would be to reduce staff.
15. A review of my reserves has been undertaken with the section 151 officer. He has identified £1.439 of reserves which can be used in 2017-18. This can only occur for one year but evens up the savings requirement over the next 2 years.
16. This reduces the savings the Chief Constable has to find. The new savings requirement is reported below;

	2017-18 CC Budget
Initial Funding gap	£3.719m
Use of reserves	-£1.439m
New Savings requirement	£2.280m

17. The Chief Constable will identify efficiencies and savings to meet this reduced savings requirement.

Risk

18. The use of reserves is based on a risk review. I think by balancing the savings out over 2 years it provides the Chief Constable time to reduce expenditure in a planned way. The risk in 2018-19 is partly mitigated by having general reserves of 2.5% and a 1% operational reserve.

Legal

19. I am required to receive advice from my Chief Financial Officer surrounding the budget and my reserves. The Chief Financial Officer is content that my budget and the Chief Constable's budget are sound and deliverable. He has also confirmed that he believes my reserves are adequate to manage risk.

Recommendation

20. After carrying out the necessary consultation I am minded to set a precept of £42.458m. This will require council tax to be set on all property bands based on £170.27 for a Band D property. This represents a £3.17 (1.9%) increase on the 2016-17 level.

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HORIZON SERVICE UPDATE

Purpose of report

1. This paper provides the Panel with an update on the development of the Horizon Victim and Witness Care Unit.

Background

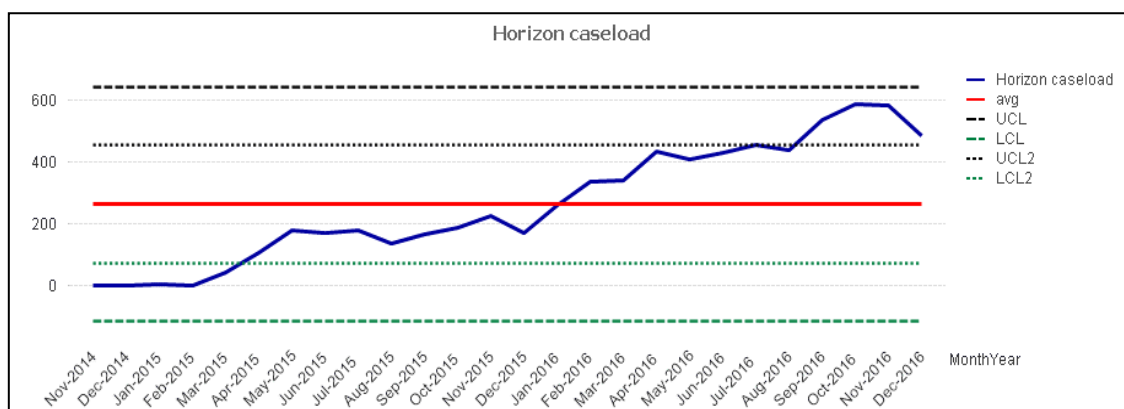
2. Horizon Victim and Witness Care Unit is commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner with the support of the Ministry of Justice Victim Service Fund. The service became fully operational in April 2015 and is provided by Wiltshire Police.

The Service

3. Horizon provides a single point of contact for victims of crime to support them on their journey through the criminal justice system. The service can refer victims on to specialist services to provide practical and emotional support. Telephone contact is provided for all victims of crime who are vulnerable, intimidated, persistently targeted or victims of serious crime. All other victims receive written information about services available to them and can self refer.
4. Horizon also supports witnesses who are involved in the criminal justice system, ensuring that victims and witnesses are informed of the court process and how they are required to participate, referring to specialist services as required to enable them to give best evidence at court.
5. The Horizon team are fully trained on both the victim and witness care process. The team deal with everything from initial victim contact to large and complex cases which can result in long criminal trials at crown courts. Horizon have found that the majority of victims do not require additional support beyond the first or second telephone conversation. The Horizon officer deals with the same victim if the case then progresses to court, providing consistency of support.

Progress Update

6. Over the last year referrals into Horizon have increased. As the team has become embedded and skills have developed Horizon have taken on more responsibility for victims of domestic abuse, victims of fraud and all victims of domestic burglary. The Horizon victim caseload can be seen in the table below. The team are now dealing with around 450 cases per month, some of which have more than one victim.



7. The team also administer the Victim Right to Review where victims can review the decision made on their case. To date, there have been 77 requests for a review on cases which have been deemed 'no further action'.
8. The table below gives an indication of crime types supported by Horizon during one month; the 84 cases unallocated are victims of 'incidents' rather than recorded crime types. Horizon refer between 60 and 80 victims per month on to the commissioned Victim Support Service; they also refer victims to SPLITZ domestic abuse support service, the Swindon and Wiltshire SARC, SPLASH youth services and the Intercom Trust for LGBT victim of crime. The team also liaise with the police Hate Crime Advisors to ensure that victims of these very impactful crimes are given necessary support.

Horizon Niche caseload - December 2016	
Violence Against the Person	178
Theft Offences	122
-	84
Public Order Offences	40
Sexual Offences	28
Criminal Damage & Arson	22
Robbery	6
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	3
Possession of Weapons Offences	3
Total	486

9. A large proportion of Horizon's work also covers the support of witnesses in the court process. At any one time the team can have up to 8000 victims and witnesses to coordinate and manage who have provided statements and are potentially listed for a trial for either Magistrates or Crown Courts. The team liaise closely with colleagues within Wiltshire Police, Crown Prosecution Service, Witness Service and HM Courts services to ensure that processes run smoothly. Horizon ensures that if vulnerable victims require 'special measures' in order to give evidence (for example a pre-trial visit, video links, screens or assistance), this is provided.
10. The trial of a serious case, for example murder, can involve contacting in excess of 100 witnesses over a period of many months to ensure they are available to attend when required by the court, and meeting their needs when required. This includes

making travel arrangements, booking accommodation and liaising with police colleagues, CPS and witness service and is vital to the delivery of justice. This work requires very careful planning and delivery.

11. The Horizon Supervisor works across the police force and with partners to promote and improve the work Horizon does with victims to continue to fill the gaps where support is still required and review and improve the way in which victims are dealt with in the criminal justice process. The supervisor also works with colleagues on supporting the delivery of the policing elements of the victim code of practice and has also been dip sampling individual cases to look how VCOP is delivered across criminal justice partners.

Next Steps

12. It is recognised that some of our most vulnerable victims are those of Anti-Social Behaviour rather than recorded crime. The OPCC and the Horizon team are working with the police to look at the potential for Horizon to support victims of ASB. This will be dependent on volumes and capacity and services available to support these victims.
13. Over the next year the OPCC and Horizon team will be continuing to build on the success of Horizon, looking at the support available to victims of crime and continuing to link into a wider network of appropriate support services. The team will also look for areas where appropriate support needs to be commissioned by the PCC or jointly with other local authorities.

Conclusion

14. I believe that the work of my office and policing colleagues on the development of the Horizon Victim and Witness Care Unit has increased the focus of the police service and other partners in Wiltshire and Swindon on the care of victims. This work will continue in line with my Police and Crime Plan which aims to put victims at the heart of our work.

Angus Macpherson
Police and Crime Commissioner

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To note the following two questions, submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner on behalf of Cllr Richard Britton:

Question 1. During the early stages of the now defunct Tri-Force Collaboration Programme the three forces reached an agreement on how the costs and benefits of individual collaborative projects would be apportioned. Now that Avon & Somerset has dropped out of this programme has a new agreement been reached with Gloucestershire – particularly with regard to the apportioning of project costs?

Question 2. You have often stated that Neighbourhood Watch is not a Police programme. Please would you clarify exactly what role you expect the police to play in the running of the much-valued neighbourhood Watch scheme.

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53. The CC efficiency/savings strategy surrounds collaboration and remodelling delivery. More detail on savings plans is included in the CCs Budget Requirement (Appendix B).

Use of Finances

54. The PCC expects locally collected funds to be spent on maintaining local policing. Whilst it can be difficult to identify what exactly is 'local policing' the 2016-17 budget has been reviewed to identify the relationship between spend and funding.
55. The table below shows that 44% of the funding is collected locally whilst 51% of the budget is used for Local Policing;

	Local Policing	Other Policing	Total
CC Spend per area	£40.655m	£38.015m	£78.670m
Support Services	£12.173m	£12.172m	£24.345m
OPCC	£1.340m	£1.340m	£2.680m
Total	£54.168m	£51.527m	£105.695m
	51%	49%	100%
Staffing (FTE)	1018	1004	2022
	50%	50%	100%
Income	£46.396m	£59.049m	£105.445m
Interest	£0.125m	£0.125m	£0.250m
Total	£46.521m	£59.174m	£105.695m
	44%	56%	100%

Capital

56. The Capital Plan is funded from capital balances brought forward, transfers from reserves, annual grant, capital receipts and revenue contributions to capital. The opportunity to borrow funds under the Prudential Code does exist. However to date this has not been necessary and this remains the case for the period of this MTF5.
57. If in the future the PCC does decide to enter into borrowing, the revenue consequences of paying back the borrowing along with associated interest should not be overlooked.
58. The base budget for 2016-17 allows the PCC to supplement the capital programme with a £0.741m revenue contribution to capital (RCCO). This can change if approved by the PCC. Paragraph 49 shows a slight increase in line with overall funding.
59. The Capital grant available to each force has significantly reduced in recent years. Last year the December settlement reported an increase in top slicing for national projects (such as ESMCP) with the amount available to forces falling from £89.5m to £64.5m, a 28% reduction. The final settlement saw this drop to £54.1m (a 40% reduction). The MTF5 assumes that this level of support will not drop further with Wiltshire's capital grant remaining at £0.479m per annum.
60. Appendix C shows the Capital Plan for the next 3 years. This is the plan approved at the Commissioners Monitoring Board in October 2016 adjusted for the RCCO.

55. The specific Victims and Restorative Justice grants mentioned in paragraph 39 are in addition to the funding available for external commissioning.
56. When considering inflationary pressures and other unavoidable costs the savings required by the CC will be considerably higher than these figures. Appendix B reports the budget requirement for the CC. Depending on the council tax levy it identifies an initial savings requirement for the CC of £2.594m or £3.345m in 2016-17. The plan (further detailed in the reserves section) proposes to utilise £1.605m of reserves to reduce the impact in the expectation of additional funding in 2017-18 from the formula review. Taking the £1.605m and a further £0.315m contribution from commissioning funds into account the savings requirement with a 1.9% council tax increase reduces to £0.674m or £1.425m with no council tax increase.
57. The savings required to be delivered by the CC are significant. These savings requirements are in addition to the £17m saved in the 4 year period from 2010-11.
58. The CC efficiency/savings strategy surrounds collaboration and remodelling delivery. More detail on savings plans is included in the CCs Budget Requirement (Appendix B).

Use of Finances

59. The PCC expects locally collected funds to be spent on maintaining local policing. Whilst it can be difficult to identify what exactly is 'local policing' the 2015-16 budget has been reviewed to identify the relationship between spend and funding.
60. The table below shows that 44% of the funding is collected locally whilst 51% of the budget is used for Local Policing;

	Local Policing	Other Policing	Total
CC Spend per area	£39.633m	£37.332m	£76.965m
Support Services	£12.281m	£12.281m	£24.562m
OPCC	£1.215m	£1.214m	£2.429m
Total	£53.129m	£50.827m	£103.956
	51%	49%	100%
Staffing (FTE)	1050	950	2000
	52%	48%	100%
Income	£45.204m	£58.502m	£103.706m
Interest	£0.125m	£0.125m	£0.250m
Total	£45.329m	£58.627m	£103.956m
	44%	56%	100%

Capital

61. The Capital Plan is funded from capital balances brought forward, transfers from reserves, annual grant, capital receipts and revenue contributions to capital. The opportunity to borrow funds under the Prudential Code does exist. However to date this has not been necessary and this remains the case for the period of this MTF5.

Police and Crime Panel Forward Work Plan

Please note: this is a working document which is subject to change

Date	Location	Provisional Agenda Items
2 nd February 2017 10am-2pm	Chippenham, Monkton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consideration of PCC Precept proposal • Victim Support Service (Horizon) update • Member Questions
2 nd March 2017 10am-2pm	Salisbury, City Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly data (Q3)– Risk / Performance / Finance / Complaints • Member Questions • PCC Blog
29 th June 2017 10:30am-1pm	Devizes, Corn Exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of PCP Chair and Vice Chair • PCC Annual Report • Quarterly data (Q4)– Risk / Performance / Finance / Complaints • Member Questions • PCC Blog
14 th September 2017 10:30am-1pm	Trowbridge, County Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly data (Q1)– Risk / Performance / Finance / Complaints • Update on restorative justice • Member Questions • PCC Blog

<p>7th December 2017 10:30am-1pm</p>	<p>Chippenham, Monkton Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly data (Q2)– Risk / Performance / Finance / Complaints • Member Questions • PCC Blog
<p>18th January 2018 10:30am-1pm</p>	<p>Salisbury, City Hall</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Budget 2018/19 and MTFS • Member Questions • PCC Blog
<p>22nd February 2018 10:30am-1pm</p>	<p>Swindon, Civic Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consideration of PCC Precept proposal • Victim Support Service (Horizon) update • PCC Diary report
<p>22nd March, 2018 10:30am-1pm</p>	<p>Devizes, Corn Exchange</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly data (Q3)– Risk / Performance / Finance / Complaints • PCC diary report