

WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

REPORT TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ON HIS PRECEPT PROPOSAL

The Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel met on Wednesday 6 February 2012, during which, and as required by law, it reviewed your proposed precept for 2013-14.

It noted the brevity of the your report, highlighting that figures for previous years had shown a budget under spend in the budget and resulted in reserves held being forecast to increase to circa £10 million by the end of the financial year. Concerns were raised over the lack of detail and the difficulty in understanding the proposal in the absence of a Police and Crime Plan.

The Panel noted that you recognised its frustrations and you clarified that it would not be in this position again.

The Panel expressed the following concerns:

- The Panel expressed disappointment over the limited amount of information available to the Panel
- The Panel strongly recommends that in future it should not be required to consider the setting of the precept in isolation from the police and crime plan
- The Panel regrets the absence of a paper discussing alternative levels of precept
- The Panel showed unease over the size of reserves and highlighted the absence of any discussion over the justification for them or increase in them.

Notwithstanding these concerns and in the interests of introducing some certainty into an otherwise uncertain financial situation the Panel reluctantly agreed to approve the precept.