



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Finance Officer

Date: 20 January 2021

PRECEPT REPORT 2021/22 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)

The recommendations in this report are subject to public consultation closing on 19th January 2021.

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Business Coordination Board ("the Board") for submission to the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel ("the Panel").

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to approve the MTFS and precept proposal at Appendix 1.

2.2 The Board is asked to approve the Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 included as Appendix D in the MTFS.

2.3 Considering all the information contained in the MTFS the Chief Finance Officer is recommending that the Board endorse his recommendation to increase the policing element of council tax by £14.94; this will increase the policing element of Band D council tax from £232.65 in 2020/21 to £247.59 per annum, an increase of £1.25 per month. It should be noted that this recommendation is subject to the final results of public consultation.

3. Background

3.1 The Medium-Term Financial Strategy has been developed throughout 2020 for the 2021/22 to 2024/25 medium term financial period.

- 3.2 The draft MTFS will be submitted to the Panel for information and in support of reasoning for the precept proposal. The Panel will consider the proposed precept by the Acting Commissioner at their meeting on 3 February 2021.
- 3.3 The Panel have a Budget Briefing scheduled for 22 January 2021 to provide information on the development of the MTFS and precept proposal.
- 3.4 The final MTFS will be submitted to the Board on 16 March 2021 for final approval and adoption.

4. MTFS Development

- 4.1 Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the "Constabulary") held their Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) process to identify current and anticipated operational pressures to meet the Constabulary's priorities in February and March 2020. This allowed for early development of savings proposals and efficiencies as well as time to develop an enhanced target operating model to go live on 1 April 2021.
- 4.2 The Police Funding Settlement for 2021/22 was announced in mid-December and is a single year settlement which makes planning for a sustainable medium-term financial plan more difficult.
- 4.3 The funding settlement was a flat cash core grant funding with a small increase to reflect Officer Uplift and a smaller grant for Uplift.
- 4.4 The funding settlement also gave PCCs the ability to raise Council Tax precept by up to £15 a year. This would raise additional £288m nationally.
- 4.5 The Acting Commissioner launched a survey to gather the views of the public on 5 January 2021. This survey asked the public for their views on paying an additional £1.25 per month for policing services. It also asked for views on the public's priorities which will inform the future Police and Crime Plan.
- 4.6 The survey had 1,270 responses. Of these respondents 70% agreed that the increase represented value for money.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Board is recommended to approve the MTFS and precept proposal at Appendix 1.
- 5.2 The Board is asked to approve the Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 included as Appendix D in the MTFS.
- 5.3 Considering all the information contained in the MTFS the Chief Finance Officer is recommending that the Board endorse his recommendation to increase the policing element of council tax by £14.94; this will increase the policing element of Band D council tax from £232.65 in 2020/21 to £247.59 per annum, an increase of £1.25 per month. It should be noted that this recommendation is subject to the final results of public consultation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document	
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