



Report of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Determining the PCC Component of Council Tax 2022/23

Mayor's Precept Proposal

Friday 4th February 2022

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This document constitutes the report and recommendations of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel (hereafter referred to as 'the Panel') in respect of the PCC Component of Council Tax (hereafter referred to as the Mayor's 'precept') for 2022/23.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Mayor for West Yorkshire in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 3, Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, as modified by Part 1, Schedule 5 the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Election of Mayor and Functions) Order 2021.
- 1.3 The Panel endorses the Mayor's proposal to increase the precept by 4.73% which equates to an increase of £10 in council tax for a Band D property.

2. West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

2.1 Those Panel Members present to consider the proposed precept were as follows:

- Cllr Mohammed Iqbal (Chair)
- Cllr Masood Ahmed
- Cllr Barry Anderson (substitute for Cllr Amanda Carter)
- Cllr Russell Brown (substitute for Cllr Paul Sullivan)
- Cllr Sarah Courtney
- Cllr Richard Dunbar
- Cllr Tariq Hussain
- Mr Trevor Lake
- Cllr Andrew Marchington (substitute for Cllr Cahal Burke)
- Cllr Maureen Tennant-King
- Cllr Nicole Sharpe
- Mrs Jo Sykes
- Cllr Mark Thompson
- Cllr Sophie Whittaker

3. Powers of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

3.1 The Panel have the functions conferred by Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (Issuing Precepts) as modified by Part 1, Schedule 5 of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Election of Mayor and Functions) Order 2021. This enables them to:

- (i) Review the proposed precept notified by the Mayor
- (ii) Make a report to the Mayor on the proposed precept
- (iii) Include recommendations within the report as to the precept that should be issued for the financial year

3.2 The Panel may, having reviewed the proposed precept, veto the proposed precept:

- (i) If the Panel vetoes the proposed precept, the report must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed it

3.3 If the Panel does not veto the precept:

- (i) The Mayor must have regard to the Panel's report and recommendations and publish a response to it.
- (ii) It is for the Panel to decide in what way the Mayor's response is published.

3.4 If the Panel does veto the precept:

- (i) The Mayor must not issue the proposed precept
- (ii) The Mayor must issue a revised proposed precept-
 - Lower than the originally proposed precept if the Panel indicated it was too highOr:
 - Higher than the originally proposed precept if the Panel indicated it was too low
- (iii) The Panel must then review the revised proposed precept and submit a second report to the Mayor including recommendations as to the precept that should be issued.

3.5 The Mayor will then:

- (i) Have regard to the second report of the Panel and publish her response to it.

4. Panel's Consideration of the Precept Proposal

4.1 The Panel received formal notification from the Mayor of West Yorkshire of the proposed precept on 27th January 2022.

- 4.2 The Panel considered the proposal at their meeting in public on 4th February 2022. The Mayor of West Yorkshire attended to present her proposal and take questions from the Panel.
- 4.3 The Panel asked the Mayor a series of questions which related to her precept proposal, the budget assumptions which underpinned it and her future financial plans.
- 4.4 The questions covered issues including:
- The impact of an increase on the public with the current cost of living crisis
 - Why no alternative lower increase had been considered by the Mayor
 - The uncertain future financial landscape
 - The validity of the limited public budget consultation with short timescales and no other options set out
 - The importance of continuing to fund neighbourhood policing and the need to address ASB and low-level crime
 - Future pressures for West Yorkshire Police
 - Existing PFI commitments and capital financing

5. Panel's Decision

- 5.1 The Panel, through its discussion with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime on 4th February 2022, unanimously agreed to endorse the Mayor's proposal of an increase of 4.73% which equates to £10 on the policing and crime component of council tax for a Band D property.
- 5.2 The Panel voted on the proposed precept and the votes were recorded as follows:

Cllr Mohammed Iqbal (Chair)	Support
Cllr Masood Ahmed	Support
Cllr Barry Anderson	Support
Cllr Russell Brown	Support
Cllr Sarah Courtney	Support
Cllr Richard Dunbar	Support
Cllr Tariq Hussain	Support
Mr Trevor Lake	Support
Cllr Andrew Marchington	Support
Cllr Maureen Tennant-King	Support
Cllr Nicole Sharpe	Support
Mrs Jo Sykes	Support
Cllr Mark Thompson	Support
Cllr Sophie Whittaker	Support

6. Conclusions and Recommendation

- 6.1 On the basis of the commitments accepted by the Mayor, which are set out below, the Panel agreed to support the proposed increase of 4.73% which equates to £10 on the policing and crime component of council tax for a Band D property for 2022/23.

6.2 The Panel confirmed this approval was based on the Mayor's commitment to:

- Continue to prioritise increased investment into neighbourhood policing, supporting partnership working to tackle ASB and low-level crime and retaining PCSO numbers of 566
- Continue to ensure that all new recruitment seeks to increase the number of people from under-represented groups to ensure that the Force is truly representative of the communities in West Yorkshire
- Engage in early discussion (by November at the latest) with the Panel about the content and format of any public budget consultation to ensure it is accessible to all, and that the outcomes are clear and robust
- Ensure that all decisions and reports on the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan include a statement on the impact and / or benefit on children and young people

6.3 **RESOLVED:**

6.3.1 **That the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel support the Mayor's proposed increase of 4.73% which equates to £10 on the policing and crime component of council tax for a Band D property for 2022/23.**