



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR WEST YORKSHIRE
RESPONSE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thank you for the report of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel regarding the precept for 2015-16. We had a very useful discussion at the Panel meeting on 6th February and I felt that there was a good level of understanding of the budgetary pressures facing the police and why I felt it necessary to propose a 1.99% precept increase.

Responding to the points raised within paragraph 5.1 of the report in the order that they are listed:

- As discussed at the meeting we have already started the recruitment at the end of this financial year so that around 30 of the recruits can be in place at the very beginning of the 2015-16 year and I will tell the Panel what efforts are being made to improve representation when we meet on 6th March.

- I left the Panel with a briefing on the workforce strategy and expect to discuss this in more detail at an agreed session with the Panel.

- I left the Panel with a briefing on the estate strategy and we will also discuss this at an agreed Panel session. I am very supportive of co-location opportunities as demonstrated by the Pontefract Fire Station which is in place and Weetwood Fire Station scheme which is in development, for example.
- As I offered at the Panel meeting, I will review the content of my consultation ready for next year and consult appropriately with the Panel.
- While making representations to the Home Office to leave the top-sliced money in our budget I will seek to maximise the innovation funding obtained and therefore minimise the impact of the top-slicing if at all possible.
- As mentioned at the Panel meeting, post implementation reviews will be done once the projects are implemented to track that the benefits identified in the business cases have been delivered. Robust business cases will continue to be required to release funding to projects, as well as potential alternative strategies on existing projects if necessary.

In the light of the Panel's support for the proposed precept I confirm my approval of the Band D precept of £140.95 which is a 1.99% increase giving a precept figure of £85,323,628.

Mark Burns-Williamson OBE
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire