



South Wales Police and Crime Panel

REPORT ON THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH WALES' PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2023/24

Background

This report is made in accordance with the South Wales Police and Crime Panel's ("SWPCP") statutory duty contained in, Schedule 5, Paragraph 3(2) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 ("the Act"). The Panel must make a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner on the proposed precept.

Review of Proposed Precept for 2023/24

The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales notified the SWPCP on the 31st January 2023 of the Precept Proposal for 2023/24.

The SWPCP met on Tuesday the 7th February 2023 to review the Precept and to report on the proposed precept. A copy of the report detailing the proposed Precept is available to view on the SWPCP pages on the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council website.

Link to Precept Report

<https://democracy.merthyr.gov.uk/documents/s60937/Committee%20Report.pdf?LLL=0>

Report

The SWPCP considered the Precept proposal and resolved not to veto the same. The Commissioner is therefore allowed to implement his proposed increase which provides for an increase in the Precept of £1.86 per month per Band D equivalent property in 2023/2024, equating to a 7.4% increase on the 2022/2023 rate.

Recommendations

The SWPCP considered the precept proposal to be very high and by approving the same it recognised that this placed further financial pressure on the Council Tax paying public of South Wales. It was however accepted by the SWPCP that the increase was needed to ensure the police continue to be adequately funded.

The SWPCP expressed its disappointment that the financial burden of paying for an effective police force is being gradually transferred from central government to the public generally via the precept.

In coming to its decision, the SWPCP did however recognise the significant funding shortfall in areas such as the Police Funding Formula, Capital City Funding and the application of the Apprenticeship Levy and to that end the SWPCP confirmed its commitment to support the Commissioner in addressing these shortfalls.

The SWPCP did however welcome the police's commitment to maintaining front line policing in particular neighbourhood policing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Bowen', is written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Signed:

Chair of the South Wales Police & Crime Panel

Dated: 7th January 2023