

**ORIGINATOR:** Chief Finance Officer

**DECISION NO.** 03/2021

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION:** For Decision

**SUBMITTED TO:** Police and Crime Commissioner

**SUBJECT:** 2021/22 Precept and Council Tax Requirement

**SUMMARY:** This report describes the steps that have been taken by the PCC in determining his proposed precept and council tax requirement for 2021/22

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that:

- 1.The PCC issues this decision report formally to record the process for finalising and issuing the 2021/22 precept and approval for the various matters detailed in paragraph 2.5.
- 2.The PCC issues the 2021/22 precept.

**OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY:** PCC/CHIEF EXECUTIVE/CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (Delete as appropriate)

*The recommendations as outlined above are approved.*



**Signature**

**Date: 04 February 2021**

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the process for issuing a precept, including the Police and Crime Panel's (the Panel) role in reviewing the proposed precept, its power to veto the precept and the steps to be taken if it does.
- 1.2 The Home Office has also issued detailed guidance which supports this process including reporting requirements, the process for PCP scrutiny and the key (statutory) dates by which the various stages must be completed.
- 1.3 The 2021/22 budget, precept options and the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) are all set out in the 'Proposed Precept for 2021/22 Report to the Norfolk PCP 2 February 2021' (the Budget Report). The Report can be found on the PCC's website.

### **2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

- 2.1 The Budget Report outlines the budget and financial impact of the 2021/22 precept option on which the PCC consulted in December 2020 and January 2021 together with the Medium Term Financial Plan for the 4 years to 2024/25.
- 2.2 The option was:
  - To increase council tax by £14.94 per annum at Band D (5.68%).

NB Increases of £15 or more would trigger a local referendum  
63% of households in Norfolk are below Band D
- 2.3 There were 987 responses to the consultation. 54.81% of respondents said they were prepared to pay more for policing in Norfolk. Of the 54.81%
  - 36% said they strongly agreed with the precept proposal
  - 19% said they agreed with the precept proposal

2.4 A high level summary of the option is set out in the table below.

Increase Council Tax by 5.68% per annum (£14.94)

5.68% (£14.94) Council Tax increase	Budget 2021/22 £000	Forecast 2022/23 £000	Forecast 2023/24 £000	Forecast 2024/25 £000
Total Funding (Grant + Precept)	(183,056)	(183,187)	(183,187)	(183,545)
Net Revenue Budget before changes and savings	176,186	180,154	183,855	187,628
<b>REVENUE SURPLUS BEFORE KNOWN CHANGES</b>	<b>(6,870)</b>	<b>(3,033)</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>4,083</b>
Known / Expected Changes	12,617	11,716	10,973	7,319
Planned use of reserves	(1,739)	(2,422)	(1,711)	1,846
<b>REVENUE DEFICIT BEFORE SAVINGS</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>6,261</b>	<b>9,930</b>	<b>13,248</b>
Planned Savings	(4,010)	(4,177)	(4,232)	(4,287)
Savings to be identified	0	(2,084)	(5,698)	(8,961)
<b>REVENUE DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) AFTER SAVINGS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

A precept increase, equal to 22 pence per week for a Band B property or 29 pence per week at Band D, will allow the Constabulary to keep their current levels of service in the face of increasing demands and also tackle the new challenges that we are facing.

The Constabulary and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will establish a team dedicated to dealing with the most dangerous domestic abusers across the county. Additional frontline policing resource will increase visibility and targeting those offenders who cause the most harm to our communities. There will also be further investment in staff with the expertise to tackle the growing volume of offences with a digital footprint such as fraud.

2.5 The Budget Report also includes:

- Details of the Known/Expected Changes funded and included in the budget and MTFP Appendices B(ii)
- A summary of the savings identified in the budget (Appendix B(iii))
- Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2021/25 (Appendix D & E)
- Reserves Strategy and Forecast Movements (Appendix F)
- Annual Treasury Management Strategy including Prudential Code Indicators 2021/22 including the borrowing limits (Appendix G)
- The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement
- The 2021/22 Precept to be levied on the collection authorities for 2021/22 (Appendix H).

### 3. PCC's PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The PCC proposed the above option to the Panel
- 3.2 The Norfolk Police and Crime Panel considered, and unanimously supported, the PCC's proposal at its meeting on 2 February 2021.

### 4. ISSUING OF THE PRECEPT

- 4.1 Full details of the precept to be levied on the collection authorities can be found in Appendix H to the Budget Report.


### 5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is recommended that:
- The PCC issues this decision report formally to record the process for finalising and issuing the 2021/22 precept and approval for the various matters detailed in paragraph 2.5.
  - The PCC issues the 2021/22 precept.

<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Originator of report
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	Yes

In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Is this report a Confidential Decision?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>
If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the <a href="#">PCC Decision Making Policy</a>	

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER** (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

<p><b>Chief Executive</b></p> <p>I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Signature:</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Date: 04 February 2021</b></span></p>
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**Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)**

I certify that:

- a) there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,  
OR
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,  
OR
- c) the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves  
AND
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

**Signature:**



**Date: 04 February 2021**

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION:** *Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential'. Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.*