

Date: 05/02/2024



**HAMPSHIRE &
ISLE OF WIGHT
POLICE & CRIME PANEL**

Ms Donna Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner for
Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
(by email)

*Elizabeth II Court, The Castle
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Dear Donna,

Outcome of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel's consideration of your proposed precept

At our recent meeting, on 26 January 2024, Members of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel (the Panel), considered your proposed precept for 2024/25.

I can confirm that the Panel resolved the following:

The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel supports a precept increase of £10 per annum for Band D properties, which is the equivalent of £0.83 per month, or 19p per week and is in line with inflation at 3.98%.

Further the Panel noted:

- The recommendations from the Chief Constable on the operational requirements for 2024/25 onwards, and the request that the PCC supports a precept increase to enable the delivery of those requirements, as set out in Appendix A.
- That consultation has been undertaken to determine the public support for a precept increase, and that the overall collective outcome of the consultation shows that there is majority support for a precept increase, but with a notable minority of 31% supporting no increase.
- That 61% of households across Hampshire & IoW (HIOW) are in properties in council tax bands A-C, and would therefore see a precept increase of less than £10 per annum as set out in Appendix C.
- That the precept in HIOW in 23/24 was £9.81 below the national average police precept and as the referendum limit is £13 for Band D properties, the HIOW precept is still expected to be below the national average.
- That the total uplift in police officer numbers in HIOW over the three year period 2020/21 to 2022/23 delivered through the Government's Uplift programme was 498, but that with the support of the PCC, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary (HIOWC) is on track to actually deliver 650 new officers in total by April 2024. The officers funded in the 2024/25 budget will be in addition to the 650, taking the total additional officer numbers to 725 by March 2025.

The Panel also made the following further recommendation:

That a joint letter be sent from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police and Crime Commissioner to the relevant Secretary of State and Shadow Secretary of State, to highlight concerns regarding the level of central government funding received by Hampshire & the Isle of Wight for policing.

The Democratic Services Officer supporting the Panel will draft a letter accordingly, and if you are in agreement, provide the draft to your office in order for the letter to be co-signed.

The Panel looks forward to receiving updates from yourself and your team over the forthcoming year demonstrating progress against the budget and the outcomes to be expected as a result of the precept increase.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have queries or comments in relation to our resolutions above.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seán Woodward". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Cllr Seán Woodward
Chairman, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel