

Your Reference:

Our Reference: Lincolnshire PCP

Contact: Ann Good

Email: lincolnshirepcp@elindsey.gov.uk

Date: 8th February 2023

Marc Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner for
Lincolnshire

Via email - lincolnshire-pcc@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Dear Commissioner

Re: Lincolnshire Police Precept 2023/24

On behalf of the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel, I write to thank you, members of your Team and the Chief Constable for attending the Panel meeting on 3rd February 2023 to present, discuss and answer the Panel's questions in relation to your proposed Police Precept for 2023/24.

The Panel found the discussion informative and appreciated your open approach to providing information. A recording of the meeting is available on the East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) YouTube webpage and details will be included in the minutes of the meeting which will be available in due course via ELDC's website.

Prior to the meeting the Panel thoroughly scrutinised your report and during discussion sought further information in relation to the funding formula model used and its impact upon Lincolnshire, campaigning for future home office funding in respect of the challenges faced in Lincolnshire, police numbers the proposal to cut the number of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's), future expenditure plans, use of reserves and the service impact the additional Precept funding would provide to the people of Lincolnshire.

The Panel noted the following key information in relation to your proposed Police Precept for 2023/24:

- Your budget consultation exercise received 3,843 responses and was statistically robust. The majority of respondents indicated a willingness to pay more to fund policing and crime prevention in Lincolnshire.
- The additional Police Officer Uplift Funding received from government is restricted in its use that there are financial penalties which can be imposed if the uplift target is not met.

- Data continues to show that Lincolnshire has the lowest resource funding per head of population of any force area in the Country. Despite ongoing and wide ranging recognition that the national police funding formula remains unfit for purpose, it remains the case that change has yet to be delivered. The Panel remains strongly of the view that a fairer police funding formula should be introduced and wholeheartedly supports you and the Chief Constable in your attempts to achieve this through your work at the national level. We also share your view that the Government should in the interim provide interim funding support to forces like Lincolnshire that are disadvantaged by the current system.

Following consideration of the proposal the Panel was satisfied that you had been able to demonstrate that an increase in the Police Precept is justified and will support delivery of the priorities as set out in the Community Safety, Policing and Criminal Justice Plan for Lincolnshire April 2021 – March 2025.

As such, and in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to confirm that the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel voted unanimously to support your proposal to increase the Police Precept by £14.94 for a Band D property in 2023/24.

In respect of the announcement that PCSO numbers will be reduced the Panel made the following recommendation to yourself:

That the Panel notes with extreme concern the proposal to cut the number of PCSO's and would ask the PCC to further consider this with the Chief Constable to ensure that community confidence in police presence in Lincolnshire is not seriously damaged.

Please note that this letter will be published on the Panel's website.

Yours sincerely

Chris Cook
Chairman – Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel

CC: Members of the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel
Chief Executives of Lincolnshire Local Authorities
Chief Constable for Lincolnshire