

Mr. M. Nundy,
Senior Democratic Services Officer
North Lincolnshire Council
Civic Centre,
Ashby Road,
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN16 1AB

13 February 2018

Dear Mr. Nundy

Police Precept Proposal for 2018/19

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 February 2018 enclosing a copy of the Panel's statutory report following the meeting on Wednesday of last week.

I very much welcome the fact that the Panel has once again unanimously agreed to my preferred option of increasing the precept. This represents a 6.40% increase, the maximum amount permissible without breaching the £12 referendum limit for a Band D property and is in line with Government advice. This takes the precept for a Band D property to £199.32. Please pass on my thanks to the Panel for once more providing me with the opportunity to explain my reasons for recommending the maximum increase and for the constructive discussions at the meeting.

With regard to the observations and recommendations, it is the role of the Panel to hold me to account and for me to hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of service to achieve the outcomes set out in my Police and Crime Plan. In that context, I note that the Panel recognised the fact that following the decision to raise the precept last year there has been a significant increase in the number of police officers being recruited and that with the latest decision there are plans for further additional officers. This is being closely scrutinised on a regular basis against the established workforce plan and I suggest that you make arrangements with my Chief Executive, Rachel Cook, to build progress reports into the Panel's work plan for 2018 so that members can be updated on achievement against the projected recruitment profile. As I indicated at the meeting, the deployment in terms of location and role are matters for the Chief Constable. However if we are considering progress on recruitment on a regular basis, we can look to see how best we can provide information to the Panel on the Force's target operating model and how the use of resources are helping to deliver the Police and Crime Plan.

In relation to communicating the improved level of resources to the public, I will make every effort in conjunction with the Chief Constable through the local TV, radio, press and social media to ensure that the public are informed. Members may already be aware of the concerted efforts on social media to encourage applications from interested parties in the recent rounds of recruitment and this will continue. The Chief Constable is currently reviewing his delivery plan and this will no doubt provide opportunities to send a clear message to local communities on developments within the Force.



As I indicated at the meeting there are a number of interpretations of what improved performance looks like and I would welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with the Panel to develop a common and shared understanding of the ways in which this can be evaluated.

In closing, having considered the Panel's report and observations following the discussions on 7 February 2018, I can now formally confirm that I have determined that the precept for 2018/19 will be £199.32 per annum for a Band D property. This represents an increase of £11.99 or 6.40% on the precept for the current financial year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Hunter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Hunter
Police and Crime Commissioner

