



**Philip Secombe
Police and Crime
Commissioner
for Warwickshire**

16 February 2024

Mr Andrew Davis

Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel Chair

By email: Warwickshire County Council Democratic Services

Dear Mr Davis,

Subject: Warwickshire Policing Precept 2024/25

Thank you for your letter of the 7 February 2024, regarding the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel's formal response to my proposal for the policing precept for 2024/25.

The precept was considered at the meeting of the Panel on 5 February 2024 and I wish to put on record my personal thanks to the members of the Panel for the scrutiny, challenge and support that they provided to me during this important democratic process; also, for their unanimous vote in support of my proposal for the increase in the precept. I do however note the three specific recommendations made by the Panel, as articulated in your letter.

My view is that these are reasonable and appropriate recommendations to ensure that the investment made by Warwickshire's taxpayers through the police precept translate into Warwickshire Police providing an improved service and that this improvement is objectively assessed, scrutinised, and effectively communicated.

In setting the budget, my aim is to provide Warwickshire Police with the resources necessary to keep communities safe, while ensuring value for money for taxpayers and delivering a balanced budget. It is therefore critical that there is close monitoring of expenditure and service delivery to ensure that the expected benefits are in fact realised. This will form an important part of my office's scrutiny work in the year ahead and I will continue to hold the force to account in delivering on these improvements.

As part of this, I welcome the suggested approach of the Panel's 'Planning and Performance Group' to focus on specific areas of community concern, to assist in the monitoring of progress. My office will work with you in developing this approach.

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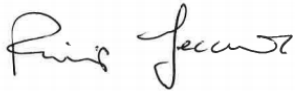
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I also fully agree with the points raised by the Panel on the importance of effective media and communications in aiding residents to understand the progress that is being made in delivering service improvements. As was highlighted in my budget report and detailed in your letter, it is critical that the public can see the tangible benefits that the budget delivers and I am keen to ensure this is the case.

As Police and Crime Commissioner, I am committed to regular engagement and communication with residents. Having discussed your letter with the Chief Constable, I know that she is also fully supportive of ensuring that the good progress of the force and the outcomes of the investment from the budget are effectively communicated. I will continue to work closely with the force to ensure this is the case.

Lastly, thank you for noting the diligence and work of my team in providing the information and briefing ahead of the Panel meeting. Your comments are appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Secombe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Philip Secombe TD

Police and Crime Commissioner