



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

Request: For Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) approval.

Title: Police Precept Proposal 2026-2027

Executive Summary:

Legislation requires that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) agree their budget and associated precept and basic council tax for the forthcoming year before 1st March each year. However, before doing so the PCC must notify the relevant Police and Crime Panel, by the 31st January, of the precept which they propose to issue for the following financial year.

The Provisional Police Settlement for 2026/27 has provided the PCC with worst funding settlement in the country considering funding provided from the Government and the amount that can be raised from the local precept.

After reflecting that some of the increase in funding being reported by the Government this year refers to funding that covers last year's pay award, and that both inflation and pay awards are above 3%, then the funding for policing in Cleveland has seen a real terms reduction in its funding from a year ago.

As the funding has failed to keep pace with the level of inflation, and other funding has been removed and reallocated to elsewhere within the country, then it is unfortunately not possible to maintain current levels of service, and difficult choices will be required to balance the budget.

These difficult choices come despite the proposal to increase the precept by £15. **Any increase below this level would lead to further reductions in service.**

The Government have provided PCCs with the flexibility to increase the police element of the council tax by £15 and have assumed these increases in the communication on overall levels of police funding.

Consultation has been undertaken across Cleveland in relation to the precept options. Across the whole consultation almost 57% of 1,223 respondents indicated that they would be willing to pay up to an additional £18 per year (or more) for policing in their area (for a Band D property).

The above response was broadly replicated across all 4 council areas with support above 50% in each area indicating a willingness to pay up to an additional £18 per year (or more).

Therefore the organisational need for this increase and the resources that they will support, aligned with some significant support from the public for an increase of around £15, is why the PCC is asked to formally propose a police precept of £332.73 for 2026/27 to the Police and Crime Panel. This is an increase of 4.72% or £15 on a Band D property from 2025/26.

Decision:

The PCC is asked to agree that an increase in the precept for 2026/27 of £15, or 4.72%, from the level set in 2025/26, be proposed to the Police and Crime Panel for their consideration. In doing so the Band D level of Precept for Policing within Cleveland would increase by £15 from £317.73 per annum to £332.73

OPCC Lead Officer:

Michael Porter

Contractor Details (if applicable):**Implications:**

Has consideration been taken of the following:	Yes	No	
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(If yes please provide further details below)

Decision Required – Supporting Information

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCC's Chief Finance Officer where the decision has financial implications)

The PCC's Chief Finance Officer has advised that the financial implications of this Decision are set out in the Executive Summary and the report produced to send to the Police and Crime Panel that is provided with this form. The decision will ensure that the PCC meets their legislative requirements in relation to the Police element of the precept.

Subject to the support of this precept then the PCC will be asked to consider the formal budget for 2026/27 at a meeting on the 18th February. This will include the necessary measures required to balance the budget.

Legal Implications: (Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

There are no legal implications arising.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

None arising.

Human Rights Implications:

None arising.

Sustainability Implications:

None arising.

Risk Management Implications:

None arising.

OFFICER APPROVAL

Monitoring Officer:

I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signed



Date 27.01.26

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.



Signed

Date 27.01.26