

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CLEVELAND  
POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**2 FEBRUARY 2017**

**REPORT OF CLEVELAND  
POLICE AND CRIME PANEL –  
TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

**REVIEW OF THE OVERALL BUDGET STRATEGY**

**PURPOSE**

This report provides detail of the work undertaken by the annual Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to consider the financial strategy of the Police and Crime Commissioner for 2017/18 and the level of precept required to provide a balanced budget.

**DETAIL**

The report provides the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel with assurances from the PCP Task and Finish Group of evidence from, and discussion with, the Police and Crime Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer when considering the proposed precept.

In terms of financial planning, assumptions were undertaken in the same way as in previous years to increase the precept by 1.99%.

Members were informed that the Government changed its method of calculation having looked at the fact that across the country there has been an increase in the underlying tax bases. As a result it is suggested that as more funding is coming from precepts as a result of the tax base increase there is now capacity to reduce the amount of funding from the Government. Flat cash is still given but the local tax base is supporting that now. Higher reductions have resulted and the capital grant has been reduced by a further 15% this time.

The Task and Finish Group included consideration of the total funding projections and the PCC's priorities to determine the level of precept required for Cleveland.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Task and Finish Group support the increase to the PCC precept of 1.99%.

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