



**Decision report: PCC 2017 / 006**

**Title: Revenue Estimates and Council Tax Precept 2017/18**

**Executive Summary**

The net revenue budget for 2017/18 is £392.631 million which represents an increase of £5.990 million or 1.55%.

The revenue budget is fully balanced in 2017/18 with a 1.99% increase in council tax. This is in-line with my Annual Financial Strategy for 2017/18.

The budget for 2017/18 protects and provides some increases, for priority service areas and specialist capabilities in response to the increasing level of complex crime and the current threat levels. This supports the delivery of my Police and Crime Plan and the Force Commitment.

The medium term financial plan (MTFP) is balanced in all three years. This has only been possible through the identification of £21.5m of budget cuts.

The Force will continue working on its Productivity Strategy, to ensure resources are directed to priority areas and that services are delivered in the most effective manner. This work will continue to release savings in future years in order to balance the budget and provide additional resource to reinvest in priority policing areas.

The current MTFP requires revenue savings of at least £21.5m over the next three years, with £10.5m in 2017/18. This is over and above the £87m of cash savings already removed from the base budget in the last six years (i.e. 2011/12 to 2016/17) meaning that, over the nine year period 2011/12 to 2019/20, in excess of £108m will have been taken out of the base revenue budget.

The impact on police officer and staff numbers next year (2017/18) is a net reduction of 59 FTE police officer posts and an increase of 22 FTE police staff/PCSO posts

**Recommendation:**

The PCC is asked to APPROVE:

- That the council tax requirement for 2017/18 be set at £149.50m
- The revenue estimates for 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1
- That the police element of the council tax for 2017/18 be set at £170.28 for properties in Band D, with the charge for other bands as set out in below.

Property Band	Relevant Proportion	PCC element of the Council Tax
A	$\frac{6}{9}$	113.52
B	$\frac{7}{9}$	132.44
C	$\frac{8}{9}$	151.36
D	$\frac{9}{9}$	170.28
E	$\frac{11}{9}$	208.12
F	$\frac{13}{9}$	245.96
G	$\frac{15}{9}$	283.80
H	$\frac{18}{9}$	340.56

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

I hereby approve the recommendation above.

**Signature****Date**

10.2.17.

## **PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL**

### **1 Introduction and background**

- 1.1 The PCC is required to notify the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel of the council tax precept he is proposing to issue for 2017/18.
- 1.2 A report was presented to the Police and Crime Panel on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 recommending an increase of 1.99% in the police element of council tax for 2017/18. Full details were provided in support of this request and the PCC answered a number of written and oral questions in respect of his draft budget proposals.
- 1.3 The Panel supported the PCC's proposed increase of 1.99% in the police element of council tax.

### **2 Issues for consideration**

- 2.1 The budget for 2017/18 protects and provides some increases, for priority service areas and specialist capabilities in response to the increasing level of complex crime and the current threat levels. This supports the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the Force Commitment
- 2.2 The budget requires £10.5m of productivity strategy savings in 2017/18 with a further £11m in the following two years. This is over and above the £87m of cash savings already removed from the base budget in the last six years (i.e. 2011/12 to 2016/17) meaning that, over the nine year period 2011/12 to 2019/20, in excess of £108m will have been taken out of the base revenue budget
- 2.3 The budget is predicated on a recommended 1.99% increase in council tax in 2017/18.

### **3 Financial comments**

- 3.1 The net revenue budget requirement for 2017/18 is £392.631m, which requires an increase in council tax of 1.99%. A copy of the revenue estimates is attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The medium term financial plan, attached at Appendix 2, is currently balanced in all 3 years.

### **4 Legal comments**

- 4.1 The PCC is required to set a net revenue budget that is fully financed by government grants and income from local council taxpayers.
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Panel has approved the proposed increase in council tax precept.

### **5 Equality comments**



- 5.1 No specific implications arising from this report

**6 Background papers**  
Provisional local authority finance settlement 2017/18

<p><b>Public access to information</b> Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts and advice that should not be automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on a separate Part 2 form. Deferment of publication is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.</p>
<p><b>Is the publication of this form to be deferred? No</b></p>
<p><b>Is there a Part 2 form? No</b></p>

<b>Name &amp; Role</b>	<b>Officer</b>
<p><b>Head of Unit</b> The proposed budget for 2017/18 supports the delivery of both the Police and Crime Plan and the Force Commitment. Financially, this is achieved through the identification of £10.5m of Productivity Strategy savings to help fund the imposed increases in police staff pensions, the apprenticeship levy and other commitments.</p>	Director of Finance
<p><b>Legal Advice</b> Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the PCC is required to notify the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel of his proposed precept for 2017/18 by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017. The council tax requirement, precept and council tax levels are to be finally determined by the end of February.</p>	Chief Executive
<p><b>Financial Advice</b> The revenue budget for 2017/18 requires an increase in council tax of 1.99%. This is below the Government's council tax referendum threshold of 2%, The medium term financial plan is fully funded in all four years</p>	PCC Chief Finance Officer
<p><b>Equalities &amp; Diversity</b> No specific implications arising from this report</p>	Chief Executive

**OFFICER'S APPROVAL**

<p>We have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial and legal advice have been taken into account in the preparation of this report.</p>	
<p>We are satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.</p>	
<p> PCC Chief Finance Officer</p>	<p>Date: 8 February 2017</p>
<p> Director of Finance</p>	<p>Date: 8 February 2017</p>