

OPCC Record of Decision

The decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to set the four-year financial position for the financial years 2026/27 to 2029/30 and the precept proposals that were presented to the Police and Crime Panel on the 30th January 2026.

Decision Record prepared by

Name:	Nicola Allen
Role:	Treasurer
Date of Decision:	30 th January 2026

1. Background

1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner has set the future four-year financial position for policing for the financial years 2026/27 to 2029/30 and these proposals were presented to the Police and Crime Panel on the 30th January 2026 as follows:

1.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner proposed a £15.00 increase in the Band D equivalent for the police element of the council tax for the 2026/27 financial year following consultation with the Chief Constable.

1.3 Further items that were presented for the Police and Crime Panel to note included:

- The Strategic Investment Plan
- The Reserves Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Strategy are published online to ensure transparency.
- The Chief Constable's resources summary letter detailing his operational policing requirements for the coming year.

2. Decision Record

2.1 The Police and Crime Panel did not exercise their power of veto to the Commissioner's proposals for a £15.00 proposed increase in the Band D equivalent for the police element of the council tax for the 2026/27 financial year. It is therefore the Commissioner's decision to confirm the proposed £15.00 (5.20%) increase to the Band D equivalent in the police precept proportion of the council tax. This will take the Band D equivalent from £288.20 in 2025/26 to £303.20 for 2026/27. The council tax bands are shown in the table below:

Valuation Band	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Increase £	Increase %	Increase per day £	Increase per week £	Increase per month £	Increase per month (10 months) £
A	192.13	202.13	10.00	5.20%	0.03	0.19	0.83	1.00
B	224.16	235.82	11.67	5.20%	0.03	0.22	0.97	1.17
C	256.18	269.51	13.33	5.20%	0.04	0.26	1.11	1.33
D	288.20	303.20	15.00	5.20%	0.04	0.29	1.25	1.50
E	352.24	370.58	18.33	5.20%	0.05	0.35	1.53	1.83
F	416.29	437.96	21.67	5.20%	0.06	0.42	1.81	2.17
G	480.33	505.33	25.00	5.20%	0.07	0.48	2.08	2.50
H	576.40	606.40	30.00	5.20%	0.08	0.58	2.50	3.00

3. Consultation, Engagement and Communication

- 3.1 Publication of the provisional Police Finance Settlement was made on 18th December 2025 with the final settlement published on 28th January 2026. There were two changes between the provisional and final settlement which related to the continuation of the Serious Violence Grant of £657k and the inclusion of funding for the Knife Crime Concentrations Fund of £487k. Criteria around these additions has yet to be received.
- 3.2 As part of the commitment to actively engage with the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly on the totality of the budget a public survey was run from December 2025. The survey was promoted on social media platforms, through Neighbourhood Alert, at public engagement events and via community networks. The Police and Crime Panel members were also invited to an informal briefing on the totality of the budget settlement in January 2026.
- 3.3 The survey was designed to seek significant levels of engagement on questions around policing and investment priorities before the 2026/27 budget proposals were finalised. There were 1,533 responses to the engagement which is a statistically robust sample size.
- 3.4 The Commissioner submitted her written proposals to the Police and Crime Panel on 22nd January 2026. These were scrutinised in public by the Police and Crime Panel on 30th January 2026. The Police and Crime Panel did not exercise their veto for the proposals. They made 1 recommendation which has since been closed.
- 3.5 The Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel Chair has written to the Commissioner to formalise the agreement of the Police and Crime Panel at the meeting on the 30th of January 2026. A copy of the letter has been provided in the supporting documents with this decision and will be published.

4. OPCC Monitoring Officer advice

4.1 Legal, Management, Equality and GDPR Implications – Current and Future:

- 4.2 The Commissioner has taken into account this year's funding settlement and seeks to ensure that funding for Devon and Cornwall Police keeps pace with inflation at current levels. The budget is looking to deliver improved public confidence through better policing. The MTFS will maintain police officer numbers at 3,610.
- 4.3 Many new areas of policing require investment in new technology before any operational savings can be generated or operational benefits fully realised. The autumn budget announcement and the provisional settlement continued to highlight the importance of neighbourhood policing.

4.5 Financial and Commercial – Current and Future:

4.6 Indicative spending levels. The national settlement provided the funding levels for 2026/27 only. The Comprehensive Spending Review was announced in summer 2025. A risk register is attached to the Police and Crime Panel Report.

4.7 Work on the national funding formula has paused with the announcement of police reform and the publication of the policing white paper.

5. Supporting documents:

5.1 A letter dated 2nd February 2026 from the Police and Crime Panel Chair to the Police and Crime Commissioner accepting the proposed council tax, without exercising the power of veto.

5.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner's precept, budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2026/27 – 2029/30 as presented to the Police and Crime Panel on 30th January 2026 comprises the following documents:

- Proposed Precept, Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2026/27 – 2029/30 – Main Report
- Appendix 1 MTFS Booklet 26/27
- Appendix 2 CC Letter
- Appendix 3 Strategic Investment Plan
- Appendix 4 Risk Assessment 2026-27
- Appendix 5 Survey results
- Appendix 6 Glossary for Precepts 2026-27

6. Official approval

The Recommendation for Decision as outlined in this report is formally approved and subject to Freedom of Information Classification will be published on the OPCC website:

**Signature by
Police and Crime
Commissioner**



Signed:
Print: Alison Hernandez
Date: 05/02/2026

**Signature by
Governance
Monitoring Officer**



Signed:
Print: Fran Hughes
Date: 06/02/2026

**Signature by Chief
Financial
Officer and Treasurer**



Signed:
Print: Nicola Allen
Date: 05/02/2026

Equality Impact Assessment attached <i>[Tick if completed]</i>	✓
Data Protection Impact Assessment attached <i>[Tick if completed]</i>	N/A
Decision logged in register? <i>[Tick if completed]</i>	✓
Decision published on OPCC website? <i>[Tick if completed]</i>	✓

For OPCC office use:

Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.

If FOI Closed at the current date under Section 22, please provide details of the future date by which this decision can be reconsidered for publication:	N/A
Is there a publication schedule that lists the documents relating to this decision that will also be published at a later date in the future? If yes, please attach a copy with this decision.	No

DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
Friday 30 January 2026

To: The Police and Crime Commissioner of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Dated: 02 February 2026

REPORT OF THE DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to set out the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel's formal response to items considered at its meeting held on 30 January 2026.

The Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory requirement to set an annual Police and Crime budget and, as part of that process, to consult with the Police and Crime Panel regarding any proposals in relation to the council tax precept.

At the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on 30 January 2026, the Police and Crime Commissioner set out her proposed precept for 2026/27 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2026/27 to 2029/30.

2. 2026/27 Precept Notification

The Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel resolved to accept the council tax precept proposal and not exercise a veto.

- I. The Panel recommended that the Commissioner would ensure that an Equality Impact assessment on the precept was completed and provided to the Panel before its implementation.

3. Publication

In accordance with statutory provisions the report should be considered in conjunction with the minutes of the meeting which will be available shortly via the following link:

<https://democracy.plymouth.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1051&MId=11313&Ver=4>



Councillor Sally Haydon
Chair of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

Councillor Nicky Chopak
Vice-Chair of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel
Approved via email on 02 February 2026

If you have any queries regarding the contents of this report, please contact Jake Metcalfe, Principal Democratic, Governance and Scrutiny Officer for Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel, Plymouth City Council at:

Democraticservices@plymouth.gov.uk