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Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

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DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL TO FOLLOW ITEMS

Friday 7 February 2014
10.30 am
Council House (Next to the Civic Centre), Plymouth

Members:

Councillor Croad, Chair.

Councillor Rule, Vice-Chair.

Councillors Barker (Teignbridge District Council), Batters (Cornwall Council), Boyd (Torridge District Council), Geoff Brown (Cornwall Council), Duncan (Isles of Scilly), Eddowes (Cornwall Council), Excell (Torbay Council), Hare-Scott (Mid Devon District Council), Haywood (North Devon District Council), James (Cornwall Council), Penberthy (Plymouth City Council), Saltern (South Hams District Council), Sanders (West Devon District Council), Sutton (Exeter City Council), Williams (Plymouth City Council) and Wright (East Devon District Council).

Independent Members:

Yvonne Atkinson (Devon) and Mike Firbank (Cornwall and Isles of Scilly).

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER AGENDA ITEM NOS. 2 AND 5C.

DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

2. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 6)

To sign and confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2013.

5c CONSIDERATION OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PROPOSED LEVEL OF PRECEPT FOR 2014/15

(Pages 7 - 22)

The Panel will consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proposed level of precept for 2014/15 and will decide whether to support or veto the proposal.

Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

Friday 20 December 2013

PRESENT:

Councillor Croad, in the Chair.

Councillors Barker, Batters, Boyd, Duncan, Eddowes (substitute for Councillor Dyer), Excell, Hare-Scott, James, Penberthy, Saltern, Sanders, Williams and Wright.

Independent Representative: Yvonne Atkinson.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Geoff Brown, Dyer, Rule and Sutton and Mike Firbank (Independent Representative).

Also in attendance: Sarah Hopkins, Community Safety Partnership Manager, Lynn Clark, Police and Crime Panel Coordinator, Katey Johns, Democratic Support Officer, Tony Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner, Andrew White, OPCC Interim Chief Executive, and Duncan Walton, OPCC Treasurer.

The meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 2.55 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Panel will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

Welcome

The Chair welcomed Councillor Wright to his first meeting as a formal Panel Member, having replaced Councillor Diviani, and Andrew White, the Police and Crime Commissioner's recently appointed Interim Chief Executive.

21. MINUTES

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2013.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made in respect of items under consideration at the meeting –

Name	Minute No.	Reason	Interest
Councillor Excell	Minute No. 26 and 27	Executive Lead for Torbay's Safer Communities Partnership	Personal
Yvonne Atkinson	Minute No. 26	Trustee of Devon Rape Crisis	Personal

23. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

24. **SCRUTINY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S STAFF AND CONSULTANCY APPOINTMENTS, AND EXPENSES AND ALLOWANCES**

In accordance with its agreed work programme, the Panel welcomed the Police and Crime Commissioner who, prior to commencement of the scrutiny process –

- made a brief statement on the departure of his former Chief Executive who had left to pursue new opportunities;
- announced that a joint project team would be created to explore how Devon and Cornwall and Dorset Police Forces could collaborate effectively across all areas of policing.

The Police and Crime Panel Co-ordinator first outlined the process to be followed for this item of reactive scrutiny, following which the Police and Crime Commissioner provided an overview of his report.

Issues raised by Members for the Commissioner's consideration and response included –

- the number of consultants which transferred directly from the former Police Authority;
- how many staff had been appointed directly by the Commissioner since and at what cost;
- the total number of staff now employed by the Commissioner and his total salary bill;
- the policy/procedures used by the Commissioner to recruit staff and consultants, including that of his new Chief Executive;
- how his commissioning intentions had been reflected in his staffing and office structures;
- details of how the Commissioning Board had been established, together with allowance entitlements;
- sight of the terms of reference and membership details for the Commissioner's various Boards;
- discrepancy between consultancy costs detailed in the report and the response provided as a result of a freedom of information request;
- whether the Police and Crime Commissioner represented value for money.

The Police and Crime Commissioner extended an invitation to the Panel to visit his offices and observe his team in action

Following lengthy consideration and questioning of the Police and Crime Commissioner on this matter, it was agreed that –

- (1) he would provide details concerning the Boards that sit under the

auspices of the Police and Crime Commissioner, including –

- how many Boards there are;
 - who sits on them;
 - how Board members are appointed;
 - terms of reference;
 - recruitment and selection process;
 - allowances entitlement of Board members;
 - how long the Boards sit;
 - a breakdown of how Board members are made up in terms of Protected Characteristics;
 - a forecast of where the Boards are going in terms of scrutiny;
- (2) he would provide the Panel with clarification / a breakdown of expenditure on use of consultants, particularly an explanation of the discrepancy between figures quoted in the report and those provided in the response to the freedom of information request;
- (3) further to (1) and (2) above, the Panel take the opportunity to consider the information presented to them and make recommendations in the form of a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner in respect of his staffing and consultancy appointments and expenses and allowances.

Note: A detailed report setting out the findings of this scrutiny review would be produced by the Police and Crime Panel Co-ordinator and circulated to panel members for their comment prior to submission of any recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner who would then have one month to respond. A copy of that report, together with the Police and Crime Commissioner's response, will be published on the Police and Crime Panel's website in due course.

25. **REPORT FROM THE OPCC IN RESPECT OF THE STAGE 2 TRANSFER**

The Police and Crime Commissioner updated the Panel on the Stage 2 Transfer and associated implications, outlining which staff and assets would be retained by him and which would transfer to the Chief Constable. Panel Members were advised that –

- (a) the final division of responsibilities and the development of new governance, scrutiny, public engagement and commissioning arrangements required different staff functions to those of the former Police Authority;
- (b) the Commissioner and the Chief Constable had been working closely together to develop a scheme to ensure as smooth a transition as possible;
- (c) this scheme had been submitted to the Policing Minister and subsequently to the Home Office for evaluation whom had given it in principle approval in a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner

dated 6 December 2013.

The Panel noted the report with thanks and welcomed the Commissioner's intention to keep the Panel informed on future progress.

26. **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S REPORT ON ACTIVITIES AND DECISIONS**

The Panel heard from the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding activities undertaken and decisions made to date, as well as details of forthcoming planned events. The Commissioner drew Members' attention to one of the more challenging aspects of his report, namely the 101 non-emergency enquiry service, and sought the Panel's assistance in gauging public perception.

Councillor Batters raised concerns with the 101 service and the fact that his call could only be progressed once he had classified it as a complaint, despite the fact that he was only calling to arrange a meeting with officers at his local police station.

Other issues raised by Members for the Commissioner's consideration and response included –

- maintaining the high level of support required for tackling domestic abuse given the ongoing budget cuts;
- how he was measuring the effectiveness of policing in terms of safeguarding vulnerable people from harm;
- responsibility for the Independent Custody Visitor team.

The Panel noted the report with thanks.

Agreed that the Police and Crime Commissioner will look into the concern raised by Councillor Batters relating to the classification applied to the 101 service.

27. **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Police and Crime Commissioner presented an update on his objectives and the Force performance against the four-year, high-level improvement targets, as set out in the Police and Crime Plan. He highlighted the following two issues of concern –

- an increase in reporting of incidents of domestic violence;
- the spike in crime in genera as a result of the influx of visitors to the region during the summer period.

The Commissioner also commented on his concerns over the supply of cheap alcohol and sought the Panel's support in lobbying MPs to tackle the supermarkets over this issue.

Members welcomed the report, which was noted, and requested information in respect of the following be included in a future report –

- detail of the needs analysis produced in respect of domestic violence;
- detail of the victim code.

28. **REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR RULE IN RESPECT OF HER ATTENDANCE AT THE COPACC CONFERENCE "PCCS AND PANELS: MAKING THE RELATIONSHIP CRITICAL, FRIENDLY AND EFFECTIVE" - ON 16 OCTOBER 2013, IN LONDON**

The Panel considered the report of the Vice-Chair following her attendance at the COPACC Conference in October 2013. In the absence of the Vice-Chair, the Chair offered his thanks to her and Jo Tellam, Cornwall's Overview and Scrutiny Officer, for producing the report.

Councillor Sanders had also attended the Conference and reported that one of the things that had struck him was the many different ways in which the offices of the Police and Crime Commissioner went about their role and their relationships with their Chief Constables. He also welcomed the networking opportunity that the event had provided, which had been invaluable.

The Panel noted the report and took the opportunity to accept the offer of the Police and Crime Commissioner to visit his offices and observe his team in action which had been extended under minute 24.

Agreed that the Police and Crime Panel Co-ordinator would liaise with Panel Members and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner on a suitable date for a visit.

29. **REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (OPCC) IN RESPECT OF ANY NON-CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Interim Chief Executive reported that, during the period 25 September and 25 November 2013, four complaints had been received.

The Panel noted the report with thanks and agreed that the Police and Crime Commissioner will amend the complaints reporting table Appendix A to show that the 'outcome' is recorded and that it is duly recorded in any future reports.

30. **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The Panel noted that the next meeting would take place on 7 February 2014 when consideration would be given to the Police and Crime Commissioner's precept.

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Revised Appendix 1

Referendum Limit Announcement**1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The main panel report is based upon the assumption that the limit at which the Council Tax referendum exception limit is set was to be 2 % in line with the announcement in the Chancellors Spending Review on 26th June 2013 . The Home Secretary announced on Wednesday 5th February 2014 that the council tax limit above which a referendum was needed in 2014/15 is to be set at 2% or above. This addendum paper sets out the changes required to implement the revised level of tax to the new limit of 1.99%.
- 1.2 This paper assumes that the previously stated levels of funding and the contribution from reserves remains the same as at the 2% Council Tax increase level ,

2. The Revised Precept Proposal- (Page 23 and 38 of Panel Report)

- 2.1 In a written ministerial statement on Wednesday, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Brandon Lewis set out the percentage increase in Council Tax which local authorities, fire authorities and Police and Crime Commissioners in England can set in 2014/15 without a referendum. Any increase of 2%, or higher than 2%, will require a referendum. The critical figure for the triggering a referendum is therefore 1.99%, not 2%
- 2.2 The Commissioner in his paper to the panel has recommended a council tax increase of 2% or lower if this triggers a referendum. The PCC has no desire to trigger a referendum his objective being to ensure that there is sufficient funding to enable his intentions in the Police and Crime plan to be delivered especially with regard to maintaining police officer numbers at 3000 or above. In view of the referendum principles and the proposal already submitted to the panel the PCC wishes to place the following proposal for the 2014/15 Council Tax to the panel:

Recommendation:

- 1) That the proposed council tax increase for 2014-15 should be set at 1.99% and**
- 2) That the council tax freeze grant for 2014-15 is not accepted;**

3. Setting The Council Tax (Page 46 of the Panel Report)

- 3.1 The reduction in the proposed precept level from 2% to 1.99% changes the calculation of Band D council Tax from £166.18 to £166.16 .This adjusts the calculation for each of the tax bands and therefore the whole of page 46 of the panel paper needs to be replaced by the following

Table: 1 Council tax information and Precept

Tax base, collection variations and precepts						
	Tax Base declared by Councils	Total Precept payable by Councils £	Surplus (Deficit) on collection £	Amount due from Councils £	% share payable by Councils	
East Devon	54,047.00	£8,980,449.52	£0.00	£8,980,449.52	9.63%	
Exeter	34,344.00	£5,706,599.04	£27,437.00	£5,734,036.04	6.15%	
Mid Devon	26,996.05	£4,485,663.67	£55,028.00	£4,540,691.67	4.87%	
North Devon	31,543.02	£5,241,188.20	-£7,300.94	£5,233,887.26	5.61%	
Plymouth	67,066.00	£11,143,686.56	£194,763.00	£11,338,449.56	12.16%	
South Hams	36,250.26	£6,023,343.20	£53,000.00	£6,076,343.20	6.52%	
Teignbridge	44,548.00	£7,402,095.68	£0.00	£7,402,095.68	7.94%	
Torbay	41,713.28	£6,931,078.60	£89,957.00	£7,021,035.60	7.53%	
Torrige	21,778.03	£3,618,637.46	£44,207.00	£3,662,844.46	3.93%	
West Devon	19,185.50	£3,187,862.68	£0.00	£3,187,862.68	3.42%	
Cornwall	175,908.63	£29,228,977.96	£609,000.00	£29,837,977.96	32.00%	
Isles of Scilly	1,319.10	£219,181.66	£13,000.00	£232,181.66	0.25%	
	554,698.87	£92,168,764.23	£1,079,091.06	£93,247,855.29	100.0%	
Police element of Council Tax due for each Property Valuation Band						
Valuation band	Government multiplier Ratio		Council Tax by band		Increase per week	%
			2014-15	2013-14		
A	6 / 9	0.667	£110.77	£108.61	+ 4.2 p	1.99%
B	7 / 9	0.778	£129.24	£126.72	+ 4.8 p	
C	8 / 9	0.889	£147.70	£144.82	+ 5.5 p	
D	1	1.000	£166.16	£162.92	+ 6.2 p	
E	11 / 9	1.222	£203.08	£199.12	+ 7.6 p	
F	13 / 9	1.444	£240.01	£235.33	+ 9.0 p	
G	15 / 9	1.667	£276.93	£271.53	+ 10.4 p	
H	18 / 9	2.000	£332.32	£325.84	+ 12.5 p	
Calculation of relevant basic amount of Council Tax						
		£			Band D Council Tax	
Council Tax Requirement		92,168,764.23	=		£166.16	
Tax Base		554,698.87				
The tax base and collection fund information is accurate to the date of the production of this report. Billing authorities have until the 31 January to notify the OPCC of changes to this information and for this reason it may be subject to minor changes						



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Refreshing the Police and Crime Plan

Police and Crime Commissioner's
Police and Crime Plan,
proposed precept and budget



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Police and Crime Plan 2014

- Remains under development
- Reflects experience of first year in office
- Adjusted to reflect new and emerging risks
- Will set out clearly the PCC's expectations of the OPCC, Chief Constable and partners
- Intention to publish end March 2014



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Vision

To ensure that Devon and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly continues to be a safe place to live, work and visit. I want to cut crime, improve confidence in policing, support the economy and encourage people to work together to make communities safer.



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Six areas of priority

- To make our area safer
- A focus on cutting alcohol-related harm
- A renewed drive for efficiency and reducing cost
- A more effective criminal justice system
- Establishing victim support services
- To enable citizens to play their part in community safety.



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 1

To make our area a safer place to live, work and visit – reducing the likelihood that people will become victims of crime.

Keep police officer numbers above 3000

Focus on prevention and reducing reoffending

Commissioning services and continuing the Small Grants Scheme

Enabling greater involvement by citizens and communities to support policing and reduce crime

Working closer with businesses to deter crime

Reviewing the 101 non-emergency service

A revised, mature approach to performance measures



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 2

To reduce alcohol related crime and the harm it causes

A more responsible approach to alcohol use and sales

Raise awareness and improve education about the harm caused by alcohol

Support community safety work on alcohol



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 3

To make every penny count in protecting policing for the long term. We need to drive for further efficiency, work to secure more central funding and actively explore all avenues to deliver the significant savings we require from 2017/18 to sustain our services

Publish a Financial Roadmap

Explore the scope for collaboration with Dorset Police

Support business by looking at how to get our highways reopened more quickly following road accidents



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 4

To promote an effective criminal justice system for our area, delivering a high quality service for victims, witnesses and society.

Influence and shape the upcoming reforms to rehabilitation services

Campaign for greater action by partners on mental health

Support efforts to prevent reoffending by young people



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 5

To deliver a high quality victim support service across our area

Champion victims' interests

Provide a quality service for victims of crime by April 2015

Ensure the needs of vulnerable victims and those from diverse communities are properly understood.



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Priority 6

To encourage and enable citizens and communities to play their part in tackling crime and making their communities safer

Support the development of active citizenry and fund initiatives to get off the ground

Establish a PCC Award Scheme to recognise the most effective schemes

Encourage businesses to work more closely with the police

Review the scope and scale of volunteering in policing



**Police and Crime Commissioner
for Devon and Cornwall**

Making Every Penny Count

**Police & Crime Commissioner's
Budget 2014-18**

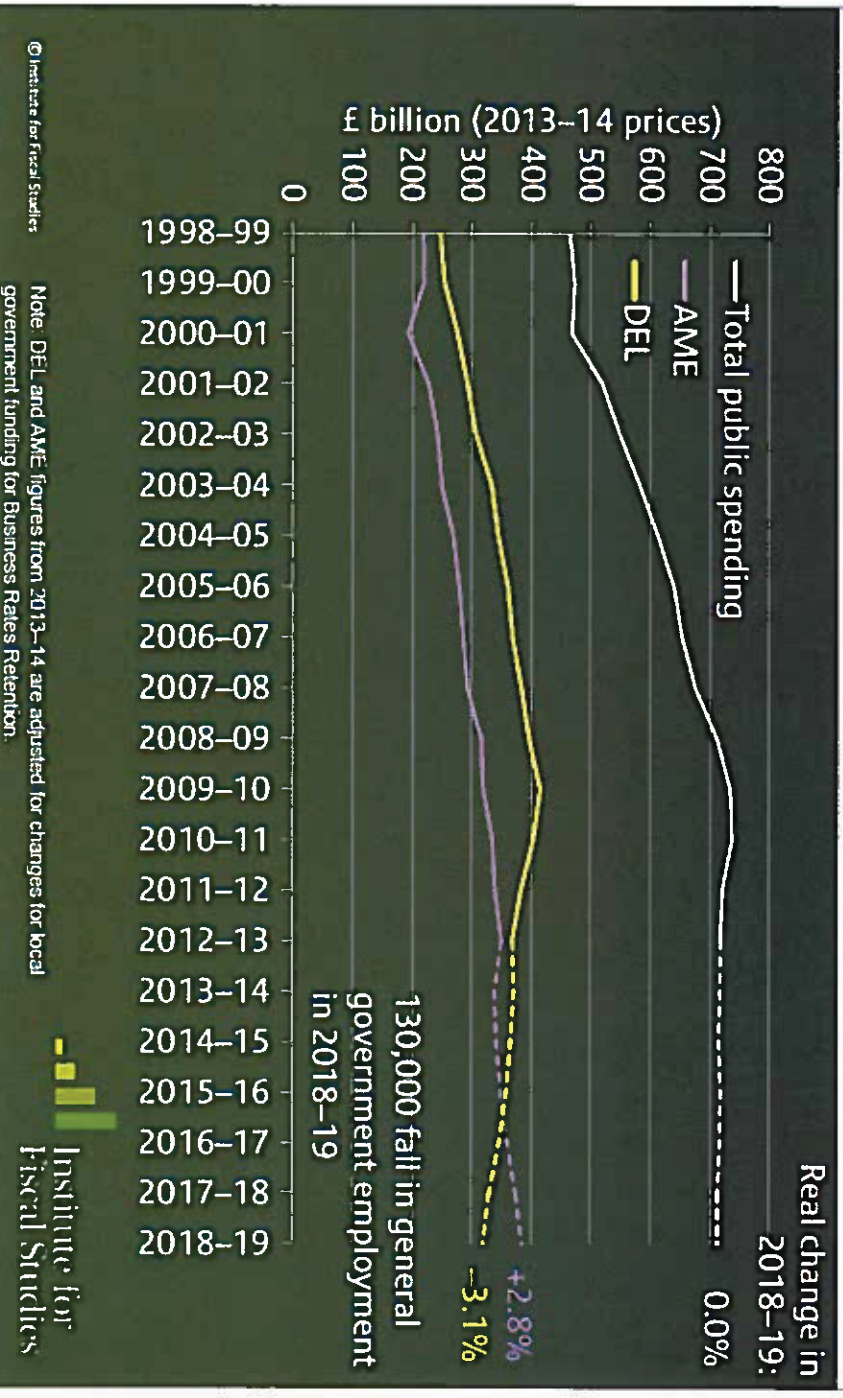


**Police and Crime Commissioner
for Devon and Cornwall**

What we want to achieve

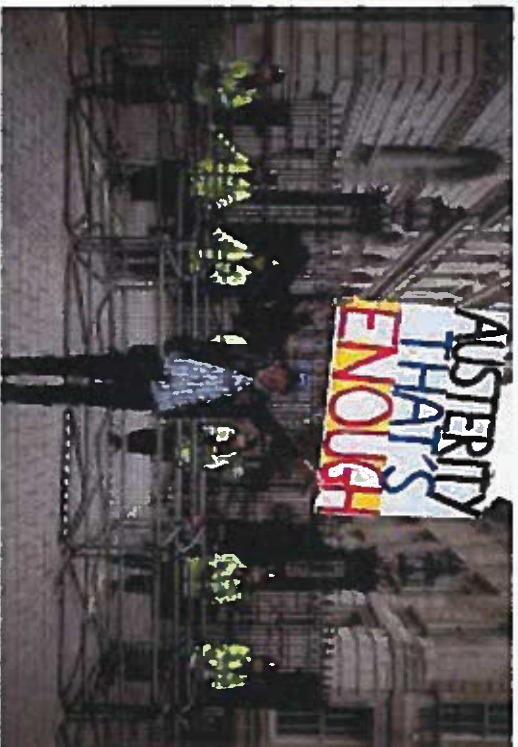
- Deliver the Police and Crime Plan.
- Maintain officer numbers at above 3000 for a further four years (this will be five years in total including 2013-14).
- Protect visibility through a temporary peak in the number of PCSOs.
- Enable Special Constables to provide enhanced support hours by 2018.
- Maintain stability across the medium term.
- Maximise efficient and effective policing within reasonable funding limits.
- Ensure financial sustainability beyond 2018/19.

Future Central Departmental Funding



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

The Longer Term View
Austerity – Here to Stay





Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Making up the difference

The budget deficit – Assume 1.99% increase in Council Tax

	2014-15 £m	2015-16 £m	2016-17 £m	2017-18 £m	Total £m
Total Budget Requirement	285.8	282.9	285.7	285.2	1,139.6
Total Funding (inc grants and Council Tax @ 1.99% increase)	284.4	280.0	276.1	271.3	1,111.8
Budget Deficit (-)	-1.4	-2.9	-9.6	-13.9	-27.8



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Making up the difference Funding the deficit

	2014-15 £m	2015-16 £m	2016-17 £m	2017-18 £m	Total £m
Budget Deficit (-)	-1.4	-2.9	-9.6	-13.9	-27.8
Funded by:					
Total all savings:	+4.9	+3.1	+2.7	+5.4	+16.1
Use of Balances To (-) From (+)	-3.5	-0.2	+6.9	+8.5	+11.7



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Savings – What we have achieved

CSR Cuts delivered (net real term reductions)

2011/12 £m	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	Total £m
16.7	15.4	8.0	40.5



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Future Savings

	2014-15 £m	2015-16 £m	2016-17 £m	2017-18 £m
Efficiency Savings	3.3	0.5	0.6	0.1
Cost Reductions	1.0			
PCSO				
Police Staff Planned Cost Reductions	0.2	1.1	0.8	
Police Officer Planned Cost Reductions	0.4	1.5	0.8	0.2
Total Identified Savings	4.9	3.1	2.2	0.3
Unidentified Savings			0.5	5.1
Total All Savings	4.9	3.1	2.7	5.4

Total deficit to cover £13.9m by 2017-18



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall Officers and Staff Profile

Actual FTE	31 March 2014	31 March 2015	31 March 2016	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
Police Officers	3,090	3,040	3,020	3,010	3,010
PCSOs	384	360	360	360	360
Police Staff	1,800	1,763	1,703	1,703	To be determined
TOTAL	5,274	5,163	5,083	5,073	



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Four Year Position in 2017/18 with a 1% freeze grant

- Grant available for two years.
- Possible roll into main grant.

Summary	Without Grant @ 1.99% increase	With Grant	Difference	Effect
Remaining Budget Deficit (-) / Surplus (+)	-£8.5m	-£8.5m	0	
Balance on Revenue Smoothing Fund – March 2018	+£11.3m	+£8.5m	-£2.8m	Reduced Balances
Police Officers – 31 March 2018	3,010	2,931	79	Reduced to less than 3,000
Sustainability Cover	1.3	1		Reduced cover



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Avoiding Underlying Financial Risks

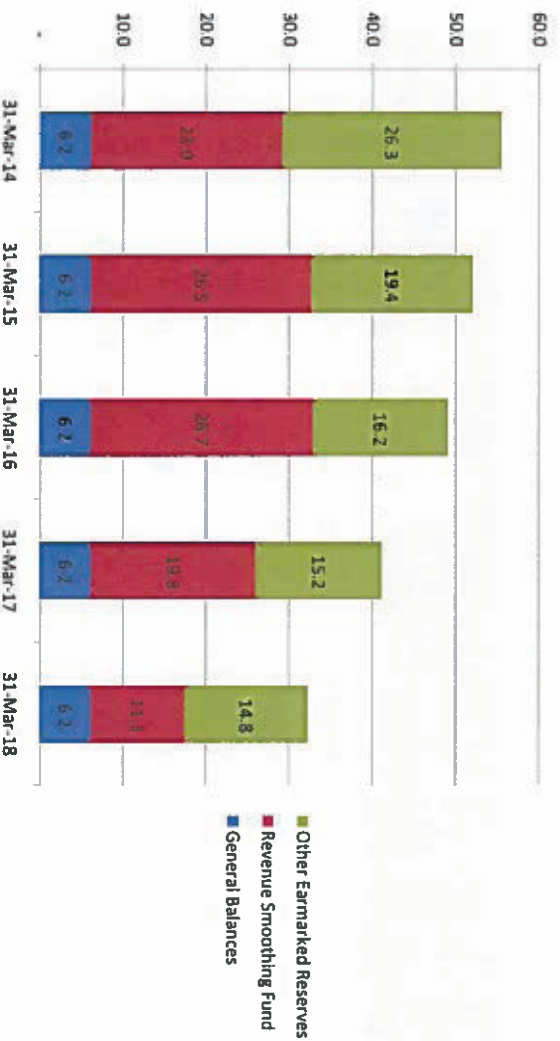
- Freeze Grants
- Funding Changes
- Referendum Limits



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Reserves

Balances and Reserves £k





Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Delivering the Changes

The Financial Roadmap

- Series of actions by end of year to address deficit.
- Aim to balance budget by 2018/19.



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Previous Years Precepts

Years	PCC and Previous Years Precepts			Band D - National Average
2009/10	DGPA	4.9%	£149.22	£155.00
2010/11	DGPA	4.9%	£156.60	£160.00
2011/12	DGPA	0%	£156.60	£162.00
2012/13	DGPA	2%	£159.73	£166.00
2013/14	PCC	2%	£162.92	£169.00



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Regional Precept Comparison 2013/14 – 2014/15

- Precept strategy – 2% per annum beyond 2014/15
- Precept proposal for 2014/15 = £166.186 @ 1.99%
- Comparison with others:

Regional Comparison 2013/14 £	Proposed Increase	Expected Comparison 2014/15 £
Gloucestershire	1.99%	207.73
Dorset	1.95%	187.18
Avon & Somerset	1.99%	171.37
Devon and Cornwall	1.99%	166.16
Wiltshire	1.99%	160.90

** Devon and Cornwall 2nd lowest*



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

What the proposal means to the Council Taxpayer

- Proportion of total bill—10% of total tax bill - £166.16 Per Annum
- Increase in cost per year – @ 1.99% is £3.24 (band D)
£2.88 (band C)
- Increase in cost per week for 2014/15:
 - 6.2 pence per week (at band D)
 - 5.5 pence per week (at band C)



Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

Questions?