

The Police and Crime Panel was held on 3rd February 2023. I acted as a substitute for Cllr Clucas.

The main agenda item was the proposed Gloucestershire Police Precept 2023/24
There was also an update from the PCC, and a work plan.

The full agenda can be found via the following link
<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=650&MIId=11070&Ver=4> and this should be updated to contain the minutes of the meeting once those are available.

The main headline from the meeting is that the police precept is increasing by £15 for a band D property, representing a 5.36% increase and taking the total precept too £295.05 per annum. Members will obviously know this from the CBC budget meeting.

The budget paper in the agenda was accompanied by a presentation given on the day.

There was some feedback about the budget survey to see what people's views were. This had just 657 responses. The PCC's report wrongly stated that this was 1% of the population of Gloucestershire. It was in fact 0.1% of the population, and I understand it was from a self-selecting group.

The PCC was asked on several occasions to apologise for not keeping to his manifesto pledge of recruiting an extra 300 police officers, but declined to do so.

I challenged the survey results, as they contradicted the slides handed out on the day, both in terms of question numbers versus the question text, and in terms of the extrapolation of the data. Given the representative survey of just Cheltenham had 1,100 respondents, the 657 responses achieved by the PCC doesn't seem very representative. There was no reporting of diversity statistics. It was stated that further analysis had been done, but disappointingly, this was not ready or available in time for the meeting.

I also challenged the PCC on why tackling organised crime was not listed as a priority on his slides.

I asked for a number of things to be added to the workplan, including some feedback on Operation Snap (an upload site for dash-cam and bike-cam footage).

A Gloucestershire Live report of the meeting can be found via the following link:
<https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/gloucester-news/households-pay-more-police-gloucestershire-8109334>