



Bedford Borough Council and Central  
Bedfordshire and Luton Borough Council

## Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel

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*Clerk: L. Church*

The Police and Crime  
Commissioner for Bedfordshire  
  
(by email)

Please ask for: Jeremy Welch  
Direct line: 01234 228903  
E-mail: [Jeremy.welch@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:Jeremy.welch@bedford.gov.uk)  
Your ref:  
Our ref:  
Date: 07 February 2022

Dear Commissioner

### Proposed precept and budget for the Bedfordshire Police for 2022 - 2023

On behalf of the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel may I thank you and your staff for attending the Panel's meeting on 1 February 2022 to present your proposed precept for 2022 - 2023, and for responding to Panel Members' questions.

Following due consideration the Panel resolved to approve your proposal to increase the Police element of the Council Tax by £10.00 per annum (for a Band D property) being the maximum allowed without invoking a referendum and to accept your proposed precept as set out in your budget report provided to Panel. The Panel also made certain recommendations and these are set out below:

- 1) That additional detail to accompany the Commissioner's report providing clarity on savings and efficiencies to be achieved within the budget be provided.
- 2) That letters from the Panel to the Home Secretary, the Policing Minister and local Ministers of Parliament in relation to fair funding of the Bedfordshire Force as part of the current review of the Police Funding Formula be sent.
- 3) That support from Local Authorities to write letters to the Home Secretary, the Policing Minister and local Ministers of Parliament in relation to fair funding of the Bedfordshire Force as part of the current review of the Police Funding Formula be requested.
- 4) That Commissioner Akinbusoye be advised that the Panel supports the Commissioner's proposal (subject to any variations as a result of the final police grant settlement figures and changes to the council tax base and collection fund surplus) that the estimated revenue expenditure for 2022/2023 be set at £136.062M and that this would result in the policing element of an average Council Tax at Band D of **£237.09**, an increase of £10.00 per annum / £0.84 per month

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compared to 2021/2022

- 5) That the Commissioner's statement that this budget would enable recruitment of 72 additional Officers in 2022/2023, in addition to the replacement of Officers retiring or otherwise leaving the Force and in addition to all previous recruitment pledges for the year be noted.
- 6) That the Commissioner's proposal that the proposed growth budget, savings plan, and reserves as set out in his report and associated appendices and as set out in the tables provided in the report of the Chief Finance Officer be approved.

In accordance with the requirements of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, please accept this letter as the Panel's formal report.

Yours sincerely

Laura Church  
Chief Executive of Bedford Borough Council  
Clerk to the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel