

## SPECIAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD: SUMMARY NOTE OF THE MEETING

**27 February 2023**

### Attendees present (in person and virtually)

Dr A Billings (Chair)  
 M Buttery (Chief Executive & Solicitor, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC))  
 S Abbott (Chief Finance Officer, OPCC)  
 F Topliss (Engagement and Communications Manager, OPCC)  
 S Parkin (Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC)  
 L Poultney (Chief Constable, SYP)  
 T Forber (Deputy Chief Constable, SYP)  
 D Carrington (Chief Finance Officer, SYP)  
 J Bland (Assistant Chief Officer – Resources, SYP)  
 S Wragg (Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee)

### Apologies received

D Hartley, S Poolman, R Alton, D Thorpe, A Fletcher, M Lewis, K Wright and E Redfearn, D Thorpe.

NO:	AGENDA ITEM NAME
2	<p><b><u>FILMING NOTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p>The Commissioner confirmed that the meeting was being streamed live on You Tube (SYPCC Media) and was being recorded and uploaded via You Tube to the website (<a href="http://www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/">www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/</a>) where it can be viewed at a later date.</p>
3	<p><b><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></b></p> <p>There were no announcements.</p>
4	<p><b><u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u></b></p> <p>There were no public questions.</p>
5	<p><b><u>URGENT ITEMS</u></b></p> <p>There were no urgent items.</p>

6	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
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7	<b>Police and Crime Plan</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to receive and approve the Police and Crime Plan for 2023-25 (the Plan) so that it may be published.
<b>Key points</b>	<p>The OPCC's Chief Executive &amp; Solicitor drew attention to the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Plan has been drafted in consultation with various parties and now incorporates comments from the Chief Constable and from the Police and Crime Panel</li> <li>• The Plan contains the same three priorities as in previous Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Protecting Vulnerable People</li> <li>○ Tackling Crime and ASB</li> <li>○ Treating People Fairly</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There are now four Fundamental Principles that will underpin the priorities and areas of focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Put Victims First</li> <li>○ Maintain Public Trust and Confidence in Policing</li> <li>○ Demonstrate Value for Money</li> <li>○ Support Sustainability</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many of the areas of focus have remained the same, with a strong focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), including domestic abuse</li> <li>○ Child Sexual Exploitation</li> <li>○ the Neighbourhood Policing model and tackling neighbourhood crime</li> <li>○ Tackling drugs, OCGs and Serious violence, including through the VRU</li> </ul> </li> <li>• An area of focus that remains, but has been strengthened in this Plan, is that around ethical behaviour</li> <li>• Other areas of focus that have been strengthened further from the last plan include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Responding to calls for service</li> <li>○ A more explicit reference to Fraud and Cyber Crime</li> <li>○ The VAWG section as we progress with work in this area</li> <li>○ The CSE section to reflect the progress that has been made since the Jay report</li> <li>○ An explicit reference to homicide reduction.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Plan has a Foreword and Afterword written by the PCC which highlights the financial challenges that the OPCC, SYP and partners face over the coming years</li> </ul>
<b>Decision / Action</b>	<b>The PCC approved the Police and Crime Plan 2023-25</b>

<b>8</b>	<b>Budget and Council Tax Precept for 2023/24</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To provide the recommendations of the OPCC's Chief Finance Officer (CFO) in relation to the budget and council tax precept for 2023/24 for consideration and approval by the PCC.
<b>Key points</b>	<p>The OPCC's CFO highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2023/24 budget priorities and precept increase have been debated and agreed by the South Yorkshire Council Leaders and the Police and Crime Panel</li> <li>The Police and Crime Panel agreed to support the proposed precept for 2023/24 at its meeting on 4 February 2023 (see Appendix A to the report)</li> <li>There is a budget requirement for 2023/24 of £317.6m</li> <li>There is a proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2023/24 of £15 for a Band D property taking it to £238.04 for the year. This is an increase of 6.73%</li> <li>The government's funding settlement for policing continues to be for one year, despite the three-year comprehensive spending review (CSR) period</li> <li>The proposed budget of £317.6m includes some investment to maintain the national uplift in police officer posts, as well as the local recruitment enabling us to reach 3111 officers</li> <li>Professional support for the Force to undertake and complete a full Priority-Based Budgeting (PBB) exercise has been built in to the budget as part of the savings and efficiencies programme</li> <li>Savings of £6.1m are included, but SYP will have to find recurrent savings of £19.8m to balance over the (Medium-Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) period</li> <li>There is a risk in relation to legacy costs as a result of the best estimate assuming that the Home Secretary will continue to fund most of the costs through Special Grant funding. Should there be any additional cost arising, the CFO wishes to reserve the right to approach the PCC for additional reserves funding to bridge the gap</li> <li>The impact of this position means the use of £5.8m from reserves to balance the budget in 2023/24, and a combination of savings and use of reserves amounting to £47.3m throughout the CSR</li> </ul>

	<p>MTRS period. This is not a sustainable approach, as the prudent minimum reserves balance could only be sustained until 2026/27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PCC's CFO confirmed that the figures included in the proposed budget are the best estimates based on the most up to date information available at the time of writing the report. Whilst the assumptions are subject to risk, they are considered to be prudent at this stage. There are however some uncertainties contained within the budget which are set out in the report</li> <li>• Other supporting papers to the report included the Reserves, Capital and Treasury Management Strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Decision / Action</b>	<p><b>The PCC agreed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) A budget requirement for 2023/24 of £317.6m, as set out in Section 7 of the report</b></li> <li><b>(b) A proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2023/24 of £15 for a Band D property taking it to £238.04 for the year. This is an increase of 6.73%</b></li> <li><b>(c) To note that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Bands A (57%) and B (17%) and C (12%) where the increase would be A 19p per week; B 22p, and C 26p</b></li> <li><b>(d) The Reserves Strategy as set out in Appendix C</b></li> <li><b>(e) A Capital Strategy and Programme for 2023/24 of 19.6m as set out in Appendix D</b></li> <li><b>(f) The Treasury Management Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision policy statement (Appendix E) and the recommendations contained therein, and</b></li> <li><b>(g) To note the CFO's statement on the robustness of estimates as set out in Section 8 of the report.</b></li> </ul>

<b>9</b>	<b>AOB</b>
<b>Key points</b>	None

PCC Signed 8 March 2023.

Date of Next Meeting 08 March 2023