**REPORT ON THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT’S PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT FOR 2025/26**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This report is made in accordance with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent’s (Commissioner) statutory duty contained in Paragraph 5, Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

**BACKGROUND**

1. The Commissioner notified the Gwent Police and Crime Panel (Panel) on the 22nd of January 2025 of her Budget Requirement and Council Tax Precept Proposal for 2025/26 (Proposal). The Panel considered the Commissioner’s detailed report to them; the letter of support from the Chief Constable; the Chief Finance Officer’s report to the Commissioner; and associated appendices all supporting the Proposal, at their meeting held at Penallta House, Caerphilly Borough County Council on the 31st of January 2025.
2. Following a full debate regarding the Proposal, considering the impact on the residents and communities of Gwent and the needs of the Commissioner and Gwent Police to invest in the delivery of the new Police, Crime and Justice Plan 2025-2029 and new Police Operating Model, the Panel accepted (by 10 votes to 3) an increase of 7.95% on the Commissioner’s Council Tax Precept for 2025/26.
3. On the 6th of February 2025, the Commissioner received the formal report on the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner’s Proposed Precept for 2025/26 from the Panel, accepting her proposed Council Tax Precept increase of 7.95% (£27.79 per annum on Band D Household).

**CONSIDERATION OF THE GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL’S COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT REPORT**

1. Upon receipt of the Panel’s formal report on the 6th of February 2025, the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Finance Officer met on the 10th of February 2025 to consider the Panel’s report.
2. At this meeting, the Commissioner commended the valued challenge, scrutiny and importantly the support the Panel provided during its meeting of the 31st of January 2025 and in particular the time invested by her Office in briefing the Panel’s Finance and Estate Sub-group throughout the financial year, and also setting aside time to brief Panel Members on a one-to-one basis.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. The submission of this report to the Panel (and its subsequent publication) concludes the scrutiny process for the Council Tax Precept for 2025/26.
2. The Commissioner will therefore issue her Council Tax Precept of £86,492,507 for 2025/26, equivalent to a Council Tax Precept Band D of £377.31, reflecting an increase of 7.95% or £27.79 per annum.
3. The Council Tax Precept of £86,492,507 will be apportioned to each City/County/County Borough Council according to the following table:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unitary Authorities** | **£** | **Tax Base Band D Equivalent** |
| **Blaenau Gwent Caerphilly****Monmouthshire****Newport****Torfaen** **Total** | **7,998,210****23,648,168****18,324,800****23,474,081****13,047,248****86,492,507** | **21,197.98****62,675.70****48,566.96****62,214.31****34,579.65****229,234.60** |  |

1. The Council Tax Precept shown in the above table generates the following amounts of council tax for the various bands:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Council Tax Band** | **£** |
| **A****B****C****D****E****F****G****H****I** | **251.54****293.46****335.39****377.31****461.16****545.00****628.85****754.62****880.39** |

1. The Commissioner requests that this report is circulated to Panel Members for their immediate consideration.

Yours sincerely



Jane Mudd

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent