

Report of the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel ('The Panel')
to the
Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire ('The PFCC')

with regard to:

**The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire's
Fire and Rescue Service Budget and Precept 2026/27**

We are required under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to consider, and report our views formally to you, on your proposed Budget/Precept for the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service for 2026/27. Accordingly, we considered those proposals at our meeting on 9 February 2026.

We have the power to veto your Precept if we consider it to be too low or too high. In the event of the veto being exercised, a revised proposed Precept would be required from you.

You attended the 9 February 2026 Panel meeting accompanied by your Deputy, Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) for the Fire and Rescue Service.

In your introduction to the report, you explained that the total budget requirement for the service was £57.348m including a Council Tax funding requirement of £36.046m and a proposed increase of 5.45% (£5) per annum (£96.77 per Band D property).

The Panel also considered:

- The Treasury Management Strategy.
- The Capital Strategy and Capital Programme Report.
- The Reserves Strategy Report
- The results of the public and stakeholder engagement consultation.

The Panels minutes of the meeting can be found at [Browse meetings - Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel - Staffordshire County Council](#) The Panels principle questioning was around the use of reserves, transformation savings, inflation, pay awards, future funding and the challenging and uncertain future.

The Panel were concerned that the uncertainty of Local Government Reorganisation, Police Force amalgamations and the abolition of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioners made it challenging for the Service to plan for the future. This is an area which the panel will continue to review.

The Panel agreed to support the 5.45% (£5 per annum) increase in the Fire and Rescue Authority Precept for 2026/27.

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light green background. The signature appears to read 'Richard Cox'.

Councillor Richard Cox
Chair, Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

Note: As required, this report will be published on the County Council's webpages for the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel.