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*Sean Nicolia,*

### **Warwickshire Policing Precept 2019/20**

Thank you for your prompt response to my budget proposals. I am pleased that the Police and Crime Panel have unanimously supported my proposal for a £24 per month increase in the Local Policing precept for Band D properties (and equivalent percentage increase for all other bands), in the 2019/20 financial year.

As outlined in my presentation to the panel the increase will enable Warwickshire Police to employ 85 extra Police Officers, 10 Police Staff Investigators and 5 Police Community Support Officers.

These extra resources will ensure that Warwickshire Police is able to provide an even better visible and responsive service to the people of Warwickshire.

I note the areas of high significance that the panel intend to scrutinise over the coming year and I comment further on them as follows:

#### **2019/20 Uncertainties**

I recognise that West Mercia's decision to end the Strategic Alliance has brought about uncertainty.

The Chief Constable and I remain focused on ensuring that the Policing Service provided to our residents will be maintained as the Force goes through this significant change. Yes, there are obvious risks, but I also consider this to be a great opportunity to reset the Force for a brighter new future. I will, of course, keep the Panel fully informed on the progress of work to implement a new Policing Model, which I hope will provide the Public with an even better service in the future

#### **Increasing Officer Numbers**

All of the extra Officers and staff will join the Local Policing Team and a significant proportion of them will be deployed in response and neighbourhood Policing roles as desired by the Public.

These additional personnel will better enable the Force to manage demand, risk, and crime investigations and to protect the most vulnerable. I will be working closely with

the Chief Constable to ensure that these extra resources are recruited over the next 12 months so that by the end of March 2020, 987 Officers will be working in Warwickshire to protect the public.

### **Rural Crime**

As explained in my presentation, a Rural Crime Team will be established following feedback from the public.

If this team is successful and makes a real difference to our rural communities its expansion could be considered in the future.

### **Fairer Funding**

I welcome the Panel's appreciation of the unfairness which is inherent in the current police funding formula.

I will continue to put a strong case to the Government to press for fairer funding for rural forces such as Warwickshire. As you are aware, I have already spoken to the Home Secretary, the Policing Minister and the Warwickshire MP's about the funding Warwickshire receives and I will continue to do so at every opportunity.

I will, of course, keep the Panel updated in this regard.

Finally, I would like to thank the Panel for the open and constructive way you scrutinised the work of both me and my team.

Your contribution is valuable.

We share a common desire to see an effective Police Service in Warwickshire that keeps our residents safe and I look forward to continuing to work with you to achieve this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Seccombe', written in a cursive style.

**Philip Seccombe TD**  
Police and Crime Commissioner