

Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH



Mr R Hirst
Essex Police, Fire and Crime
Commissioner

Our Ref: SC/EPFCP
Date: 01 February 2024

Dear Mr Hirst

Re: Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel – Review of the Proposed Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Precept for 2024/25

In accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I am writing to you to confirm the decision of the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel's review of the proposed Precept, which took place on Thursday 1 February 2024.

The Panel considered the detailed report and information provided on the budget and precept proposals. Members of the Panel asked a number of questions to seek clarification and test the evidence and assumptions, to ensure that they were satisfied that the proposed Precept enabled delivery of the objectives included within the Fire and Rescue Plan 2019-2024 and represented value for money.

The Panel voted by a clear majority to support your proposal, without qualification or comment, to increase the Fire precept by 2.91% equivalent to an increase of £2.34 a year, from £80.28 to £82.62 for a Band D property, raising an additional £1.5m of council tax receipts.

On behalf of the Panel I would like to thank you, your staff and the Fire and Rescue Service for the information provided throughout the Budget-setting process and for the engagement during the working group sessions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ross Playle".

Councillor Ross Playle
Vice-Chairman, Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel