

By email:

Will Godfrey,
Chief Executive,
Bath and North-East Somerset Council

Contact: Scott Wooldridge
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Direct Dial: 01823 359043
Date: 27th October 2023

Dear Chief Executive,

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel

As you are aware, the collective annual indemnity mechanism of £5,000 was agreed with the constituent authorities in the 22/23 financial year. I can confirm with thanks that Somerset Council received your initial contribution of £5,000 towards Host Authority running costs.

With a surplus going into 2023/4, the indemnity mechanism was not invoked this year, however all reserves will be utilised by the end of the 2023/24 year. I am writing now to confirm that the collective commitment will be sought through each Council's budget processes for 2024/25.

Following the reduction in constituent authorities from nine to five on 1st April 2023, the Panel has considered a report which gave members the option of increasing the annual collective contribution from £5,000 to £6,000 for 2024/5 to help compensate for the otherwise reduced total amount of supplementary funding from the constituent authorities. All members agreed to the increase of £1,000 on 28th September 2023.

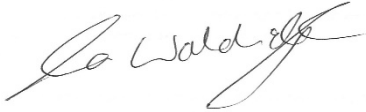
For information, I attach a copy of the budget information considered by the Panel.

Surplus funds in any given year can be returned proportionally or kept as reserves as was the case in 2023/24. What is key, is preventing a future deficit due to the reduction in the number of constituent authorities.

In the meantime, the focus of the Panel will be to ensure that your residents get the best possible Police service and that your representatives on the Panel take the opportunity to feedback to the respective authorities on the scrutiny work that is being undertaken. I am attaching for information, a copy of the Panel's Annual Report for 2022/23.

We look forward to receiving confirmation of your continued cooperation as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

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

Scott Wooldridge,
Deputy Monitoring Officer

cc: Duncan Sharkey, Chief Executive
Police and Crime Panel Members