

Cheshire Police Budget

2016 - 2017



John Dwyer
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire

One of the most important features of my role is to set the budget for policing in Cheshire.

I need to fund the police to keep Cheshire a safe and prosperous county, and to make it hostile to those who commit crime.

The budget enables the police to prevent and reduce crime, support victims and ensure that there are enough frontline officers to keep communities safe.

In December, the Chancellor announced that he would protect police budgets after a number of years of cuts. To do this, however, the Chancellor expects all police and crime commissioners to make up the shortfall in Government grants by increasing the police share of council tax. This is what I will do. As one of the lowest spending areas of the county, I am able to increase the average council tax by about 10p per week.

By increasing the police share of council tax by 10p per week, Cheshire Constabulary will be able to increase frontline policing by an additional 70 police officers in the coming year. It will be able to invest more in tackling some of the most horrendous sexual crimes, domestic violence and child abuse crimes. And it will be able to put more resources into tackling new issues facing the public – like cybercrime and the threat of extremism.

For 2016/17 financial year, the budget for Cheshire Constabulary will be £192.5million.

I have consulted widely with Cheshire residents and businesses. I am proud of your response, and your willingness to pay a modest increase in your council tax to ensure that Cheshire can continue to be one of the safest counties in the country.

I want to reassure the people of Cheshire that this Constabulary is one of the most cost-effective in the county – only last autumn the independent police watchdog, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary judged Cheshire as 'outstanding' for efficiency.

I will be ever vigilant in scrutinising the Constabulary's spending to ensure that every pound it spends is focused on protecting the people of Cheshire.



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The key priorities in the budget are:

- An additional 70 frontline police officers in our communities, bringing the total number of Cheshire police officers to 2,053 by March 2017, helping protect the public of Cheshire
- Further investment in the Constabulary's public protection team to tackle sexual crimes and domestic abuse, as well as new threats like human trafficking and modern-day slavery
- Further strengthening the Constabulary's Taskforce, which includes our roads policing unit, to deter and identify organised criminal gangs and those involved in drug crime
- Maintaining my commitment to PCSOs, to ensure that visibility and public engagement is maximised
- Continued investment in technology, including tablet computers, to enable officers to spend more time in local communities
- Increasing the ways the public can access the police (online, local contact points, face to face), including more police community bases in remote locations, ensuring officers are accessible where and when you need them.
- Importantly, the capacity and flexibility to respond to national threats of terrorism and cybercrime

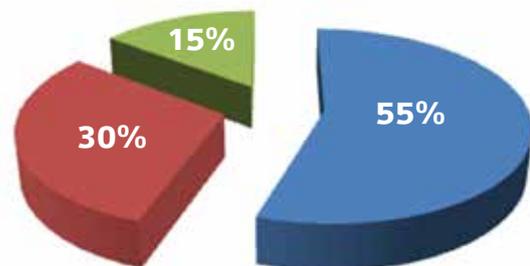
Council tax bands for policing

Cheshire residents currently pay one of the lowest levels of council tax for policing in the country. The Home Secretary has given Police & Crime Commissioners with such low levels of council tax the freedom to raise it by £5 per annum, the equivalent of 3.2% for Cheshire.

2016/17 police precept by council tax band

Band	£	Band	£
A	107.49	E	197.06
B	125.40	F	232.89
C	143.32	G	268.72
D	161.23	H	322.46

Where does the funding come from?



■ Government grants ■ Council tax ■ Other income

Funding	£
Government grants	106,248,525
Council tax	58,159,430
Other income	28,131,736

John Dwyer, Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

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