

How your council tax helps fund Surrey Police

Message from David Munro, Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey

Residents across the county regularly tell me they want to see more local policing in their communities and this has been one of my key considerations in setting this year's policing element of the council tax.



In December, the Home Office gave PCCs the flexibility to increase the policing element of a Band D Council Tax bill by up to £2 a month – the equivalent of around 10% across all bands – to meet the current challenges police forces face.

I posed the question to our Chief Constable of how we could use additional money to improve the service for our residents. The answer I received was that if I were to increase the precept by the full amount, the extra revenue will pay for an extra 100 officers, operational staff and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) to be in post in Surrey by April 2020.

This formed my proposal which was endorsed by the Police and Crime Panel in February. Nearly 6,000 people answered our public consultation and over 75% of those who responded were in support of the increase. I would like to thank everyone who filled in the survey and gave us their views.

With this extra money, Surrey Police plan to double the number of officers in our dedicated neighbourhood teams across the county, increase the number of detectives tackling organised crime and drugs and add specialist officers in preventing crime, reducing reoffending and online crime. It will also allow them to protect 25 police officer posts across the organisation which would have been lost.

Our consultation included over 4,000 comments on policing in Surrey and I have read each and every one. I am aware that issues such as visibility, local presence and crimes such as burglary continue to concern residents. We are currently planning a series of engagement events - one in every borough in the county – in which we want to hear the public's concerns and their views on where these extra officers should be deployed.


Surrey Police has made significant savings which totalled over £5m last year alone and there are more to come. We must continue to ensure we provide the very best value for money we can and I have instigated an efficiency review within the Force, including my own office, which will look at ensuring we are making every pound count.

Officers and staff of Surrey Police do a great job keeping our residents safe and the extra revenue the policing precept will provide will help us improve that service even further.


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What you will pay for policing in Surrey in 2019/20

Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
£173.71	£202.67	£231.62	£260.57
Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
£318.47	£376.38	£434.28	£521.14

How the money is spent

	2019/20	2018/19
Employees	192.1	179.2
Premises	9.2	9.0
Supplies and services	39.8	33.2
Transport	5.4	4.3
Income	-11.4	-11.1
Gross expenditure	235.1	214.6
To/(from) balances	-1.1	3.9
Net revenue budget	234.0	218.5
Police Officer Pension Grant	-2	0
Net budget requirement	232.0	218.5

Where the money comes from

	2019/20 £m	2018/19 £m
Net budget requirement	232.0	218.5
Less:		
Police Grant	-62.6	-61.3
Business Rates	-29.4	-28.8
Precept Legacy Grants	-9.2	-9.2
Collection Fund Surplus	-0.3	-1.5
Net Council Tax requirement	130.5	117.7
Taxbase i.e. number of equivalent D Band properties	500,993	497,513

Employee Information

The budgeted officer and operational staff data below reflects the additional 100 posts (25 of which would have been cut in 2018/19 without the precept increase). The planned distribution of posts will be discussed with communities during a series of engagement events taking place in Spring 2019.

	2019/20	2018/19
Police officers	1,917	1,874
Operational & support police staff <i>this includes Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)</i>	1,824	1,791
Total	3,741	3,665
Specials	160	143

How the spending has changed

2018/19 Gross Expenditure	214.6
Inflation	4.3
Employee costs	5.8
Pension Contributions	4.3
Motor Insurance	1.0
Capital funding	1.7
Cost of Change	2.9
ICT Investment	0.8
Other Investments	1.3
Estate Strategy	1.1
Savings	-2.7
2019/20 Gross Expenditure	235.1