

For Consideration	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Strategic Resources and Performance Board
Date of Meeting:	29 March 2018
Report of:	The Police and Crime Commissioner
Report Author:	Kevin Dennis
E-mail:	Kevin.dennis@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk
Contact officer:	daniel.howitt13452@nottinghamshire.police.uk
Agenda Item:	9

*If Non Public, please state under which category number from the guidance in the space provided.

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Plan Priorities and Budget Consultation 2016/17

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present consolidated findings from local consultation activity during in relation to the policing precept, views on budget and precept proposals, impact of funding cuts, value for money and public priorities for policing.
- 1.2 This work has been undertaken in line with the Commissioner's statutory duties to consult and the findings will be used to inform precept setting, planning and policy making for 2018/19 and beyond.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Police and Crime Commissioner note the feedback on the consultation report.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Commissioner has statutory responsibilities for consultation with the public for identifying and setting local policing priorities that inform the production of the Police and Crime Plan and setting the annual precept for policing in consultation with the Chief Constable.¹
- 3.2 The report builds upon extensive qualitative and quantitative consultation and engagement activity undertaken in 2016. It also includes initial findings from PCC's newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey, which captures representative views from over 4,300 Nottinghamshire residents each year.

¹ The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

4 Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 Nottinghamshire OPCC directly engaged with over 3,000 residents in addition to supporting local authority consultation with a further 3,750 local people. The PCC's newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey provided a more robust and representative sample of public opinion than had ever been achieved previously.
- 4.2 Findings from the Police and Crime Survey 2017 indicate that there is, on balance, strong and increasing support for an increase in the council tax precept for policing among local residents.
- 4.3 Around 59% of residents support an increase in the council tax precept for policing when those that are unsure are omitted from the profile. This represents a 7% point increase when compared to results obtained in 2016.
- 4.4 The proportion supporting an increase within the limits of the referendum threshold increased from around 32% to 40% in the last year, while the proportion supporting a precept rise in excess of the £12 per annum referendum threshold saw a marginal (non-significant) increase from 17% to 19%.
- 4.5 Personal economic circumstances remain the most common reason for respondents not supporting a rise in the precept for policing, with previous qualitative research highlighting common objections to central government cuts to policing more generally. For many, support for an increase in policing precept is offered on the condition that this supports an uplift in visible local policing.
- 4.6 While over a third of all respondents (36%) were not aware of the scale of cuts to policing funding since 2010, respondents that were aware of the scale of cuts were also more likely to support an increase in the precept for policing.
- 4.7 Just over half of all respondents (52%) felt that funding cuts had affected policing in their area, with reductions in neighbourhood policing presence being the most commonly cited impact. This reflects findings nationally which indicate perceived reductions in police officer foot patrols in local areas.
- 4.8 Beyond providing an emergency response, 'protecting vulnerable people' remains the most strongly supported police and crime priority for Nottinghamshire Police, however many would also like to see more done in their area to tackle reckless and dangerous driving, burglary, drug use and dealing and neighbourhood ASB.

4.9 The report includes specific recommendations for the Police and OPCC to consider:-

- Maximising use of the newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey to improve targeted communications and engagement on police spending and priorities – particularly among communities feeling more information was required.
- Providing residents with further information as to how any additional revenue from the precept would be spent and working to ensure public expectations of the service are effectively managed.
- Further proactive communication with local residents and rate payers to demonstrate what is being delivered and achieved by the service - particularly in areas of high impact but often less visible policing.
- Further lobbying of central government for increases in police funding given strong public support for this approach.
- Continuing to drive organisational efficiencies through greater prioritisation, reducing waste / bureaucracy and making better use of technology.
- Continuing to explore opportunities for more collaborative working with other partner agencies and regional forces, particularly in consolidating support / back office functions, premises and senior leadership and governance functions.
- Further exploring the public / community offer in preventing crime and ASB and improving community safety with the support of local service providers. This may include further work to raise awareness of volunteering roles and opportunities
- Further developing the profile of community issues and concerns as part of the new Neighbourhood-level community engagement plans and profiles, particularly in making use of community profiling and segmentation data.

5 Financial Implications and Budget Provision

5.1 Findings have been used to inform decision making in setting the 2018/19 local precept for policing.

6 Human Resources Implications

6.1 Human Resource implications will be identified throughout the budget setting process and review of the Commissioner's Consultation and Engagement Strategy in 2018.

7 Equality Implications

- 7.1 The Police and Crime Survey and local authority level consultation exercises obtained views from a robust and demographically representative sample of residents in 2017 on the basis of age, gender, ethnicity and locality. Further work will be undertaken in 2018 to profile findings from the Police and Crime Survey on the basis of all available protected characteristics.
- 7.2 The report identifies opportunities for making use of 'segmentation data' to better understand the needs, demands and priorities of different geographic and socio-demographic groups.

8 Risk Management

- 8.1 The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Needs Assessment identifies the threat, harm and risks to policing, crime and community safety, with mitigation actions identified through the Strategic Plan in the Police and Crime Plan 2018-21.
- 8.2 There is also a strategic risk register monitored through the governance processes in the Commissioner's Office.

9 Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

- 9.1 Findings have been used to inform the setting of the precept for policing in 2018/19 and development of the Police and Crime Plan for 2018-2021.

10 Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

- 10.1 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. In addition, the Commissioner has a responsibility and must have due regard to all other legal requirements and specifically the provisions of:
- The Policing Protocol Order 2011
 - Financial Code of Practice (FMCOP)²
 - Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)³
 - Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specific Information) Order 2011⁴

11. Background Papers (relevant for Police and Crime Panel Only)

- 11.1 PCC Consultation and Engagement Strategy

² [Financial Code of Practice 2012](#)

³ [Strategic Policing Requirement](#)

⁴ [Specific Information Order 2011](#)