

COUNCIL TAX Information 2015-16



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER
for Leicestershire**

Your voice in Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

In line with evolving public needs we have introduced changes to the way policing is delivered in Leicestershire, which has seen some of the 15 Local Policing Units merging to form eight Neighbourhood Policing Areas.

Dedicated Neighbourhood Teams will continue to be based in the heart of our communities, focusing on local level problems. Most crime investigation, arrests and crime recording will be handled by other specialist units to allow local team members more time on the beat.

A new Patrol and Resolution Team will attend emergency and urgent incidents while non-emergency issues will be dealt with through a new Managed Appointment Unit that will liaise with the public to book appointments, usually on the same day.

The Force also has a responsibility to work with specialist agencies to tackle national issues such as threats from terrorism, civil emergencies, organised crime and large-scale cyber incidents, as part of what is called the Strategic Policing Requirement set out by the Home Secretary.

In the midst of this we are facing one of our toughest budgets ever. Prudent financial management in previous years will enable us to maintain and safeguard the frontline policing services that help protect and reassure our neighbourhoods across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. However it is imperative we invest now to secure our capabilities against pressing issues such as internet crime and the dangers this poses to vulnerable people including children. This is why we have earmarked up to an additional £2m over the next two years from

our reserves to work with partners and be spent on key areas such as safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In the year ahead our funding from Central Government will reduce by £5.7m (4.7%) and therefore we must continue to reorganise the way we deliver our services to ensure that they are based on risk and need. Importantly, this will not reduce the quality of response residents receive but it will see us work more efficiently and effectively. This approach includes more emphasis on innovative technology to increase officer visibility, co-ordinating work with other local service providers and removing the financial drain caused by redundant or under-used buildings enabling reinvestment in more urgent areas of frontline policing.

The financial decisions we make now will help us to sustain policing in the future and negotiate the increasing demands being placed on our services. We remain focused on our key roles - keeping neighbourhoods and communities safe, and protecting the vulnerable. We are confident that with the ongoing support of our partners we will deliver important outcomes.

Sir Clive Loader
*Leicestershire Police and Crime
Commissioner*

Simon Cole
Chief Constable



THE FINANCIAL CHALLENGE

Since 2009/10 the Force has delivered more than £38m in savings as a direct response to the Government's austerity measures. In 2016/17 the Force is required to remove a further £6.1m from the budget – £2.1m of which has already been identified as part of a reorganisation which will see a new target operating model developed during 2015 and £4m of which remains to be identified.

Complementary to these scheduled savings, the Commissioner wants to support the momentum of the efficiency work and has agreed with the Chief Constable that the Force will produce a series of proposals to identify £2.5m of revenue savings to be implemented in financial year 2016/17.

The Commissioner has set the overall budget for 2015/16 at £168.5m, a reduction on the previous year of £4.1m. To help sustain the base budget in the future to enhance community safety, the amount of council tax local people pay towards policing has been increased slightly and Band D households will now pay an extra £3.51 a year – an increase of less than 7p a week. This will generate an additional income of £1.038m for the Force.

“Although the way our services are delivered will change this robust financial plan is designed to safeguard the priorities of the public both now and in the future.”

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

While visible policing remains important to public confidence, emergent crimes which threaten our vulnerable young people – child sexual exploitation, grooming and cyber bullying – are invisible and require a different approach.

To meet this challenge we have committed up to £2m from our reserves to develop innovative ways to protect the vulnerable and target offenders, possibly pooling local budgets with statutory partners and other colleagues. Our partnership relationships, joint working arrangements, information sharing and collective risk assessments are vital to the success of this work.

POLICE PERFORMANCE

Recorded crime in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland is at its second lowest in a decade, despite seeing a 3% increase in recorded crime during the most recent financial year. But the population of the Force area has increased by 10% in the last decade, which means that the increase in recorded crime is, in reality, a reduction per head of population.

Reported incidents of anti-social behaviour have halved over the past five years from 48,804 in 2008/09 to 24,445 in 2013/14. In addition, the public remain confident in the Force with over 90% feeling that we do a fair, good or very good job.

“We remain committed to protecting our communities and meeting the needs of victims of crime while delivering a police service that reassures residents and makes them feel safer.”





The Budget Requirement is set out below:

	14/15	15/16
Budget Requirement	£m	£m
Gross Spending	182.9	180.8
Less income	-10.3	-12.3
Total Budget Requirement	172.6	168.5
Where the Money Comes From (Funding)	£m	£m
Police Grant	70.0	65.7
Revenue Support Grant/ Business Rates	41.3	39.9
Council Tax Support and Freeze Grants*	8.9	8.9
Victims and Restorative Justice Funding	0.5	-
Collection Fund Surplus	0.8	0.8
From the Tax Payer	51.1	53.2
Total Funding	172.6	168.5
Band D Council Tax	£176.48	£180.00

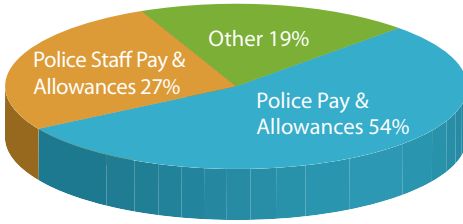
*Council Tax Support and Freeze Grants maintained at previous levels, no freeze grant applicable for 2015/16.

The decrease in the Budget Requirement is due to the following:

	£m
Pay and Price Increases	7.3
Pay Increments	1.9
Increase in Specific Grants	-1.1
Increase in use of Reserves	-2.6
Efficiency Savings	-9.6
Net Decrease	-4.1

The Police and Crime Commissioner owns assets valued at £57.0m.
The external debt outstanding is £14.2m.

HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT



The budget allows for 1,839 police officers and 251 PCSOs at March 2016.

CAPITAL SPENDING

	£m
Property	2.5
Vehicles	1.5
IT and Other	4.9
Total	8.9
Funded from	
Borrowing	6.1
Capital Grant	1.3
Other Grants and receipts	1.5
Total	8.9

Policing Precept By Band:	£
Band A	120.00
Band B	140.00
Band C	160.00
Band D	180.00
Band E	219.99
Band F	259.99
Band G	299.99
Band H	360.00



ABOUT THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Publicly elected, the Commissioner champions the interests of local people. Commissioning services to improve outcomes is an extremely important part of his role. Sir Clive currently has the second highest commissioning budget out of all 41 PCCs. The funding he provides to initiatives is predominantly around preventing young people from entering the criminal justice system.

Within his role the PCC also holds the Police to account on behalf of the public. Operational policing decisions remain the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

Find out more about the work of the Commissioner by visiting the website at: www.leics-pcc.police.uk or get in touch using the contact details below:

Tel: 0116 229 8980

or write to:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire, Force Headquarters, St Johns, Enderby, Leicester, LE19 2BX

or email:

police.commissioner@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

Why not follow us on Twitter:

@clive_loader or @LeicsPCC



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