

COUNCIL TAX leaflet 2013-14



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicestershire

Your voice in Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

FOREWORD

The past year has been an extraordinary one for Leicestershire Police for many reasons.

Early on in the year, the Force was honoured to plan and deliver an extensive policing operation for the visit of Her Majesty The Queen, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge to Leicester – the first venue for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee Tour.

This was shortly followed by what was probably the most significant operational commitment for UK policing nationally and locally when officers and staff were involved in the hugely successful policing of the Olympic Torch Relay and subsequent Olympic and Paralympic Games. This showed British policing at its best and saw Leicestershire officers travel to London to support the Metropolitan Police Service and local officers securing Team GB whilst at their training camp at Loughborough University.

With our continued commitment to protect our communities, the Force recently expanded safer neighbourhood teams to ensure more officers are dealing with local issues and concerns. Every neighbourhood in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland continues to have dedicated local policing teams, each now including a Beacon Officer who is the principal named point of contact for the public. In addition, the Force maintains its reputation for working closely with partner agencies, who play an invaluable part in helping to reduce crime and tackle the issues that matter most to you.

In November we said farewell to Leicestershire Police Authority, who had influenced and shaped policing services for many years, as we entered a totally new era of policing with the introduction of publicly elected Police and Crime Commissioners and the publication for the first time of local Police and Crime Plans. You can read further details about the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Police and Crime Plan for Leicestershire later in this leaflet.

We move into a new financial year with recorded crime at a 22 year low, over 35,000 fewer victims of crime than ten years ago, and being recognised as the leading Force nationally for treating people fairly.

However, we are not complacent. With savings of £23 million already made up to March 2013, we know that we face further challenges to make additional savings of up to £20 million by 2016/17. With this in mind the Force has already embarked on a further programme to implement changes in the way we work in order to realise these savings at the same time as continuing to deliver an efficient and effective policing service so deserved by you – the public of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Sir Clive Loader
Police and Crime Commissioner

Simon Cole
Chief Constable





POLICE PERFORMANCE

Despite funding cuts and reductions in people, crime has continued to fall across the Force area. In addition, we have been assessed as performing well in terms of delivering value for money and making efficiencies to meet the on-going funding cuts.

April 2012 – January 2013 Compared to the same period last year

Overall crime	- Down 13.7%
Domestic burglary	- Down 2.1%
Theft from a vehicle	- Up 1.1%
Theft of a vehicle	- Down 16%
Criminal damage	- Down 17%

More than **17,000** arrests have been made in the year up to the end of January 2013.

YOUR POLICE, YOUR PRIORITIES

Our targets for 2013-14 are to:

- Reduce crime overall by 5%
- Reduce domestic burglary by 10%
- Reduce thefts from vehicles by 14%
- Reduce thefts of vehicles by 12%

More details of further aims and targets for the future can be found in the Police and Crime Plan.

OUR DUTY

Our duty to protect our communities is at the heart of everything we do and regardless of the challenges we face in the future, we will deliver the level of service demanded by the diverse communities of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We will do this by focusing on:

- Protecting vulnerable people
- Dealing with those who cause most harm
- Effectively deploying our people
- Working with partners to solve locally identified problems
- Trusting our people to use their judgement to make good decisions
- Ensuring effective and efficient use of resources



ABOUT US

On 15 November 2012, you, the members of the public, elected Sir Clive Loader to serve as Police and Crime Commissioner until May 2016.

The Commissioner's role is to represent you – to be the voice of the people – and to hold the police to account. The Commissioner is not here to run the police force; that remains the job of the Chief Constable, Simon Cole.

The Executive team supporting the work of the Commissioner is known as the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

This team has been put together specifically to enable Sir Clive to successfully carry out his duties. The OPCC is led by a Chief Executive, whose responsibility is to manage the staff team and provide a monitoring role to ensure that standards remain high.

The team also includes a Chief Finance Officer to advise the PCC on financial matters and the impact of any decisions regarding the budget, spending and commissioning. Other specialist staff provide support on key areas of business and manage the administrative functions of the OPCC.

THE 2013-14 BUDGET

Sir Clive has approved a budget for 2013/14 of £173.5 million. This is a reduction of £0.8m compared to the budget for 2012/13 and includes the ongoing effect of £23m of savings achieved over the last two years.

There has been no increase in council tax for police purposes this year. It will cost the average local taxpayer £173.87, which works out at just 48p per day.



	12/13	13/14
	£m	£m
Gross Spending	184.7	185.1
Less income	-10.4	-11.6
Budget requirement	*174.3	173.5
LESS		
Police Grant	-72.0	-71.9
Revenue Support Grant/ Business Rate	-45.0	-43.3
Council Tax Support Grant**		-7.0
Council Tax Freeze Grant***	-1.4	-1.9
Collection Fund Surplus	-0.2	-0.1
From the Council Tax Payer	55.7	49.3
Band D Council Tax	£173.87	£173.87

* The budget requirement shown on the 2012/13 leaflet was £169.6m; due to changes in the way in which grants are paid, the figure above is adjusted to £174.3m to provide a comparable basis with 2013/14.

** This is a new grant to reflect the changes to the way in which council tax support is now administered by the council tax collecting authorities. It is to offset the reduction in the amount to be collected from the council tax payers.

*** As the council tax for police purposes has been frozen in 2013-14, the Police and Crime Commissioner will receive a council tax freeze grant to the equivalent of a 1% increase for 2 years ceasing in 2015-16.



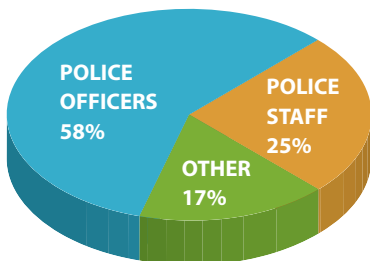
The decrease is due to the following:

	£m
Pay and Price Increases	3.7
Pay Increments	0.5
Decrease in use of reserves	2.7
Efficiency Savings	-7.7
Net decrease	-0.8

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner owns assets valued at £61m. The external debt outstanding is £16m.

HOW THE GROSS REVENUE BUDGET IS SPENT

Gross revenue expenditure:



PROJECTED NUMBERS OF OFFICERS AND STAFF

The average number of police officers budgeted for during 2013-14 is 2,078. The number of police staff will average 1,096 and the number of PCSOs will be 229.

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CAPITAL SPENDING

	£m
Property	3.3
Vehicles	1.0
IT and Other	1.7
Total	6.0
Funded from	
Borrowing	3.6
Capital Grant	1.6
Other Grants and receipts	0.8
Total	6.0



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