

Police and Crime Commissioner For Northumbria

Annual Report 2012-2013

Contents

	Page
Commissioners introduction	3
Overview of achievements	4
An effective organisation	5
Listening to communities	6
Delivering together	7
Achievement of the Local Policing Plan 2012-2013	8
Delivering the budget	16

Commissioner's Introduction

Welcome to the 2012-13 Annual Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria. My name is Vera Baird. I am a lawyer and former Government Minister and last November I was elected to be the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria. My job is to make sure that all the people of Northumbria have the best police service possible and that citizens feel safe both at home and on our streets.

In November 2012 Police and Crime Commissioners were elected by local communities in every police force area across the country to help better connect the police to the public. I am very passionate about making sure that I work with my Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Mark Dennett to strengthen this link by listening to your policing and community safety concerns and acting upon them.

Police and Crime Commissioners replaced Police Authorities which were made up of independent members and local councillors. In April 2012 Northumbria Police Authority agreed the Local Policing Plan 2012/13 and this Annual Report provides an overview of delivery against this plan by both the authority up to November and myself after the election.

Crime has fallen by over 10% in the last year through the British Crime Survey local people have told both the Authority and myself that 65% of you feel confident about how crime and anti-social behaviour are tackled in Northumbria. As the Authority did before me, I will continue to work closely with the Chief Constable and local partners to try and make sure that even more of Northumbria's people start to feel safe and confident too.

This Annual Report provides you with information about the work during the year that has been done to:

- Deliver objectives in the Local Policing Plan 2012-13
- Engage with local communities to help monitor how we are doing
- Work with partners to reduce crime and disorder
- Manage finances and deliver value for money services

Between my election and the end of March 2013 I listened very carefully to what you have told me and what your police and crime priorities are. I used the information to help shape my first Police and Crime Plan, my five priorities are:

- Putting Victims First
- Dealing with Anti-social Behaviour
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse
- Reducing Crime
- Community Confidence

If you would like to read the Plan in more detail and learn more about my current priorities please visit my website www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

Vera Baird

Vera Baird QC

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

Overview of Achievements

The last twelve months in policing has been challenging, with further economic pressures for individuals, businesses and the public sector and a major change to police governance. These challenges have not prevented crime from dropping and standards improving.

ACHIEVED

- 7.692 fewer recorded crimes
- o 10,247 fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour
- 7.8% fewer people identified drunk and rowdy behaviour as a problem in their own neighbourhood.
- 65.1% people agree that the police and local councils are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their local area
- RECRUITED 40 additional police officers
- TALKED to over 5,000 people about their police and crime objectives and listened to many more about their experiences of Northumbria Police
- **DELIVERED** value for money policing services within budget
- PROMOTED equality, diversity and integrity in all aspects of police business
- **OPENED** a new firearms training centre
- **WORKED** in partnership with North East Women's network to develop a regional strategy to prevent violence against women and girls.

In my first 5 months the Police and Crime Commissioner has also:

- ESTABLISHED PCC Advisory Groups covering the six strands of diversity and victims of crime to support the scrutiny of Northumbria Police
- **RECRUITED** members of the public to form a Scrutiny Panel that will help me look closely at the work of Northumbria Police and complaints made against them.
- **SHAPED** national policy around a wide range of key policing issues including ending violence against women and girls, anti-social behaviour, police complaints and the criminal justice system.
- **INTRODUCED** new security staff training for security staff in Northumbria to strengthen their approach to protecting vulnerable people enjoying our cities in the evening.
- PUBLISHED and delivered to all households a Local Policing Summary for each local authority area in Northumbria, sharing information about crime reductions, partnership working and key contacts.

An effective organisation

It is important that Northumbria Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner are strong and resilient organisations able to respond to changing demands and the growing challenges. Effective scrutiny of Northumbria Police involves consideration and challenge to ensure that the force are an efficient and effective organisation that performs well with integrity and instils confidence in local communities.

Northumbria Police Authority

This scrutiny role was previously carried out by Northumbria Police Authority who received regular reports and feedback from the Chief Constable through a committee system enabling them to scrutinise effectively.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

Since November 2012 the Commissioner has been responsible for holding the Chief Constable to account and as a directly elected individual has a different approach but continues the scrutiny role by:

- Going out and about talking to local people and specific groups about their experiences
- Holding two weekly meetings and quarterly performance meetings with the chief constable
- Attending monthly Northumbria Police Strategic Management Board
- Working with the Police and Crime Panel who support and challenge the PCC in her role;
- Looking closely at inspection results from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, the Independent Complaints Commission and findings from external audits and media coverage.
- Considering what the public are saying through surveys such as the Safer Communities Survey and the User Satisfaction Survey.
- Working with members of the Advisory Groups and Scrutiny Panel to help shape an understanding of policing issues communities face.

Over the last year internal scrutiny has focused specifically on internal audit outcomes, monitoring and dip sampling complaints against the police and quarterly performance monitoring specifically focusing on perceptions of drunk and rowdy behaviour, police officer sickness, awareness of neighbourhood policing teams and integrity.

External scrutiny from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary has considered custody provision, crime incident data, how the force deal with anti-social behaviour, policing in austerity and police integrity.

All of this means that looking forward into 2013/14, local people can be reassured that Northumbria Police are an effective organisation with:

- Transparent governance and financial arrangements with recording and publication on the website of all key decisions;
- A well managed estate with 'fit for purpose' properties;
- Equality and human rights being promoted in every aspect of police business and governance;

- Strategic risks facing the Commissioner and Northumbria Police managed and mitigated where possible;
- Effective treasury management and value for money services;
- Arrangements for internal and external audit and clear mechanisms to counter fraud and corruption; and
- A developing robust corporate governance framework with the democratic involvement of local communities and volunteers.

Listening to communities

During the year both Northumbria Police Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner have been listening to local people about crime and disorder issues their neighbourhoods to ensure that the policing service meet their needs.

Northumbria Police Authority

In the first part of the year the Authority held public meetings across Northumbria and engaged with young people through youth councils and schools and held meetings with representatives from the business community. They also used the findings from surveys undertaken throughout the year including 12,000 telephone interviews with residents as part of a safer communities' survey and 5,500 telephone interviews with victims of crime and anti-social behaviour to understand the needs of local communities.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

The Commissioner has continued to engage with local communities and also use the information from those surveys, in addition local people have completed an on-line survey, talked to the Commissioner face to face about their crime and safety concerns at metro stations or in the supermarkets. This has informed the policing priorities for the future and the Police and Crime Plan for 2013-18 which you can access by going to www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

To help shape the Commissioners thinking around police and crime issues, there are also seven advisory groups including age, gender, religion and belief, disability, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), Black Minority Ethnic group and a victims of crime group. These groups meet the Commissioner on a regular basis. A newly established Scrutiny Panel will involve local people helping to monitor the work of Northumbria Police, initially focusing on complaints against Northumbria Police and also delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Advisory Groups have helped shaped police and crime objectives and have played a key role in shaping responses from the Commissioner to national consultations including the Government's Code of Practice for Victims. More recently the Disability Advisory Group has helped to write an 'Easy Read' Police and Crime Plan and looked at alternative formats to help ensure the priorities and key messages reach all our communities.

Delivering together

Northumbria Police Authority

During 2012-13 Northumbria Police Authority was a 'responsible authority' on the six Community Safety Partnerships within Northumbria. Through the NPA Grant Pool, grants were awarded to Community Safety Partnerships helping to support delivery of the Local Policing Plan and accelerate local community safety solutions.

In 2012-13 awards totalling £265,000 were made by Northumbria Police Authority to:

- Bring together key partners and communities in Gateshead to prevent crime with a specific focus on building community confidence and reducing hate and faith crime.
- Support partners in Newcastle to work with young people who misuse substances and their families to prevent further offending and escalation of problems.
- Provide a programme of support for victims of domestic abuse and their children who are based in Newcastle, with a focus on education and healing from the effects of domestic abuse.
- Support a specialist domestic abuse programme in Northumberland, working with Victim Support and other voluntary agencies to provide support to high risk victims of domestic abuse.
- Help partners work together with the community to end disability hate crime in North Tyneside.
- Provide a comprehensive tiered service to young offenders in North Tyneside and their families to prevent and reduce domestic violence incidents.
- Introduce restorative justice work with non-statutory cases in South Tyneside, providing specialist support to high-crime causers.
- Offer an innovative programme of civic mediation and peer support to improve community cohesion, reduce tensions and reduce crime and disorder in the Millfield and Eden Vale area of Sunderland.

Funding grants totalling £410,771 were also made to Youth Offending Teams within Northumbria to support their work to reduce youth crime and improve rehabilitation.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

The Commissioner also works with local community safety partnerships and using the Community Safety Fund has agreed funding to enable partnerships to deliver community safety projects across Northumbria. These projects are open to external monitoring and assist in the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and better cross boundary working. Information about the grants awarded is available on the website. www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

The governments Community Safety Fund for 2013-14 is a temporary fund to enable a smooth transition to the new policing model. From 2014-15, the fund will be rolled into the Home Office Police Main Grant giving the Commissioner freedom and flexibility over how she uses her resources.

Achievement of the Local Policing Plan 2012-13

This section provides an overview of delivery against the four objectives in the Local Policing Plan for 2012-13. Under headings for the four objectives information is provided about performance against key indicators that were in the plan and their targets, activity undertaken by Northumbria Police to deliver against the objectives and where appropriate comparisons with forces across the country of a similar size and nature.

1. Reduce and prevent crime and disorder

We want people in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear to be safe and feel safe and build on the previous reductions of crime over the last decade.

What we wanted	What we achieved in 2012/13	
Reduction in crime by 755 fewer crimes	7,692 fewer reported crimes (75,266 down to 67,574)	√
Fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour incidents	10,247 fewer anti-social behaviour incidents (from 97,685 to 87,438).	✓
To have fewer people perceiving drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem in their area	A reduction in perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour with a fall from 19.7% to 11.9%.	√
Fewer people perceiving the use of or dealing of drugs as a problem in their area	A reduction in perceptions of drug dealing or drug use from 8.2% to 5.6%.	✓
Fewer violence against the person with injury offences	A reduction of violence against the person with 605 fewer offences.	✓
An increase in the detection rate for violence against the person with injury offences	A detection figure of 60.3%, missed target but is the highest detection rate nationally.	
Positive disposal rate of 46% (where an offender was identified and action taken against them)	This missed target with a figure of 44.7% achieved. This was the second highest rate nationally.	×

Northumbria remains one of the safest areas to live in England and Wales with a 36% reduction in crime over the last 5 years and 10% last year. Last year there were over 7,000 fewer crimes. Northumbria Police maintain their position as top amongst their most similar forces across the country and for total crime is 7th out of 43 forces in the country. Over the last two years antisocial behaviour (ASB) has also reduced by 38% with a 10.5% reduction since last year, meaning 10,247 fewer incidents. The positive disposal rate and detection rate reduced by 1.4 percentage points and 1.7 percentage points respectively, however the Force continues to perform well in comparison with other forces and is 2nd nationally and 1st within comparable forces.

The number of violence against the person crimes reduced by 9.3%, equivalent to 605 fewer offences, with the Force maintaining 1st position in its family of similar forces over the last year and within the top 10 nationally for the last two years. Over the same period, whilst detections for this crime type reduced by 2.6 percentage points from 62.9% to 60.3%, the Force has remained in the top two nationally.

It is important that we have visible police services and improve our response times and a new performance management system tells us what local policing needs are so that we can plan where policing resources are needed.

Reassurance that police and partners are dealing with anti – social behaviour in communities is important and this has included:

- A campaign, 'Put yourself in their shoes' encouraging people to be tolerant of each other and strengthen communities.
- Better identification and support for vulnerable people particularly, those calling to report Anti Social Behaviour.

Working with local councils to tackle the harms and costs of alcohol misuse has made a difference and the Safer Communities Survey results show that fewer people think drunk or rowdy behaviour is a problem in their area. Some of this work includes:

- Working with partners including the local authorities and the Balance Regional Alcohol
 Champion to address alcohol and drug related crime and disorder through the
 implementation of Night Time Economy plans, encouraging responsible behaviour in the
 alcohol industry and licensing trade, and neighbourhood alcohol strategies which include
 test purchasing to reduce the number of young people purchasing alcohol and other
 targeted operations.
- Campaigns encouraging people to stay safe when enjoying a night out:
 - 'Keys, Money, Phone, Plans to get home?' highlighting the importance of thinking about safety before going out, and making plans to get home.
 - 'Stay in control of your night' reminding people that arguments can easily turn into fights.
- Working with Youth Offending Teams to offer intervention activities helping young people under 18 to address their behaviour where they have been involved in straightforward drunk and disorderly cases with no violence.

Other work includes:

- working to reduce the number of people reoffending, co-ordinated by an Integrated Offender Management Officer to work across the Force area;
- action to combat metal theft including visits to scrap metal dealers; and
- a number of arrests and recovery of drugs were made as a result of a campaign targeting
 drug suppliers and there is a significant reduction in the number of residents who
 perceived people using/ dealing drugs to be a problem in their local area (with reductions
 in all the areas previously found to be a concern).

What the inspectors said

A HMIC inspection into the use of the stop and search in Northumbria found that the Force had a good understanding of legislation and statutory requirements and a culture of being polite and fair with people in all interactions including stop and search. The report identified that improvements are needed in the understanding of the effectiveness of stop and search in reducing and preventing crime and disorder and in scrutiny to ensure stop and search is recorded appropriately.

2. Increase confidence and address public concerns

Northumbria Police is accountable to those people who live and work in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear. There are common things people have said they would like us to address including; young people drinking alcohol in public places and/or being rowdy or a nuisance; speeding or dangerous driving; noise nuisance; inconsiderate parking; and vandalism or graffiti. To increase public confidence in the places where they live and work and in our service, they want to see us actually dealing with these issues.

What we wanted	What we achieved in 2012/13	
More people feeling they can rely on the police	An increase from 90.7% in 2011/12 to 91.8%.	/
to sort out a problem in their local area.		
More people agreeing that the police and local	An increase from 63.2% in 2011-12 to 64.2%. *	
councils are dealing with anti-social behaviour		
and crime issues in their area.		
More people who know that their local area has a	This has increased from 53.4% in 2011-12 to	
Neighbourhood Policing Team.	54.3%. *	
More people agreeing that the police in their	This has fallen to 67.3% from 69.2% achieved in	
area are dealing with what matters to them.	2011-12. *	
More people agreeing that the police talk to	This has fallen to 79.6% from 80.1% achieved in	
people in their local area, keeping them in touch	2011-12. *	
with what is going on.		
More victims who are completely or very	This has fallen to 80.4% from 83.2% achieved in	×
satisfied with the overall service provided by the	2011-12.	
police.		
To increase the number of victims completely or	This has fallen to 72.1% from 78.1% achieved in	×
very satisfied with how well they were kept	2011-12.	
informed of progress.		

^{*}Where the table is shaded grey this is because analysis of the survey data shows this is not a statistically significant change.

When asked about their local area, more people feel that they can rely on the police to sort out problems in their area and nearly six out of every ten people agree the level of patrol in their area is about right. The Force remains 1st nationally for all aspects of quality of service. For ease of contact and whole experience, this position has been maintained since 2010. There has however, been a reduction in the number of victims who are completely or very satisfied with both the overall service and being kept informed, in comparison to last year.

Police have been working to find out more about the problems that people have in their area.

- talking to more local people using a range of methods including online forums and visiting shopping centres;
- using a new Anti-Social Behaviour Survey to find out more about repeat victimisation, vulnerability and, for the first time, information victims of criminal damage.
- Improving relationships with young people through a force wide volunteer police cadet scheme and cadets participating in community events, where they improve community relationships and obtain an insight into police work.

 Approaches to increase engagement with hard to reach groups are being implemented, with continued support provided to the Sunderland Youth Parliament. A questionnaire which focuses on young people's experiences and perceptions of the police, the problems they face and their preferred communication methods has been produced to better understand their concerns.

A strengthened response to road safety issues has resulted in a reduction in the number of residents who think that speeding or dangerous driving is a problem, work has included:

- o a Roads Policing Toolkit;
- officers from the Road Safety Unit attending Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings;
- targeted work with young drivers through schools and colleges to reduce accidents;
- Community Speed Watch programme with volunteers monitoring speed with hand held devices supplied by the force and the Safer Northumberland Partnership.

Improved recruitment of volunteers continues with the prioritisation of recruitment of Special Constables and a focus on making the best use of their skills, knowledge and experience. There has been a 12% increase in the number of Special Constables and a 37% increase in the number of actively working Specials.

A renewed focus on the Volunteering Strategy offers those who wish to volunteer, a range of roles to match age, interest, experience and availability to ensure a worthwhile and enjoyable experience for volunteers, whilst increasing confidence within the community.

What the inspectors said

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary looked at how Northumbria Police deal with ASB in and reported a continuous improvement in the way it deals with ASB, with a greater understanding of the definitions of repeat and vulnerable victims and how they are monitored and managed. Partnership working was also identified as strong, with effective problem solving solutions in place with partner agencies.

3. Protect the public

The police, together with other agencies, have a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable people in our communities. While we do have a duty to all, we need to give the appropriate level of attention to those who are more at risk and less able.

What we wanted	What we achieved in 2012/13	
Reduce further the number of	Serious crimes have reduced from 825 to 766 serious	✓
serious crime.	crimes.	
Reduce the highest risk victims of	This has increased from 22.3% in 2011-12 to 24.6%.	×
domestic abuse suffering a		
further violent incident.		
Reduce road traffic collisions.	Target achieved with a fall in accidents from 3,426 in	/
	2012/13 to 3,224.	
Establish mental health support	These have been established with officers receiving	/
schemes for people in custody.	training around mental health issues.	
Increase opportunities for the	Force Disability Hate Crime Action Plan ensures police	/
reporting of hate	work with partners giving people with disabilities, their	
crimes/incidents, including those	carers and third parties opportunities to report hate	
that are disability related.	crime and harassment in a safe environment.	
Delivery of our commitments	We fulfilled our commitments towards this requirement	/
towards the Strategic Policing	including the support provided to support the Olympic	
Requirement.	Games.	

Northumbria Police and its partners have a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable people in our communities. Whilst there is a duty of care for all members of the public, people who are more at risk and are the most vulnerable in our communities need an appropriate level of attention giving them the support and services they need. Over the last 12 months work a range of work has taken place to provide this support.

- A new Northumbria wide Disability Hate Crime Action Plan and:
 - o 120 newly created safe reporting centres.
 - Closer working with ARCH (Agencies against Racist Crime and Harassment) to increase levels of reporting enabling us to tackle hate crime and reduce community tensions.
 - o Encouraging people to understand and report disability hate crime with the radio and poster campaign, 'It's never too late ...end disability hate'.
 - Making sure that the evidence in hate crimes is cases is transferred to the Crown Prosecution Service in a timely and efficient manner.
 - Promotion of True Vision, a police funded web site designed to provide information about hate crime and how to report it;
 - Training officers to understand the issues effecting victims of Hate Crime;

Improving the provision of services to vulnerable people included:

- Training to help officers understand mental health issues, the impact of stalking and harassment and domestic violence training was delivered to operational staff.
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder training is currently being delivered to neighbourhood policing teams and custody officers.
- Learning from the Samaritans how to understand and assess the vulnerability of callers.

- Worked with national bodies to improve understanding of cyber-crime and its impact on communities.
- Raising awareness about door step crime working alongside partners such as Age UK and Meals on Wheels 'If in doubt, keep them out!' targeted older people as well as the general public.
- Providing better support for people with mental health problems in Bedlington and Sunderland custody suites and there are plans for similar schemes in North Tyneside and Newcastle in 2013/14.
- Adopting the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH 2009) risk identification, assessment and management model, this will safeguard domestic abuse victims, and prevent death or serious injury through early risk identification, intervention and prevention.
- A campaign 'Are you always walking on egg shells?' aims to raise awareness of all forms of domestic abuse and encourage victims to come forward and report offences. Evaluation figures show an increase in reports of domestic violence to the police, from 6,041 incidents to 7,232.

Northumbria Police provides services which tackle more serious and organised crime and ensure there is sufficient planning and preparation in place to minimise the likelihood and impact of potential disorder, terrorism, and adverse events. This involves tackling serious criminal activity, keeping borders secure and keeping roads, utilities and public spaces safe. Over the last year the force has worked with other police forces and partner agencies to support the Strategic Policing Requirement and:

- Maintained the ability to deliver core national policing priorities and with the ability to respond to any threat posed during the Olympic period.
- Remained compliant with the Government Strategy; Reducing the risk from Organised Crime - "Local to Global", and reduced serious crime in the Force area by 7.2% over the last year.
- Met the national requirements from the Counter Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST.
 Comprehensive training has been delivered to officers and staff and a programme of awareness and engagement continues with partners
- Surveyed local people and found that 88% of residents surveyed are confident that the Force is dealing with serious and organised crime.
- Delivered Prevent training (a government approach to stop people becoming or supporting violent extremists) on a rolling basis to all front-line officers and staff, as well as a range of partners including schools and local authorities.
- Worked with North East Counter Terrorist Unit, Fire and Rescue Service, North East Ambulance Service and local authorities to test the regional response to a terrorist threat through joint exercise.

What the inspectors said

As part of a national inspection of activity undertaken by HMIC in relation to the investigation of Serious and Organised Crime (titled 'Street to Strategic'), the Force was highlighted for good practice on how it engages with local communities when tackling organised criminality.

4. Provide good value for money

We have a fixed level of funding provided by taxpayers and have a duty to spend our budget wisely on their behalf. Reductions in public funding over the next few years will raise public expectation of prudent financial management. As a Force, we will achieve this through maintaining our high level of service and performance and focusing our resources in the right places. To continue delivering high quality policing at a reduced cost we have already reorganised structures and staffing levels to increase efficiency and remove duplication.

What we wanted	What we achieved in 2012/13	
Deliver a balanced budget for the police force and Office of the Police and Crime	A balanced budget has been delivered by both the Force and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner.	√
Commissioner.		
Maintain police officers sickness levels under	Sickness levels for police officers averaged 8.3 days per	×
7 day target	annum - up from 7.61 in 2011/12	
Maintain police staff sickness levels under 7	Sickness level for police staff was maintained under the 7	/
day target	day target set out in the Policing Plan	

Work is ongoing to ensure the Force uses its resources in the most efficient and effective way including the commitment to maintain visible frontline officers:

- Recruitment of 20 officers took place in July 2012 with a further 24 in April 2013. Further intakes are planned for July, September and November 2013.
- Improving and speeding up support for officers returning to duty with an improved
 Occupational Health Unit, however police officer sickness levels were above target for the
 year although there was an improvement between December 2012 and March 2013 with
 the number of days lost reducing from 8.6 to 8.3. Police staff sickness achieved the target
 at 6.96 days.
- Work continues to manage sickness absences with delivery of training across the force to help address issues linked to attendance.
- Speeding up systems and reducing bureaucracy with better access to evidence and information across the criminal justice system using digital links.
- To make more efficient use of the police estate work has begun to relocate staff from the Headquarters site at Ponteland with 300 staff relocated, work is ongoing to re-house the remaining 450 staff within existing and future force estate.
- Custody provision across the Force has been reviewed, and plans for the future service are
 focusing on maintaining standards, meets changes in demand and working practices, and
 maximises support for operational officers and staff whilst ensuring a flexible and efficient
 service.
- Collaboration with local authorities, other blue-light services and universities continues to improve services or achieve increased value for money.

Delivering the budget

In 2012-13, gross revenue spending was £309.381m with a further £23.355m spending on capital projects.

Revenue expenditure is the day-to-day running costs of providing the policing services and includes expenses such as salaries and wages, premises-related expenditure and the costs of borrowing. This expenditure is financed from council tax, government grants and other income such as fees and charges and any reserves where appropriate.

Income raised from local council taxpayers represented 13.5% of the total funding for 2012/13. Northumbria's council tax charge has been the lowest in England and Wales for a number of years and continued to be in 2012/13 with a band D charge of less than £84 for the year.

As well as expenditure on day to day policing there is capital expenditure on purchasing, upgrading or improving assets such as buildings and vehicles where the benefit is achieved over a number of years.

The information below summarises where funding came from and how it was spent during the financial period 1 April 2012 - 31 March 2013:

Funding	£000s
Central Government Grants	235,071
Council Tax precepts	36,837
Income (fees, other grants) Reserves	27,193 10,280
Total funding	309,381
Expenditure	£000s
Employees	214,061
Pensions	47,172
Premises	11,683
Supplies and services	7,626
Transport	5,979
Establishment costs	5,364
Agency services	3,717
Surgeons and pathologists fees	2,590
Community safety	726
Other operating expenditure	4,305
Capital charges	6,158
Total expenditure	309,381

What belongs to the Commissioner?

The Commissioner's property and asset portfolio, located throughout Northumberland and Tyne & Wear, includes 42 operational police stations, 6 other operational police properties, 12 non-operational buildings, 19 houses and 20 surplus properties together with 700 vehicles.

Outlook for 2013-14

The Commissioner approved a gross revenue budget (before use of reserves) of £300.591m, with a Band D council tax of £86.61. The budget includes savings which have been carefully considered to ensure the Commissioner and Chief Constable can meet the financial challenges they face whilst continuing to focus on their core principles, as set out below:

- Police and Crime Plan Delivery;
- Prioritise Neighbourhood Policing;
- Improve performance; and
- Address local priorities.

Whilst maintaining the above principles, £16.4m of budget savings were identified for 2013/14, with further budget savings of over £19m built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2014/15 and 2015/16 to meet the challenging financial position and to ensure the impact on frontline policing is minimised. Further detail on the agreed budget can be found in the Commissioner's Key Decision report PCC/12/2013, Approval of the Revenue and Capital Budgets for Council Tax for 2013/14.

Alternative formats (including large print and easy read) of this Plan are available upon request. Please contact the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria on 0191 221 9800 or email enquiries@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk and we will be more than happy to provide additional copies, translations into other languages and alternative formats.