

HOW YOUR PCC SERVES THE RESIDENTS OF NORTHUMBRIA



MESSAGE FROM VERA BAIRD QC, NORTHUMBRIA POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

COUNCIL TAX INFORMATION 2016/17



The Police & Crime Commissioner, Vera Baird:

- Is a directly elected person who is responsible for the totality of policing across Northumbria.
- Ensures that the police force is efficient and effective.
- Appoints the Chief Constable.
- Holds the Chief Constable to account for the operational delivery of policing, ensuring the priorities of local residents are addressed.
- Sets the strategic direction and objectives for policing by producing a Police & Crime Plan.
- Sets the annual police budget.
- Produces an Annual Report setting out progress against the objectives in the Police & Crime Plan.
- Co-operates with other criminal justice agencies in the area.
- Contributes to the national and international policing requirements.
- Works with partners and funds community safety activity to tackle crime and disorder.

As your Police and Crime Commissioner I have attended many meetings and community events and it is clear that you value and respect the work carried out by Northumbria Police, and that neighbourhood policing is important to you.

Let me be absolutely clear – neighbourhood policing is my priority too.

Since 2010, we have seen Northumbria's budget cut by more than £108 million, this has resulted in the loss of 861 police officers and 940 specialist police staff. We're also expecting Government to continue to "top slice" police budgets, to pay for national policing priorities. To deal with these financial pressures, tough funding decisions have had to be taken. We have re-located police officers out of expensive to maintain, inaccessible police stations to new community hubs, based in the heart of the community – all savings have been re-invested back in to policing.

During the recent consultation regarding the council tax precept, comment after comment was how good our neighbourhood policing teams are, they are our eyes and ears of the community, the teams help prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour and are a reassuring presence, improving the quality of life for residents. These community officers also gather vital intelligence to help counter the most serious crime.



When calculating the overall policing budget for Northumbria, the Government had anticipated that the police precept of the council tax would rise by £5. There was no negotiation with government, if we wanted to maintain our vital neighbourhood policing services, we would have to accept this decision. Prudent financial planning and increased efficiency, combined with this increase, which works out at about 1p per day increase for most homes, has allowed us to protect the services that matter to you the most. We will ensure that police officers are able to offer support to vulnerable people and tackle new emerging crimes such as cyber fraud and child sexual exploitation.

Northumbria Police continues to be recognised as a force that delivers for local communities. I will also continue to ensure that the Chief Constable makes your priorities the priorities of Northumbria Police.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in helping keep our communities a safe place to live and work.

Best wishes

Vera Baird
Police & Crime Commissioner – Northumbria

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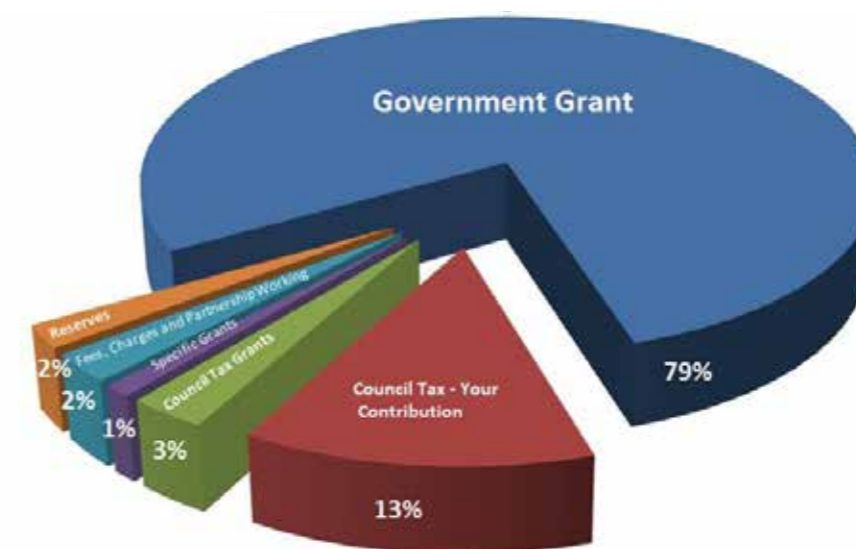
IN 2015, MY POLICE & CRIME PLAN DELIVERY INCLUDED –

- Establishing Victims First Northumbria to ensure victims of crime have a responsive service and single point of contact to offer help and support during their recovery.
- Lobbying MPs and government on a range of issues including minimum pricing for alcohol, legislation around new psychoactive substances (legal highs) and calling for independent scrutiny of prisons.
- Continue our quick response system for dealing with complaints against the police from the public. Some months the team resolve as many as 60% of complaints within a few hours or days, to the satisfaction of the complainant. The initiative has been taken up nationally.
- Ensuring the effective implementation of the regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.
- Establishing over 600 Domestic Violence Champions in workplaces all across Northumbria and Court Observers Panels.
- Ensuring that Northumbria Police continues to be recognised as delivering an “outstanding” service to those who suffer anti-social behaviour.
- Successfully developed collaboration with neighbouring police forces, Police & Crime Commissioners and fire services.
- My office is £3 million cheaper to run than the former police authority, all savings have been reinvested back into policing.
- Consulted with more than 12,000 people to ask about police funding.

Band	Police Council Tax 2015/16	Police Council Tax 2016/17	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase
A	£58.89	£62.22	£3.33	6p
B	£68.70	£72.59	£3.89	7p
C	£78.52	£82.96	£4.44	8p
D	£88.33	£93.33	£5.00	10p
E	£107.96	£114.07	£6.11	12p
F	£127.59	£134.81	£7.22	14p
G	£147.22	£155.55	£8.33	16p
H	£176.66	£186.66	£10.00	19p

FUNDING FOR POLICING IN NORTHUMBRIA

Funded by:	£m	%
Government Grant	217.498	79%
Council Tax	35.482	13%
Council Tax Grants	8.168	3%
Specific Grants	2.937	1%
Fees, Charges and Partnership Working	7.093	2%
Reserves	5.693	2%
Total	276.871	100%



HOW FUNDING IS SPENT

Policing	265.878	96.0%
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	0.756	0.3%
Capital Financing, Initiatives and Governance	10.237	3.7%
Total	276.871	100%

