



Police and Crime Commissioner
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

ACTING POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PRECEPT SURVEY REPORT

January 2020

agree properly government s seen police officer patrolling go
certainly say happened must local community visibility meetings keep
seem think Speeding village see police streets questions given
services survey support police road feel force
council tax maintained numbers criminals people

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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1. Introduction

1. The Policing Protocol Order 2011, which came into force on January 16th 2012, states that *“the Police and Crime Commissioner is the recipient of all funding, including the government grant and precept and other sources of income, related to policing and crime reduction and all funding for a force must come via the Commissioner”*.
- 1.2 Section 62 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides that all of the functions of a Police and Crime Commissioner are exercisable by an Acting Commissioner, apart from issuing or varying a Police and Crime Plan.
- 1.3 In Cambridgeshire, police funding comes from three main sources.
 - Central government grant
 - Local council tax (precept)
 - Other grants to support victims of crime
- 1.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory duty to set the precept for the Cambridgeshire force area, allowing him to decide the budget and allocate assets and funds to the Chief Constable for the coming financial year.
- 1.5 The Acting Commissioner has committed to engaging with the public regarding the precept decision-making processes. A public survey was undertaken in line with this commitment.
- 1.6 This document sets out the actions taken by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in light of this commitment and analyses the public response to the survey.
- 1.7 On 22nd January, 2020, the Government settlement included an ability for Police and Crime Commissioners to increase the policing part of council tax to £10 per year (or 83p per month) in 2020/21 (based on a Band D property).
- 1.8 Along with other documents relating to the precept increase, this document was published on the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner’s website at <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/>.

2. Outline of the survey

2.1 The public survey was undertaken by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), on behalf of the Acting Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

2.2 Due to a delay caused by the 2019 General Election, the OPCC did not receive an indication from Government on a settlement figure, nor any decision indicating how much the policing part of the precept could be raised until after the survey was launched.

2.3 **The survey informed participants that the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner would seek to follow precept guidance when published by Government.**

2.4 The multiple choice questions presented to stakeholders and the public were as follows:

Q.1. "To what extent do you agree that police officer visibility in your community is important?"

Q.2. "How important is it that police officers are adequately supported to carry out their duties in terms of equipment and training?"

Q.3. "With an increase in population, how important is it that police staff levels are maintained in order to support policing in Cambridgeshire, for example call handlers, training officers?"

2.5 For each question participants were invited to indicate whether they:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

2.6 A space was provided for participants to add any further comments.

2.7 The public survey ran for 19 days from **Wednesday 8th January 2020** to **Monday 27th January 2020**.

2.8 People were asked to complete a short online survey. Printed documents were also available to ensure information was accessible with alternative arrangements for people to phone or email the OPCC with their comments.

3. Summary of the survey activity

3.1 During the survey a wide range of communication engagement activities took place.

3.2 A log of engagement activity can be found in **Appendix 2**.

3.3 A summary of activity is as follows:

- The survey was launched and communicated to the public via the website, and digital communications including social media, notably Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
- The survey was also communicated through the media which secured coverage on radio, in print and online.
- Officers, staff and volunteers within Cambridgeshire Constabulary were engaged through internal channels and given the opportunity to comment.
- The Acting Police and Crime Commissioner engaged directly with the public at a number of contact points throughout the county over the survey period.

4. Analysis of survey responses

- 4.1 A total of **1,197** people responded to the survey.
- 4.2 In response to **question 1**, *“To what extent do you agree that police officer visibility in your community is important?”* - **72.96%** of respondents strongly agreed.
- 4.3 In response to **question 2**, *“How important is it that police officers are adequately supported to carry out their duties in terms of equipment and training?”* - **83.54%** of respondents strongly agreed.
- 4.4 In response to **question 3**, *“With an increase in population, how important is it that police staff levels are maintained in order to support policing in Cambridgeshire, for example call handlers, training officers?”* - **76.21%** of respondents strongly agreed.
- 4.5 **Public comments:** it was important that the OPCC understood in more depth people’s reasoning behind their response. Therefore respondents were asked to add any additional comment that they had about the proposal. A total of **259** comments were received. Most responses were received by people directly onto the online survey. However, a number of responses were received by e-mail, by telephone or were collected during public contact sessions. These responses were manually added to the online system.
- 4.6 Every comment received has been individually considered, however a number of recurring themes have been identified, including:
- The need for more police visibility
 - General dissatisfaction with police presence
 - The police funding formula and population growth
 - The impact of central government funding on the local precept contribution
 - Concerns regarding the police response to specific crime types
- 4.7 What is notable is that there were no comments regarding the police work that is not crime related.

5. Demography of respondents

Demographic data collected, and presented below, demonstrates a range of people participated and engaged in the survey.

Gender								
Male: 54.17%	Female: 40.97%	Prefer not to say: 4.51%	Transgender: 0%	Other: 0.35%				
Age								
-18: 0.17%	18-24: 2.29%	25-34: 6.29%	35-44: 10.20%	45-54: 15.63%	55-64: 18.69%	65-74: 28.55%	+75: 15.63%	PNTS: 2.55%
Ethnicity								
White British				88.88%				
White European				1.90%				
Asian or Asian British				0.95%				
Black or Black British				0.34%				
Mixed				0.09%				
Prefer not to say				5.95%				
Other				1.90%				
Do you have a long standing illness, disability or infirmity?								
Yes				20.64%				
No				79.36%				
Location by Police District								
Huntingdonshire		28.41%		East Cambridgeshire		12.97%		
South Cambridgeshire		19.28%		Cambridge City		10.41%		
Peterborough		18.26%		Outside		0.68%		
Fenlands		9.90%		No permanent residence		0.09%		

- 5.1 Demography in relation to Cambridgeshire: when compared to demographic data for Cambridgeshire¹, the above results indicate the survey is fairly representative of the county as a whole. Most areas are largely representative, with the majority of district, age and ethnic backgrounds within a 3% margin of error.
- 5.2 Clear outliers include residents of Huntingdonshire (28.41%) and those between the age of 65 and 74 (28.55%) while the gender split is disproportionately inclined towards male residents.

¹ All estimates based on 2011 census data (Cambridge atlas/ons.gov.uk)

- 5.3 It is notable that as this data is based on census records it is not indicative of homeowner data, and therefore may be more representative of those paying council tax in Cambridgeshire, which would likely not include low response groups such as under 18s.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 A total **1,197** people and responded during the survey period. Demographic data collected demonstrates a wide range of people participated and engaged in the survey, of a makeup representative of the area as a whole.
- 6.2 **259** respondents also made additional comments which have been recorded fully in the appendices. The comments have helped to inform the Commissioner's proposal in line with government advice.
- 6.3 In response to **question 1**, *"To what extent do you agree that police officer visibility in your community is important?"* - **72.96%** of respondents strongly agreed.
- 6.4 In response to **question 2**, *"How important is it that police officers are adequately supported to carry out their duties in terms of equipment and training?"* - **83.54%** of respondents strongly agreed.
- 6.5 In response to **question 3**, *"With an increase in population, how important is it that police staff levels are maintained in order to support policing in Cambridgeshire, for example call handlers, training officers?"* - **76.21%** of respondents strongly agreed.

Appendix 1

Survey documents

- Online Survey Monkey content

As we plan our budget for policing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for 2020/21, I am keen to understand your views on funding our police service.

The government previously announced national funding for 20,000 new officers with 62 joining the force over the next year. Although the cost for these extra officers is being met by the government, the existing 1,500 officers in Cambridgeshire and the infrastructure that supports them still needs maintaining and developing, which will bring cost pressures, not least from inflation alone.

Whilst the nationally funded additional officers are very welcome, there are some challenging realities that we face. Our police force remains one of the lowest funded forces in the country and with Cambridgeshire's population set to grow by 20% by 2031, we need to make sure our police service meets the needs of our growing communities.

In due course, the government will announce the amount by which the policing part of the precept can be raised and I would seek to follow that guidance. As an indication, a 2% increase on a Band D property would equate to 37p per month. In order to support the Chief Constable to deliver a policing service which is as resilient as it can be, I would be grateful if you could spare a moment or two to complete my short survey.

OK

1. To what extent do you agree that police officer visibility in your community is important?

- Strongly agree Disagree
- Agree Strongly disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree

2. How important is it that police officers are adequately supported to carry out their duties in terms of equipment and training?

- Strongly agree Disagree
- Agree Strongly disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree

3. With an increase in population, how important is it that police staff levels are maintained in order to support policing in Cambridgeshire, for example call handlers, training officers?

- Strongly agree Disagree
- Agree Strongly disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree

4. Please leave any further comments here:

5. Age Group?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- Over 75
- Prefer not to say

6. Ethnicity?

- White British
- White European
- Asian or Asian British
- Other (please specify)
- Black or Black British
- Mixed
- Prefer not to say

7. Do you have a long standing illness, disability or infirmity?

Yes

No

8. Are you?

Male

Prefer not to say

Female

Other (please specify)

9. Which area of the county do you live in?

Thank you for taking the time to complete my survey. Your views will help inform my decision as to the future level of the policing part of your council tax.

OK

- Printed survey leaflet



Have your say

on police funding in Cambridgeshire

As we plan our budget for policing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for 2020/21, I am keen to understand your views on funding our police service.

The amount of money being given to police forces from central government and the rules over how much the policing part of council tax can be raised have been delayed due to the December General Election.

As Police and Crime Commissioner, I need to ensure the Chief Constable has the resources he needs to keep people safe across the county.

The past year has brought many challenges however I am sure you will agree that we have a fantastic police force in Cambridgeshire working hard to tackle the issues we all care about.

Last year you told us you wanted to see more officers out in your communities. Thanks to your support for an increase in the policing part of your council tax, we have seen police officer numbers reach record levels in Cambridgeshire. An additional 50 officers were recruited with the aim of increasing visible neighbourhood policing as well as supporting a partnership approach to crime prevention.

Cambridgeshire is a safe county but police have to spend more time tackling the growing complexity of crimes such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, modern day slavery and drug dealing known as 'county lines'.

The government previously announced funding for 20,000 new officers across the country with 62 joining the force over the next year. Although the cost for these extra officers is being met by the government, the

existing 1,500 officers in Cambridgeshire and the infrastructure that supports them still needs maintaining and developing, which will bring cost pressures, not least from inflation alone.

Police funding comes from two main sources: a central government grant (just over half) and the remaining from the policing part of the council tax.

Whilst the nationally funded additional officers are very welcome, there are some challenging realities that we face. Our police force remains one of the lowest funded forces in the country and with the county's population set to grow by 20% by 2031, we need to make sure our police service meets the needs of our growing communities.

In due course, the government will announce the amount by which the precept can be raised and I would seek to follow that guidance. As an indication, a 2% increase on a Band D property would equate to 37p per month.

In order to support the Chief Constable to deliver a policing service which is as resilient as it can be, I would be grateful if you could spare a moment or two to complete my short survey.

A link to the survey can be found [here](#).

The survey runs from **Wednesday 8th until Monday 27th January 2020**.

Thank you

Ray Bibby
Acting Police and Crime Commissioner

Police and Crime Commissioner's Survey

The Acting Police and Crime Commissioner would like your views on funding Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Please complete the following questions by marking your response in the boxes provided.

Rectangular Snip

1. To what extent do you agree that police officer visibility in your community is important?
 Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree
 Disagree Strongly disagree Don't know
2. How important is it that police officers are adequately supported to carry out their duties in terms of equipment and training?
 Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree
 Disagree Strongly disagree Don't know
3. With an increase in population, how important is it that police staff levels are maintained in order to support policing in Cambridgeshire, for example call handlers, training officers?
 Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree
 Disagree Strongly disagree Don't know

Do you have any other comments? Please use the box below.

Thank you for taking the time to complete my survey. Your views are important to me and will help inform my decision.

Equality and diversity

Age Group

- Under 18
 18-24 25-34
 35-44 45-54
 55-64 65-74
 Over 75
 Prefer not to say

Ethnicity

- White British
 White European
 Asian or Asian British

- Black or Black British
 Mixed
 Other (please specify)
 Prefer not to say

Do you have a long standing illness, disability or infirmity?

- Yes No

Are you?

- Male Female
 Other (please specify)
 Transgender
 Prefer not to say

Where do you live?

- Cambridge City East Cambridgeshire Fenland
 Huntingdonshire Peterborough South Cambridgeshire

Please note - copies of the survey are also available with an Easy Read description. Views can also be given by telephone: 0300 333 3456 or by email: cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk or you can send it by post to: OPCC, PO Box 688, Police HQ, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 9LA

Appendix 2


Survey activity




- A summary of media coverage is provided below:




Date	Media	Link to coverage
9 th January	Cambs Times	https://www.cambstimes.co.uk/news/pcc-looks-for-budget-setting-support-cambs-1-6457990
9 th January	BBC Radio Cambs	Live interview on Ronnie Barbour show – iplayer link no longer available
9 th January	Hunts Post	https://www.huntspost.co.uk/news/police-urge-members-of-the-public-to-have-their-say-on-police-funding-1-6458052
11 th January	Peterborough Telegraph	https://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/crime/public-survey-whether-increase-council-tax-payments-police-peterborough-and-cambridgeshire-1361446
12 th January	Peterborough Telegraph	https://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/crime/cambridgeshire-police-commissioner-proposes-ps10-year-increase-council-tax-1374669
22 nd January	BBC Radio Cambs	Live 'hot seat' interview on Chris Mann show with Chief Constable – question and reference to ongoing survey.
24 th January	BBC Radio Cambs	Acting Police and Crime Commissioner's announcement seeking to increase the precept by £10 per year (based on a Band D property) covered in hourly news bulletins.

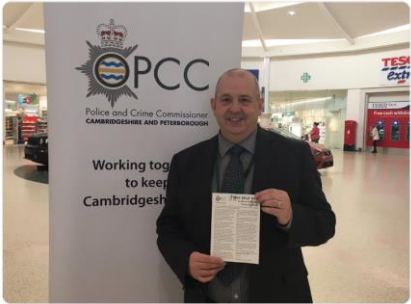
- A summary of the survey activity undertaken is provided below




Survey engagement log





Date	Format	Further details
05/01/2020	Media	Internal Comms article to all staff.
08/01/2020	Media	Press release sent out to local media, stakeholders.
08/01/2020	Social Media	<p>@pcccambs tweet about survey (430 reach)</p>  <p>Tweet pinned to top of Twitter feed for duration of survey.</p>
08/01/2020	Social Media	@CambsPCC Facebook post about survey (159 reach)


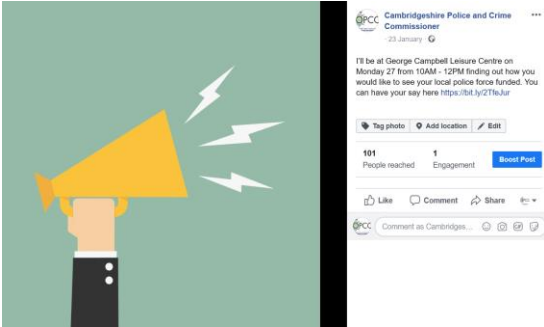

		 <p>Tweet pinned to top of Twitter feed for duration of survey.</p>
08/01/2020	Social Media	<p>@pcccams tweet promoting survey engagement event (443 reach), Serpentine Green, Hampton contact point, retweeting by Peterborough Telegraph</p> 
08/01/2020	Social media	<p>@CambsPCC Facebook post promoting survey engagement event (396 reach)</p> 
08/01/2020	Social Media	<p>@pcccams Twitter post promoting survey engagement event (491 reach), Sainsbury's Ely contact point.</p>

		<p>PCCcamb @PCCcamb · Jan 8</p> <p>HAVE YOUR SAY I will be at Ely Sainsburys on 13th Jan, 1-3PM listening to how residents would like to see our police force funded. For more information on how to get involved visit bit.ly/2TfeJur</p> 
08/01/2020	Social Media	<p>@CambsPCC Facebook post promoting survey engagement event (366 reach)</p> <p>Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner</p> <p>8 January at 16:40 · 🌐</p> <p>HAVE YOUR SAY</p> <p>I will be at Ely Sainsburys on 13th Jan, 1-3PM listening to how residents would like to see our police force funded. For more information on how to get involved visit https://bit.ly/2TfeJur</p> 
13/01/2020	Event	<p>PCC Public contact point – Serpentine Green, Peterborough @pcccams Tweets</p> <p>PCCcamb @PCCcamb · Jan 13</p> <p>I'm at Serpentine Green this morning in #Hampton talking to local people about police funding. If you're in the area, come and have a chat @peterboroughtel @PboroCops</p>  <p>(3,998 reach)</p>

		<p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 13 Come and have your say on police funding at Serpentine Green #Hampton @AssocPCCs</p>  <p>(612 reach)</p>
13/01/2020	Event	<p>PCC Public contact point – Sainsbury’s, Ely @pcccambs tweets</p> <p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 13 I'm in Ely Sainsbury's now talking to local people about police funding. Come and tell me your views.</p>  <p>(627 reach)</p> <p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 13 I'm now in #Ely Sainsbury's talking to people here about police funding. Come and have a chat and let me know your views @AssocPCCs @EastCambs</p>  <p>(1,075 reach)</p>
14/01/2020	Event	<p>PCC Public contact point – Madingley Park & Ride @pcccambs Tweets</p>

		<p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 14 Today I am at Madingley Park&Ride until 3PM speaking to residents and listening to how they would like to see our local police force funded. – at Madingley Road Park & Ride</p>  <p>(629 reach)</p> <p>@pcccambs Instagram</p>  <p>(101 reach)</p>
<p>17/01/2020</p>	<p>Event</p>	<p>PCC Public contact point – One Leisure, St Ives @pcccambs tweets</p> <p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 17 I'll be at @OneLeisureUK in St Ives finding out how you would like to see your local police force funded until 3PM. To get involved click here bit.ly/2TfeJur – at One Leisure St Ives Indoor</p>  <p>(375 reach)</p> <p>@CambsPCC Facebook posts</p>

		<p>Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner 17 January at 13:51 · 🌐</p> <p>Today I am at OneLeisureUK St Ives to find out how you would like to see your local police force funded. To get involved click here https://bit.ly/2TfeJur</p>  <p>(1,652 reach)</p>
21/01/2020	Social media	<p>@pcccams tweet promoting survey engagement event (540 reach), Grafton Centre, Cambridge</p> <p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 21 I'll be at @thegrafftoncams on Friday from 1PM - 3PM finding out how you would like to see your local police force funded. To get involved click here bit.ly/2TfeJur #Cambridge</p> 
22/01/2020	Social media	<p>@CambsPCC Facebook post promoting survey engagement event</p>   <p>(182 reach)</p>
22/01/2020	Social media	<p>@pcccams tweet promoting survey engagement event (394 reach)</p>

		<p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 22</p> <p>I'll be at George Campbell @FreedomLeisure on Monday 27 from 10AM - 12PM finding out how you would like to see your local police force funded. To get involved click here bit.ly/2TfeJur #March #Fenland</p> 
<p>23/01/2020</p>	<p>Social media</p>	<p>@CambsPCC Facebook post promoting survey engagement event, George Campbell Leisure Centre, March (101 reach)</p> 
<p>24/01/2020</p>	<p>Event</p>	<p>PCC Public contact point – The Grafton Centre, Cambridge</p> <p>@pcccambs tweets (reach 1,105)</p> <p>PCCCambs @PCCCambs · Jan 24</p> <p>I'm @thegraffoncamb finding out how you would like to see your local police funded. Stop by and have your say! #Cambridge</p>  <p>@CambsPCC Facebook posts (reach 155)</p>



@pcccams Instagram story post (reach 22)



27/01/2020

Event

PCC Public contact point – The George Campbell Leisure Centre, March
@pcccams tweets (reach 326)



@CambsPCC Facebook posts (reach 108)



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January 2020

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