



Police Budget 2023/24

Making Cheshire even safer

You expect your police service to be contactable, responsive, and proactive in tackling crime. The budget I have set will ensure this continues to be the case in Cheshire.

Cheshire Constabulary has the most officers it has ever had. The police are answering the phone faster and getting to incidents quicker for both emergencies and non-emergencies. More criminals are being arrested, and in Cheshire we have the highest charge rate for crime in the country.

When setting the police budget for this year, I have prioritised protecting these improvements to your police service. At the same time, the cost of living pressures affecting all of us have impacted the police too. Inflation has added around £14 million to Cheshire Constabulary's running costs and a rigorous review of budgets and reserves closed around half of this gap.

To close the funding gap fully, I asked for your views on increasing the police precept - the part of your Council Tax that funds Cheshire Constabulary. My budget survey had the largest ever response and 76% of residents supported raising the precept by at least 6.4% - equivalent to £15 per year or £1.25 per month for a Band D Council Tax property.

This is the proposal I took forward. However, with around two thirds of Cheshire households falling into Bands A-C, the vast majority of residents will pay less.

I want to thank residents for having their say. It's through your support that I have been able to set a police budget to maintain the improved level of service we have seen over the past year.

It's through your support that we're able to make Cheshire even safer.

John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire



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How your police service is protecting Cheshire's communities:



More Officers than ever

As of December 2022 there are 2,356 Police Officers in Cheshire to protect you



Contactable

Average 101 call waiting times were down to 6 minutes 28 seconds in 2022, from over 9 minutes in 2021



Responsive

90% of emergencies were attended within 15 minutes in 2022, up from 85% in 2021, with an average response time of 7 and a half minutes



Proactive

Arrests were up by 34% in 2022 compared to 2021, and as of October 2022 Cheshire has the highest charge rate for crime in the country

Council tax bands for policing

The Government announced on 14 December 2022 that Cheshire Constabulary would receive £242.2 million to fund local policing in 2023/24. An increase of £9.4 million. This figure assumed that the police precept would be raised by £15 per year for the average Band D household.

Throughout January, I carried out a public consultation to ask local residents about their views on the budget and precept for the coming year.

Over 4,000 people took part in the survey and 76% of respondents to a question about the precept said they would be willing to support an increase. As a result, the precept will rise by £15 per year for a Band D property. Around two thirds of Cheshire properties are in bands A-C and will pay less.

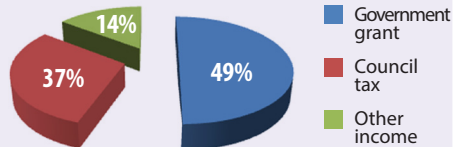
How much each Band will pay is in the table opposite. These figures represent a rise of 6.4% - Below the current rate of inflation.

Cheshire's precept remains in the 10 lowest of all police forces.

2023/24 police precept by council tax band

| Band | £ | Band | £ |
|------|--------|------|--------|
| A | 166.96 | E | 306.09 |
| B | 194.79 | F | 361.75 |
| C | 222.61 | G | 417.40 |
| D | 250.44 | H | 500.88 |

Where does the funding come from?



| Funding | £ |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Government grant | 129,533,000 |
| Council tax precept | 99,057,000 |
| Other income & specific grants | 37,926,000 |
| Total funding and income | 266,516,000 |

Find out more about the Commissioner's work

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