



Nottinghamshire

**POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER**

# **Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Plan Priorities and Budget Consultation 2018**

**Consolidated findings from local consultation and  
engagement activity during 2016 and 2017 to inform  
planning, policy and precept setting for 2018/19**

**January 2018**

## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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### **1.1 APPROACH**

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a statutory duty under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to obtain the views of local people and ratepayers' on budget and precept proposals and to consult and engage with local people on policing and in setting police and crime objectives.

In fulfilling these requirements during 2017, Nottinghamshire OPCC directly engaged with over 3,000 residents in addition to supporting local authority consultation with a further 3,750 local people. The PCC's newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey is also now providing a more robust and representative sample of public opinion than has ever been achieved previously.

The findings are being used to inform planning and policy decisions for 2018/19, principally via the 2018-21 Police and Crime Plan.

### **1.2 KEY FINDINGS**

Findings from the Police and Crime Survey 2017 indicate that there is, on balance, strong and increasing support for an increase in the council tax precept for policing among local residents.

Around 59% of residents support an increase in the council tax precept for policing when those that are unsure are omitted from the profile. This represents a 7% point increase when compared to results obtained in 2016.

The proportion supporting an increase within the limits of the referendum threshold increased from around 32% to 40% in the last year, while the proportion supporting a precept rise in excess of the £12 per annum referendum threshold saw a marginal (non-significant) increase from 17% to 19%.

Personal economic circumstances remain the most common reason for respondents not supporting a rise in the precept for policing, with previous qualitative research highlighting common objections to central government cuts to policing more generally. For many, support for an increase in policing precept is offered on the condition that this supports an uplift in visible local policing.

While over a third of all respondents (36%) were not aware of the scale of cuts to policing funding since 2010, respondents that were aware of the scale of cuts were also more likely to support an increase in the precept for policing.

Just over half of all respondents (52%) felt that funding cuts had affected policing in their area, with reductions in neighbourhood policing presence being the most

commonly cited impact. This reflects findings nationally which indicate perceived reductions in police officer foot patrols in local areas.

Beyond providing an emergency response, 'protecting vulnerable people' remains the most strongly supported police and crime priority for Nottinghamshire Police, however many would also like to see more done in their area to tackle reckless and dangerous driving, burglary, drug use and dealing and neighbourhood ASB.

### **1.3 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Police and OPCC should consider:

- Maximising use of the newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey to improve targeted communications and engagement on police spending and priorities – particularly among communities feeling more information was required.
- Providing residents with further information as to how any additional revenue from the precept would be spent and working to ensure public expectations of the service are effectively managed.
- Further proactive communication with local residents and rate payers to demonstrate what is being delivered and achieved by the service - particularly in areas of high impact but often less visible policing.
- Further lobbying of central government for increases in police funding given strong public support for this approach.
- Continuing to drive organisational efficiencies through greater prioritisation, reducing waste / bureaucracy and making better use of technology.
- Continuing to explore opportunities for more collaborative working with other partner agencies and regional forces, particularly in consolidating support / back office functions, premises and senior leadership and governance functions.
- Further exploring the public / community offer in preventing crime and ASB and improving community safety with the support of local service providers. This may include further work to raise awareness of volunteering roles and opportunities
- Further developing the profile of community issues and concerns as part of the new Neighbourhood-level community engagement plans and profiles, particularly in making use of community profiling and segmentation data.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

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- 2.1 The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a statutory duty under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to:-
- Obtain the views of local people / ratepayers' on budget and precept proposals;
  - Consult with local people on policing and have regard to those views;
  - Engage with local people in setting police and crime objectives and;
  - Obtain the views of victims of crime about matters concerning local policing.

This report sets out the methods and activity undertaken in 2017 to fulfil these requirements and considers consolidated findings of the respective approaches.

- 2.3 Building upon extensive qualitative and quantitative consultation and engagement activity undertaken in 2016, a range of consultation methods were undertaken in 2017 either directly by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), independently commissioned by the OPCC or jointly commissioned in partnership with Community Safety Partnerships. These comprised:-

- The PCC's newly launched Police and Crime Survey, which aims to capture representative views of around 4,300 Nottinghamshire residents each year
- The Nottingham City Crime and Drugs Partnership Annual Respect Survey and the Nottingham County Council Annual Residents Satisfaction Survey
- The Commissioner's poll of public priorities for policing via face-to-face engagement events across the force area
- Public and partnership engagement events held across in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire during December 2016 and January 2017.

- 2.2 Together, these consultation activities captured the views of over 6,700 residents across the force area.

- Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Survey – 2,065
- Nottingham Respect survey – 2,700
- Nottinghamshire Residents Satisfaction Survey – 1,058
- Nottinghamshire OPCC Engagement via public events – 790
- Other public and partnership engagement events – 200+

- 2.5 The findings will be used to inform planning and policy decisions for 2018/19, principally via the 2018-21 Police and Crime Plan, and will be considered as part of the process for setting the 2017/18 precept for policing in February 2018.

### 3. CONSULTATION METHODS

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#### 3.1 POLICE AND CRIME SURVEY

- 3.1.1 Nottinghamshire OPCC commissioned Information by Design (IbyD) to commence a new longitudinal survey programme in 2017 which will obtain the views of a representative sample of over 4,200 residents each year. The rolling programme will provide a more robust, consistent and comparable profile of public perception, experience and attitudes than has previously been achieved. Findings are reported on a quarterly basis to enable timely trend analysis and minimise the risk of results being skewed by seasonality or extra-ordinary events.
- 3.1.2 Findings from the Police and Crime Survey are being used to inform development of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan and performance framework for 2018-21, including key performance measures. The survey is also helping to inform further understanding of: the drivers of public confidence and satisfaction; experience of crime and crime reporting, including reasons for not reporting; neighbourhood perceptions of policing and perceived impact of cuts; service user preferences and local priorities and views on the policing precept. The survey's unique question set ensures that there is no duplication between existing city and county local authority survey processes.
- 3.1.3 The Police and Crime Survey achieved responses from a representative sample of 2,034 residents during the first two waves of consultation (August to September 2017 and November to December 2017).

##### Police and Crime Survey 2017 – Response profile

	P&C Survey Response profile	Area Demographic Composition
Male / Female	49:51	47:53
Aged 16-24	11%	18%
Aged 25-34	17%	17%
Aged 35-44	15%	17%
Aged 45-54	17%	19%
Aged 55-64	15%	15%
Aged 65-74	15%	13%
White British	85%	85%
White other	4%	4%
Asian / Asian British	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>
Black / Black British	2%	2%
Mixed background	2%	3%
Other ethnic group	1%	1%
Bassetlaw Newark and Sherwood	21%	21%
Mansfield and Ashfield	20%	20%
Nottingham City	28%	29%
South Nottinghamshire	31%	30%

## 3.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY LEVEL RESIDENT SURVEYS

- 3.2.1. The **‘Respect for Nottingham’ survey 2017**: Commissioned by Nottingham Crime and Drugs Partnership and conducted by Information by Design (IbyD). Fieldwork comprised of 2,770 face-to-face interviews conducted during November and December 2017. The survey achieves a good geographical coverage of the city using random sampling from the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). A multi-stage sampling approach is used to ensure all electoral wards are included with responses from a range of different neighbourhood deprivation classifications. The overall sampling error on this survey is +/-1.9%, however, this can vary by question depending upon the number of response obtained.
- 3.2.2 **Nottinghamshire Residents’ Satisfaction Survey<sup>1</sup> 2017**: Conducted by Enventure Research on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner. The research was undertaken by an experienced team of local Interviewer Quality Control Scheme (IQCS) trained interviewers<sup>2</sup> via a face-to-face on-street survey with residents aged 18 or over. Responses were obtained from a representative sample of 1,058 Nottinghamshire residents interviewed between 19 October 2017 and 24 November 2017. The sample gives a confidence interval of approximately +/-3% at the 95% confidence. Quotas were set on gender, age, working status and ethnicity based on the Census 2011. To identify differences between Districts and Boroughs, approximately 150 respondents were interviewed in each area.

### Nottinghamshire Residents’ Satisfaction Survey 2017 – Interview count by Local Authority

District / Borough Council	Number of interviews
Ashfield District Council	153
Bassetlaw District Council	151
Broxtowe Borough Council	150
Gedling Borough Council	151
Mansfield District Council	150
Newark and Sherwood District Council	150
Rushcliffe Borough Council	153
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1,058</b>

<sup>1</sup> Nottinghamshire Annual Satisfaction Survey 2017, January 2017, Enventure Research

<sup>2</sup> The IQCS is an independently run scheme which requires members to adhere to a set of benchmark market research industry standards.

### **3.3 PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT EVENTS**

3.3.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner provided opportunities for partner agencies and other stakeholders to discuss the policing budget, savings plans and any issues of concern at a range of public meetings across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. This included consultation and engagement events involving:-

- 20 senior partner agency representatives as part of an OPCC consultation exercise on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017
- 80 representatives from a range of public and community and voluntary sector agencies as part of an OPCC Stakeholder Engagement event on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017
- Partnership and stakeholder meetings and events including the Safer Nottinghamshire Board on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and Police and Crime Panel Workshop on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018
- Youth Commission engagement session on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017, the CVS Children and Young People's Providers Network on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and CVS Vulnerable Adults Provider Network on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018.
- The Office of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner obtained the views of over 790 residents on their priorities for policing as part of a range of face-to-face consultation activities<sup>3</sup> during summer 2017.

Collectively, these sessions enabled more detailed discussion and debate in relation to savings proposals and opportunities for more efficient and effective working with over 200 participants.

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<sup>3</sup> Newark Show (April), Nottingham Pride (July) and Nottingham Caribbean Carnival (August)

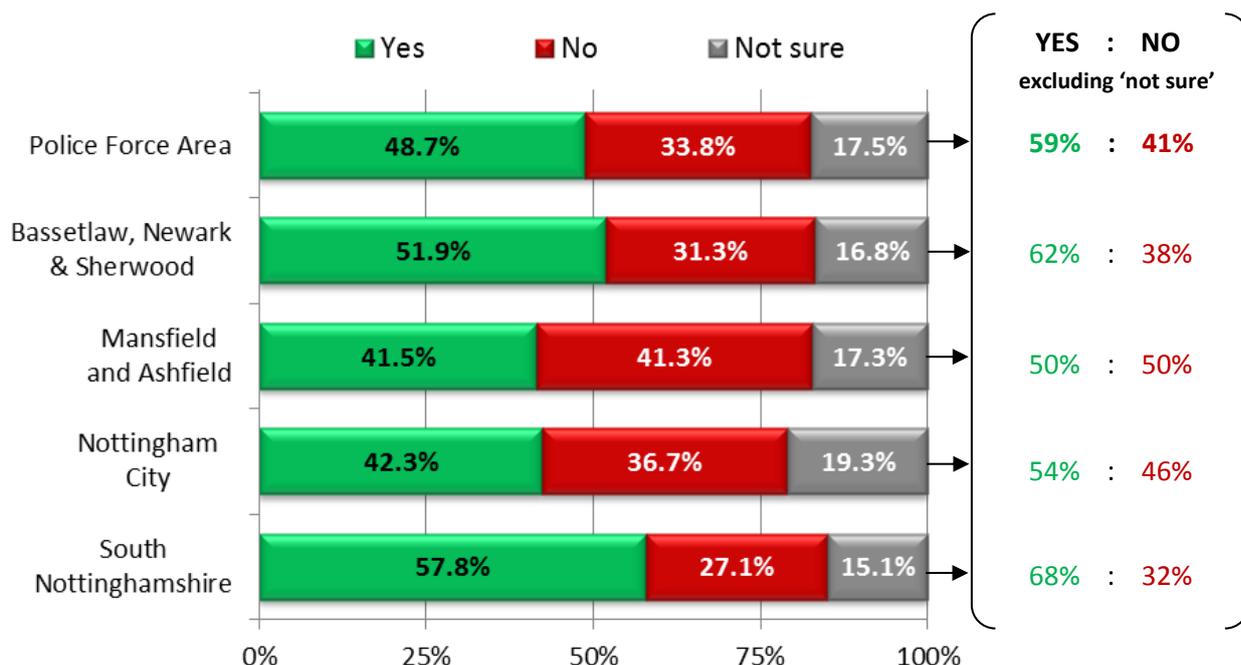
## 4. PUBLIC VIEWS ON THE COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT FOR POLICING

### 4.1. LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR A RISE IN THE PRECEPT FOR POLICING

4.1.1. Public views on the council tax precept for policing were obtained via the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Survey for 2017. This provides a single robust and representative measure of public opinion, which from September 2017 provides directly comparable data across local authority areas and over time.

4.1.2. The Government's Provisional 2018-19 Police Finance Settlement<sup>4</sup> was published on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017. This introduced greater flexibility for PCCs to increase the policing precept by up to £12 in 2018-19 (based on band D properties) without triggering a referendum. Due to the timing of this announcement, it has not been possible to consult robustly on the +£12 threshold, however, changes have been made to the 2018 Police and Crime Survey to take account of new arrangements.

**Figure 1: Most households in Nottinghamshire pay £143 (Band B) or less a year towards policing. Would you be prepared to pay more?**



4.1.3 **The Police and Crime Survey indicates that around 59% of residents support an increase in the council tax precept for policing when those that are unsure are omitted from the profile. This represents a 7% point increase when compared<sup>5</sup> to results obtained in 2016.**

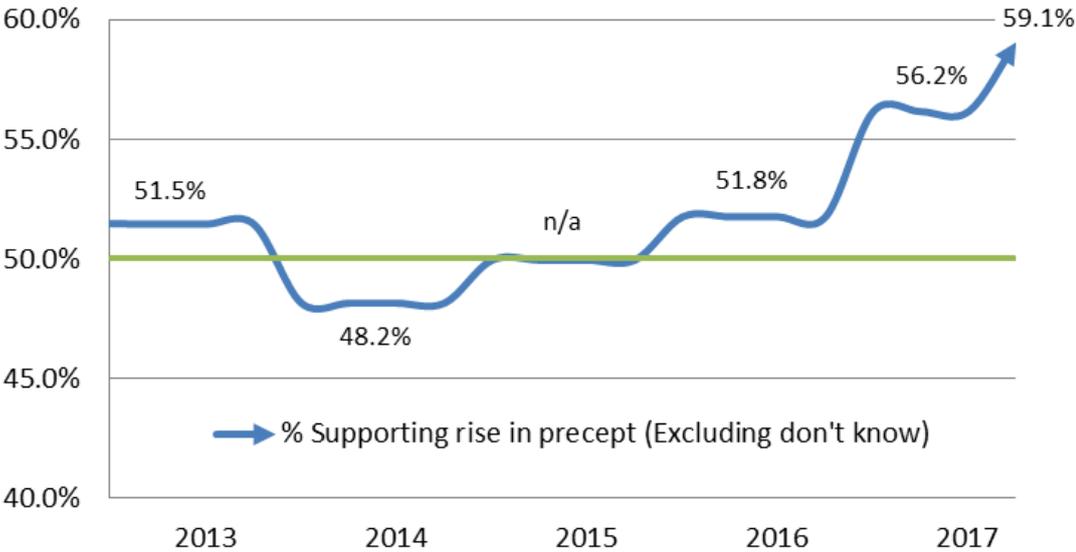
<sup>4</sup> [Provisional police grant report: 2018 to 2019](#), Home Office, December 2017 – Awarded the flexibility for all PCCs to increase precept levels by up to £12 without triggering a referendum. The same level of precept flexibility will also be awarded in future years subject to progress against a number of efficiency milestones

<sup>5</sup> Caution should be exercised when drawing comparisons prior to 2017 on account of the variances in consultation methodology

4.1.4 Support for an increase in the precept for policing remains strongest in South Nottinghamshire (68%) and Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood (62%), while in Mansfield and Ashfield, the balance of support for a precept freeze or increase is evenly split. Comparable to findings in 2016, around 17% of respondents felt unable to answer the question or required more information. This was slightly higher in the city (19%), indicating opportunities for further engagement.

4.1.5 While caution should be exercised when comparing trends over time due to variances in consultation methodology used, there are indications that support for an increase in the precept for policing has been rising locally since 2014 (48%). Results from waves one and two of the Police and Crime survey saw levels of support for a rise in the precept for policing increase from 56% to 59% between August and December 2017. This rise coincides with a period of high profile public debate on the issue of police funding nationally.

**Figure 2: Percentage of respondents prepared to pay more towards policing as part of their precept - excluding 'don't know' – 2013 to 2017**



4.1.6 These findings reflect national trends, with, for example, research undertaken by Ipsos MORI<sup>6</sup> finding that the proportion of residents supporting 'more extensive public services – even if that required tax rises' having increased from around 46% in 2009 to 63% in 2017.

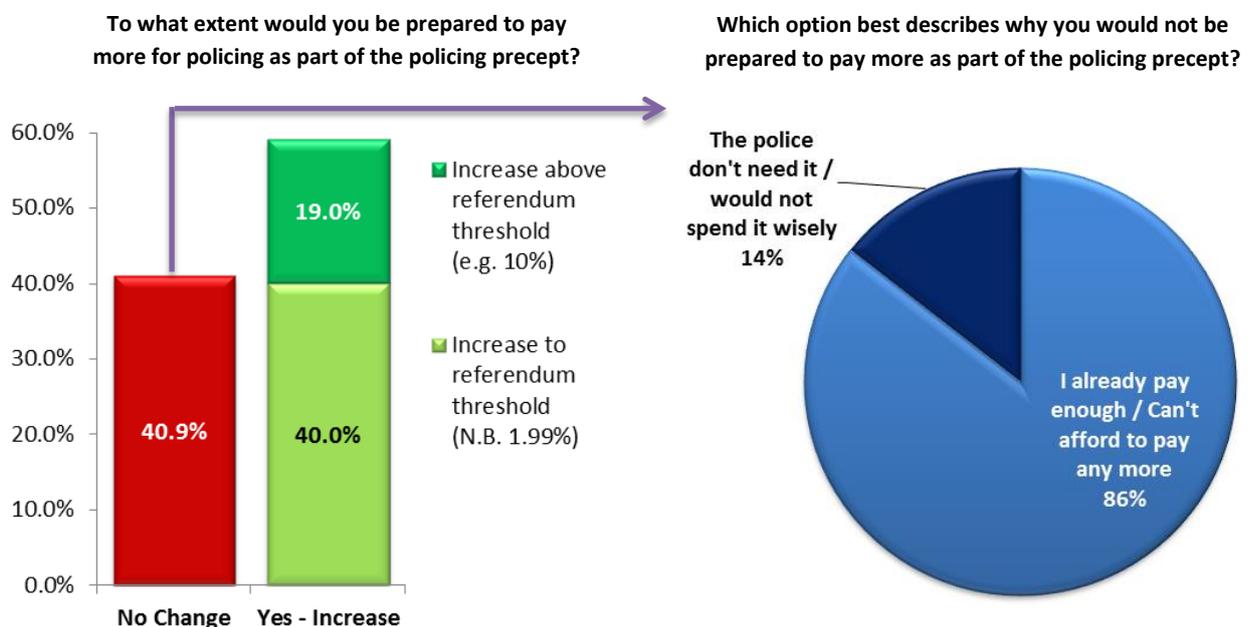
<sup>6</sup> [The State of the State 2017-18 – Citizens, government and business](#), Deloitte and Reform (2017) Based on 1,071 adults surveyed nationally during summer 2017

## 4.2 LEVEL OF INCREASE IN PRECEPT FOR POLICING

4.2.1. Respondents to the Police and Crime Survey were asked whether or not they supported an increase in the precept for policing, and if so, to what level.

4.2.2. Around 41% of respondents supported a precept freeze, marking a 7% point reduction on 2016 (48%). The proportion supporting an increase within the limits of the +1.99% referendum threshold (+£2.58 per annum) has increased from 32% to 40% in the last year, while the proportion supporting a precept rise in excess of the referendum threshold (+£14 per annum) increased marginally from 17% to 19%. It is not known to what extent the option a +£12 per annum referendum threshold would have affected responses to this question.

Figure 3.



4.2.1 When those that did not support an increase in the precept were asked which option best describes their reason<sup>7</sup>, personal economic circumstances remain the most common factor. 86% felt that they either already paid enough or could not afford to pay more. Viewed in the context of all respondents, the proportion of residents stating that they 'could not afford to pay more' has seen a marginal (non-significant) increase over the last year from 27.4% to 28.9%.

<sup>7</sup> Categories informed previous local consultation findings

4.2.2 Feedback from focus groups and surveys undertaken in December 2016 provided additional insight into the factors impacting upon residents views of the policing precept. These included:-

<p><b>Rising economic pressures on local households</b></p> <p><i>“Our family income is decreasing in real terms every year”</i></p> <p><i>“My council tax accounts for over 10% of my take home pay, I am dreading the latest increase”</i></p> <p><i>“I can’t afford to pay anymore. I work in the public sector and haven’t had a pay rise in 7 years”</i></p>	<p><b>Conditional support if used to increase visible Neighbourhood presence</b></p> <p><i>“I would support an increase if the front line is increased (officers &amp; staff)”</i></p> <p><i>“Despite paying a lot for policing, we very rarely see any police. I expect police to proactively patrol my area”</i></p> <p><i>“I’d be happy to pay more if I could see more evidence of community policing - more Bobbies on the Beat”</i></p>
<p><b>Dissatisfaction with current service provision / practice</b></p> <p><i>“I don’t want to pay more for something I am not getting now”</i></p> <p><i>“We are paying more and getting less - it’s a pity we can’t switch suppliers like we do with energy”</i></p> <p><i>“Police are too often sent to areas where crime is higher but the impact they can have is lower. We all pay for a service”</i></p>	<p><b>Objections to the principle of regressive taxation</b></p> <p><i>“The burden of paying for the police should not rest on those with the lowest incomes and financial means”</i></p> <p><i>“Stop stealth taxing people into poverty”</i></p> <p><i>“Policing should not be paid for through a regressive tax like the council tax but through income and corporation taxes”</i></p>
<p><b>Competing taxation demands</b></p> <p><i>“I strongly resent paying more given that we will be paying more towards Social Care through the precept”</i></p> <p><i>“While I can afford an increase many cannot - particularly if county and district council tax increases too”</i></p>	<p><b>Objections to cuts in government funding for police more generally</b></p> <p><i>“The increasing police cuts are disgusting and must stop. I would support the police lobbying government for more funding”</i></p> <p><i>“Officers do a very tough job. I don’t feel that our police service should have to continually be making savings”</i></p>

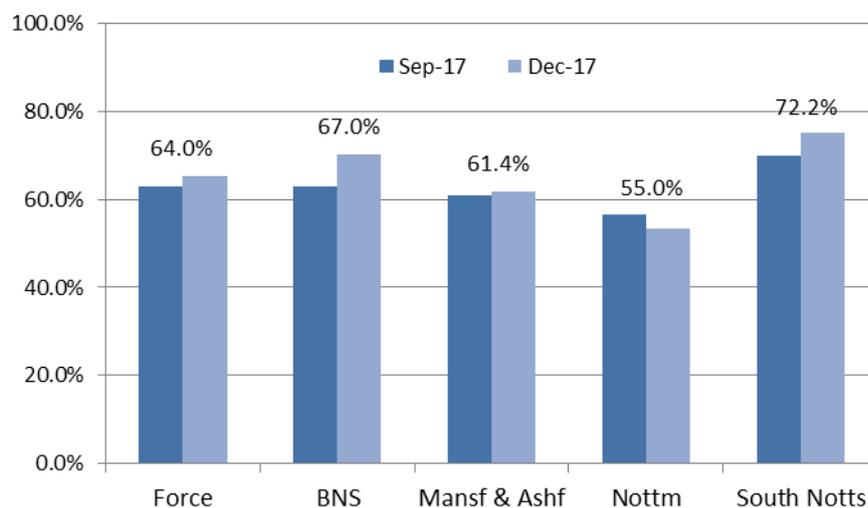
4.2.3 Reflecting findings from previous years, the feeling that the police either did not need extra funding or would not use it wisely is often strongly associated with a perception that visible front line policing has reduced. Findings also indicate that many residents oppose cuts in central government funding to the police.

## 5. VIEWS ON IMPACT OF FUNDING CUTS AND VALUE FOR MONEY

5.1 Respondents to the Police and Crime Survey were asked about their awareness of cuts to police funding since 2010 and the extent to which they felt that cuts had affected policing in their area.

5.2 Around 64% of residents surveyed between August and December 2017 were aware of the cuts to policing, with awareness levels being markedly higher in South Nottinghamshire (72%) and lowest in Nottingham City (55%). Initial findings suggest a strong correlation between levels of support for an increase in the policing precept and awareness of government cuts to the service.

**Figure 4. Government funding for the police has fell by almost 25% between 2010 and 2017, requiring the service to make considerable efficiency savings and changes to the way it operates. Before today, were you aware of the level of police funding cuts over recent years?**



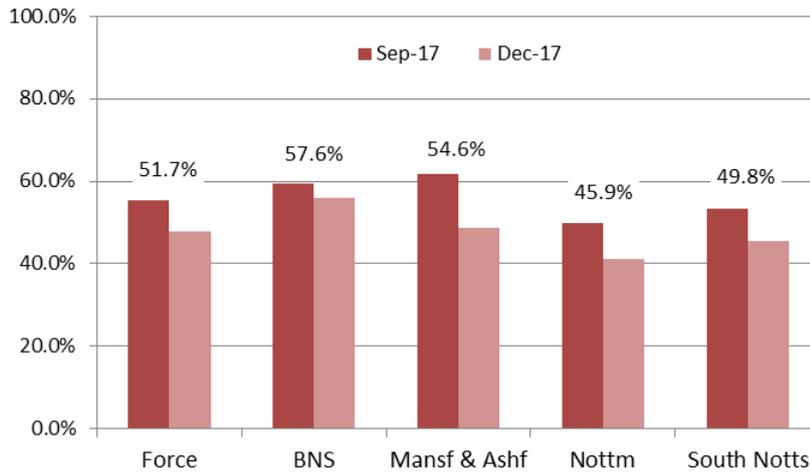
5.3 Although too early to indicate an emerging trend, findings from the first (Jul-Sept) and second (Oct-Dec) quarterly waves of the Police and Crime Survey suggest that awareness of the scale of government cuts to policing may have increased during the latter part of the year in line with the period of high profile public debate on the issue of police funding nationally.

5.4 Just over half of all respondents (52%) felt that funding cuts had affected policing in their area, of which the majority (94%) felt that policing presence had reduced. This reflects findings from Ipsos MORI's annual survey into public views of policing across England and Wales<sup>8</sup>, which found that the proportion of residents having not seen a uniformed police presence on foot in their area in the last year increased from 36% in 2015 to 41% in 2016 and 44% in 2017.

<sup>8</sup> Public Views of Policing in England and Wales 2017/18, HMICFRS / Ipsos MORI (December 2017)

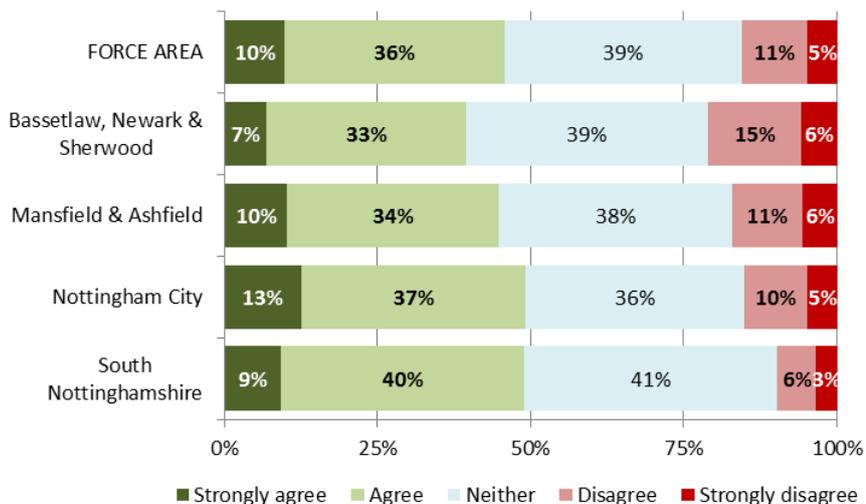
5.5 While awareness of cuts to policing increased marginally across Nottinghamshire during the last quarter of 2017, the proportion of respondents perceiving that funding cuts had affected local policing<sup>9</sup> saw a reduction force wide and across all CSP areas. Although too early to indicate an emerging trend, this may suggest an improving picture in terms of the service’s performance in minimising the impact of government cuts on neighbourhood policing.

Figure 5. % feeling that government funding cuts have affected policing in their area



5.6 Residents were also asked a series of questions about policing in their area, including whether the police provide value for money and are dealing with the issues that matter most to them. Around 46% of respondents felt that the police provide good value for money compared to around 16% that did not. The ratio of positive to negative perceptions of value for money was strongest in South Nottinghamshire (49:9) and lowest in Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood (40:21).

Figure 6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement that the police in your area... provide good value for money? Excluding 'don't know'

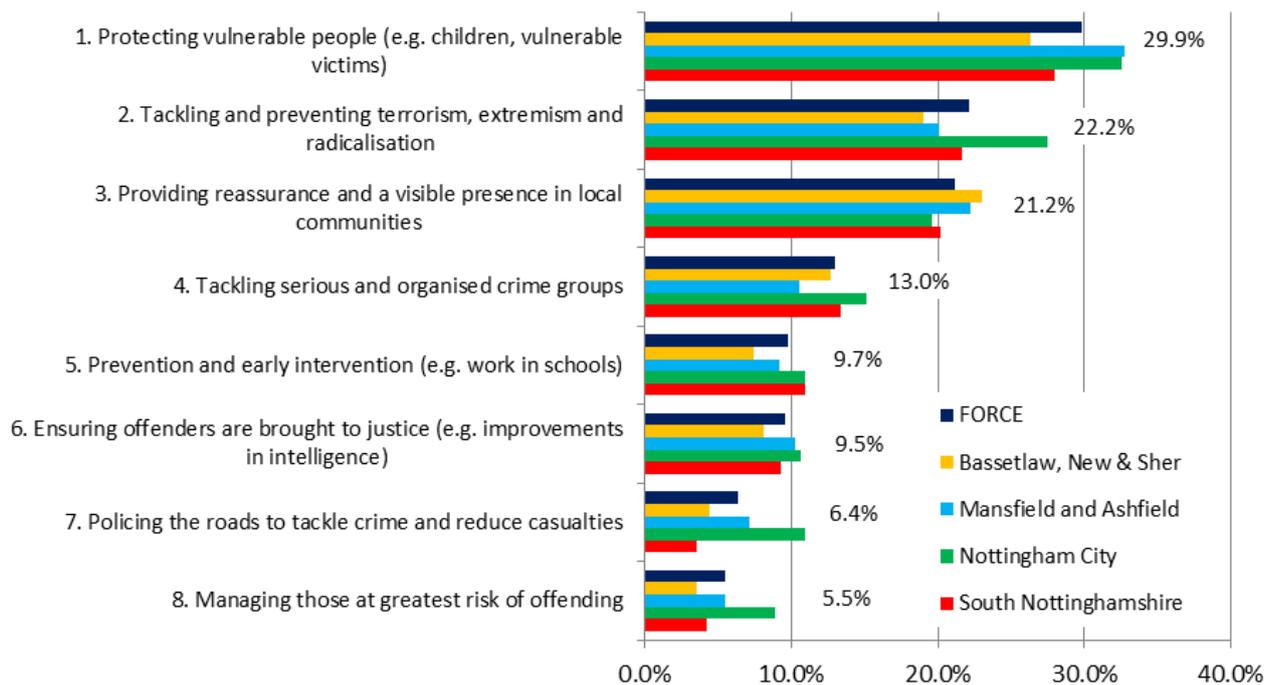


<sup>9</sup> By contrast, findings from the national Ipsos MORI survey of public attitudes and expectations ([The State of the State 2017-18 – Citizens, government and business](#) (2017) indicate that the proportion of respondents having had personal experience of government spending cuts more generally has risen from 27% to 33% in the last year

## 6. PUBLIC PRIORITIES FOR POLICING

- 6.1.1. Respondents to the 2017 Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Survey were asked what they felt should be the main priority for Nottinghamshire Police beyond 'responding to emergencies'. The most prevalent public priority for the service was **protecting vulnerable people** (30%), followed by tackling and preventing terrorism (22%) and proving a visible presence in local communities (21%).

**Figure 7. Responding to emergencies will always be a top priority for Nottinghamshire Police, but beyond this, in what areas would you most like to see the police focus their resources over the coming year?**

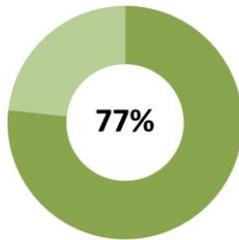


- 6.1.2 This reflects findings from focus groups undertaken in December 2016 which identified 'tackling domestic and sexual abuse, including child sexual exploitation' as an important priority for the police among respondents. Crimes against children and young people resonated with many:-

“Anything that harms children has to be the number one priority, it’s a no brainer”  
 “Regardless of the cuts, this has to be protected, children cannot protect themselves”  
 “This should always be the main priority, kids come first, always”  
 “There should be more focus on men being victims of crime, specifically sexually abuse because they are embarrassed to disclose”

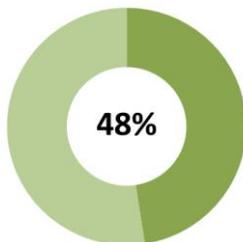
6.1.4 Similarly, responses from over 790 residents consulted as part of the PCC's summer consultation events in 2017 found 'protecting vulnerable people' to be among the top two priorities among 77% of those consulted.

**Protecting vulnerable people**



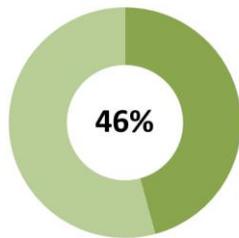
**Improve the way agencies work together to identify, safeguard and protect vulnerable people and repeat victims:** Focus our resources in areas where there is greatest risk of harm. Tackle and prevent domestic and sexual violence and exploitation. Tackle hidden and under-reported crimes such as modern slavery. Improve information sharing between agencies.

**Supporting victims & witnesses**



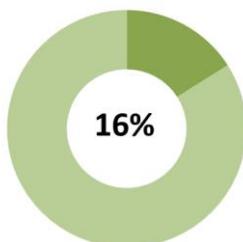
**Making sure that victims and witnesses are supported and engaged throughout the criminal justice system and that their needs are met:** Secure an efficient and effective criminal justice system. Co-commission specialist sexual abuse support services. Develop and embed our new 'Victim Care' support service. Improve compliance with the national Code of Practice for Victims.

**Cutting crime, keeping you safe**



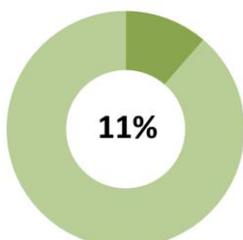
**Reducing levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and tackling the issues that matter most to local communities:** Improve partner agency work to tackle the complex needs of offenders. Improve the way we prevent, investigate and respond to cybercrime. Reduce the impact of mental health and substance misuse on crime. Reduce the threat from serious and organised crime and terrorism.

**Trust & confidence in policing**



**Strengthen public trust and confidence in the Police by improving the way we engage and involve local communities:** Support neighbourhood-led approaches to community problem-solving. Ensure the service remains open, transparent and accountable to you. Improve our understanding of local communities and their needs. Ensure the police workforce reflects the communities it serves.

**Spend your money wisely**



**Ensure that your police service is efficient, effective and delivers the best value for money for the people of Nottinghamshire:** Improve our understanding of demand on the service and reduce waste. Collaborate with other forces / 'Blue Light' services to improve efficiency. Improve the way public services work together and share resources. Grow the police workforce and maintain a balanced budget.

6.1.2 Conversely, when considering their local neighbourhood, residents responding to the Police and Crime Survey highlighted tackling **reckless and dangerous driving** (47%), **burglary** (46%) and **drug use and dealing** (43%) to be the issues they would most like to see the police and other agencies do more to tackle in their area.

**Specific crime or ASB issues that you would like to see the police and other agencies do more to tackle in your area?**



6.1.3 The Nottinghamshire Youth Commission also identified a range of issues and priorities for people aged 14-25 in 2016 as part of their targeted engagement. These included **drugs and alcohol** – with young people wanting to ‘see more happening to tackle drugs on the streets, and a more visible crackdown on dealers and production in their areas’. **Sexual harassment** was also highlighted as a significant concern, including sexual harassment affecting young males that often goes unreported. Respondents identified a perceived lack of support available for men in such cases.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 7.1 KEY FINDINGS

Findings from the Police and Crime Survey 2017 indicate that there is, on balance, strong and increasing support for an increase in the council tax precept for policing among local residents.

Around 59% of residents support an increase in the council tax precept for policing when those that are unsure are omitted from the profile. This represents a 7% point increase when compared to results obtained in 2016.

The proportion supporting an increase within the limits of the referendum threshold<sup>10</sup> increased from around 32% to 40% in the last year, while the proportion supporting a precept rise in excess of the £12 per annum referendum threshold saw a marginal (non-significant) increase from 17% to 19%.

Personal economic circumstances remain the most common reason for respondents not supporting a rise in the precept for policing, with previous qualitative research highlighting common objections to central government cuts to policing more generally. For many, support for an increase in policing precept is offered on the condition that this supports an uplift in visible local policing.

While over a third of all respondents (36%) were not aware of the scale of cuts to policing funding since 2010, respondents that were aware of the scale of cuts were also more likely to support an increase in the precept for policing.

Just over half of all respondents (52%) felt that funding cuts had affected policing in their area, with reductions in neighbourhood policing presence being the most commonly cited impact. This reflects findings nationally which indicate perceived reductions in police officer foot patrols in local areas.

Beyond providing an emergency response, 'protecting vulnerable people' remains the most strongly supported police and crime priority for Nottinghamshire Police, however many would also like to see more done in their area to tackle reckless and dangerous driving, burglary, drug use and dealing and neighbourhood ASB.

Note: While year to year comparisons should be treated with caution on account of variances in consultation methodology, it should be recognised that the 2017 Police and Crime Survey provides a substantially more robust and representative sample of public opinion than has ever been achieved previously.

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<sup>10</sup> It should be noted that consultation was based on pre-provisional statement precept threshold of 1.99%. It is not known to what extent changes in the referendum threshold would have impacted upon responses.

## 7.2 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Police and OPCC should consider:

- Maximising use of the newly commissioned Police and Crime Survey to improve targeted communications and engagement on police spending and priorities – particularly among communities feeling more information was required.
- Providing residents with further information as to how any additional revenue from the precept would be spent and working to ensure public expectations of the service are effectively managed.
- Further proactive communication with local residents and rate payers to demonstrate what is being delivered and achieved by the service - particularly in areas of high impact but often less visible policing.
- Further lobbying of central government for increases in police funding given strong public support for this approach.
- Continuing to drive organisational efficiencies through greater prioritisation, reducing waste / bureaucracy and making better use of technology.
- Continuing to explore opportunities for more collaborative working with other partner agencies and regional forces, particularly in consolidating support / back office functions, premises and senior leadership and governance functions.
- Further exploring the public / community offer in preventing crime and ASB and improving community safety with the support of local service providers. This may include further work to raise awareness of volunteering roles and opportunities
- Further developing the profile of community issues and concerns as part of the new Neighbourhood-level community engagement plans and profiles, particularly in making use of community profiling and segmentation data.

## Appendix 1. Police and Crime Survey Frequency Tables 2017

q27 Most households in Nottinghamshire pay around £140 a year as part of their Council Tax towards policing. To what extent would you be prepared to pay more?

	Count				
	Force	Bassetlaw Newark & Sherwood	Mansfield and Ashfield	Nottm. City	South Notts.
Yes - I'm prepared to pay an additional £2.78 per year (2%) more for policing	672	161	131	155	226
Yes - I'm prepared to pay an additional £14 per year (10%) more. To allow this to happen, a referendum would be need	319	89	61	65	104
No - I'm not prepared to pay more - I already pay enough / cannot afford to	588	132	158	157	142
No - I'm not be prepared to pay more – The police don't need it / would not use it wisely	99	19	33	34	13
Don't know - I need more information	356	81	80	109	86
Total	2,034	482	463	520	571

	Percentage				
	Force	Bassetlaw Newark & Sherwood	Mansfield and Ashfield	Nottm. City	South Notts.
Yes - I'm prepared to pay an additional £2.78 per year (2%) more for policing	33.0%	33.4%	28.3%	29.8%	39.6%
Yes - I'm prepared to pay an additional £14 per year (10%) more. To allow this to happen, a referendum would be need	15.7%	18.5%	13.2%	12.5%	18.2%
No - I'm not prepared to pay more - I already pay enough / cannot afford to	29.9%	27.4%	34.1%	30.2%	24.9%
No - I'm not be prepared to pay more – The police don't need it / would not use it wisely	4.9%	3.9%	7.1%	6.5%	2.3%
Don't know - I need more information	17.5%	16.8%	17.3%	21.0%	15.1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## **Your Views Matter**

We believe in learning and shaping policing from public experience, which is why we welcome all of your comments and feedback all year round.

You can contact us by:

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