

Council Tax 2020/21



Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

**POLICE
& CRIME**
COMMISSIONER
THAMES VALLEY

PCC Foreword

The announcement earlier this year of the policing funding settlement from the Government means that we are seeing the greatest investment in policing for a decade. Of the 20,000 extra police officers, announced by the Prime Minister, Thames Valley Police (TVP) should receive about 600, although the exact number is still to be confirmed. By March 2021 we will have an additional 183 officers, which will be assigned to frontline policing; Milton Keynes gets an extra 36 officers, Slough 22. All our police areas will get extra officers, and over the next three years this will result in a considerable improvement in local policing.

By increasing council tax by nineteen pence per week for a Band D property, which is in-line with Government recommendations and other PCC decisions, and identifying and removing £3.5 million of cashable efficiency savings from the base revenue budget, I am able to invest £37.6 million in operational policing in the Thames Valley next year, including:

- £13.5m for pay and price rises
- £13.4m for additional police officers including training, equipment and other essential infrastructure
- £5.7m for strategic investment
- £5m for other growth pressures

I end my time as Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley in May this year. Throughout the last eight years I have had to deal with a challenging financial situation, while at the same time retaining an efficient and effective police force.

I have been fortunate to have an excellent senior leadership team, and police officers, who have achieved this. It is reflected in our consistently 'Good' rating by Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMICFRS).

I leave on an optimistic note. We are gaining more officers, we are better funded, TVP is well-led, and force performance is better in most areas than other similar forces. However there are still ongoing challenges.

I am confident that I will be handing over to my replacement a police force that is in excellent shape compared to other police forces, and which will show considerable improvements at a local policing level as we recruit and train the new intakes of officers.

The improvements will not take place over night as we have to train the new officers, but the outlook for policing in the Thames Valley is good.

Further information on the budget is provided on the website.



Anthony Stansfeld
Police and Crime Commissioner
for Thames Valley



Anthony Stansfeld
Police and Crime Commissioner
for Thames Valley 2012 – 2020

Budget 2020/21

The net revenue budget for 2020/21 is £448.9 million representing an annual increase of £29 million or 6.9%.

In accordance with Government recommendations, the Police and Crime Commissioner has increased his element of council tax by £10 for a band D household for the year.

This equates to 4.8%. This increase will enable the PCC to recruit additional police officers together with supporting infrastructure and also invest in other high priority policing services.

The budget for 2020/21 also incorporates £3.5 million of cashable efficiency savings.

2019/20			2020/21	
Total £m	per head £		Total £m	per head £
464.94	191.59	Gross expenditure	500.70	205.01
-43.83	-18.06	Income	-49.98	-20.46
-1.20	-0.50	Contribution to / from (-) reserves	-1.79	-0.73
419.91	173.03	Net expenditure	448.93	183.82
		Less:		
-74.28	-30.61	Formula grant	-79.32	-32.48
-142.27	-58.63	Police grant	-153.44	-62.83
-15.28	-6.29	Legacy council tax grants	-15.28	-6.26
-1.52	-0.63	Council tax from previous years	-2.05	-0.84
186.56	76.87	Precept	198.84	81.41

The police precept for each council tax band is:

Band	2020/21 £	Band	2020/21 £
A	144.19	E	264.34
B	168.22	F	312.40
C	192.25	G	360.47
D	216.28	H	432.56

COUNCIL TAX INCREASE*

£10

A YEAR

*FOR A BAND D HOUSEHOLD
= EXTRA 19p PER WEEK

SAVINGS

£3.5m

REMOVED FROM THE BASE
REVENUE BUDGET IN 2020/21

INVESTMENT

£13.4m

TO RECRUIT,
TRAIN AND EQUIP
MORE POLICE
OFFICERS

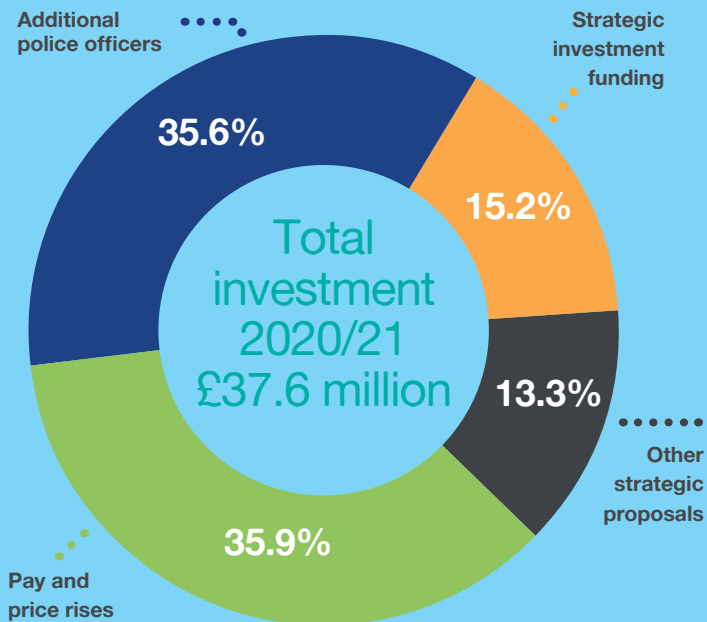
£10.7m

OTHER ESSENTIAL GROWTH PROPOSALS

Investing for the future

After identifying cashable efficiency savings of £3.5 million the police grant settlement, coupled with the increase in council tax, enables me to invest around £37.6m in operational policing services. This includes:

- £13.5m for pay and price rises. This additional cost does not relate to any direct increase in service provision but is required to maintain the existing base level of service.
- £13.4m for additional police officers. As part of the Governments drive to increase officer numbers by 20,000 by March 2023, TVP has been allocated 183 additional officers from the first allocation of 6,000 officers nationally (up to March 2021). We will need to recruit, train and equip these officers before they are ready for operational deployment. The budget also incorporates provision for other infrastructure costs such as premises, ICT and transport.
- £5.7m for strategic investment funding. A number of one-off initiatives have been identified that will improve operational policing. These include: a mobile application for frontline officers; introduction of drones on local policing; more Tasers for frontline officers; funds to aid the recruitment and retention of police officers including wellbeing initiatives; and additional revenue support for capital investment.
- £5m for other growth pressures. This includes: improved services to the public through contact management; improved investigative capability; additional debt charges to fund new external borrowing for the capital programme; increased cost of national ICT charges; higher costs for local ICT and technology programmes.



Savings

Thames Valley Police has a long history of delivering productivity savings and using these to balance annual budgets or reinvesting them in frontline policing, a strategy that has been widely scrutinised and praised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) during various inspections and reports.

The financial and operational demands facing the force mean that it is more important than ever that we continue to review, challenge and improve our services to ensure we focus our resources on priority areas.

£106 million has already been removed from the base revenue budget since 2010/11 and plans are in place to remove at least another £14 million over the next four years (2020/21 to 2023/24), including £3.5 million in 2020/21.

Total cash savings therefore amount to £120 million, which equates to 27% of the net revenue budget in 2020/21.

2020/21 savings identified include:

- Review of the People Services department
- Review of the Force Intelligence and Specialist Operations Unit
- Review of central budget requirements, including ICT and forensics

Further details of all productivity savings can be found in the Budget Book for 2020/21 which is posted on the [website](#).



About us

For further information about the PCC's Police and Crime Plan or finances please visit our website at www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk

For further information about the PCC, his plan, the budget or how you can get involved, please get in touch with us using the contact details provided below.

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