

Police Council Tax 2013/2014

We are now half-way through a four year period that sees 20% cuts in Government funding to West Yorkshire, over £100million by the end of 2014/15. West Yorkshire Police has responded by restructuring and until recently an extended freeze on recruitment with overall predicted job losses of around 2,000.

In my first week of office I launched my 'Listening to You First' survey, sent to thousands of people across West Yorkshire. Like me, most of you want a visible police presence in your local area. Of the over 2,000 responses, the majority said they would be prepared to pay more for policing in their council tax.

As such I have put forward a 3.8 per cent increase for every household to pay for 44 new police officer recruits into the Neighbourhood Policing Teams over the coming financial year. In cash terms this is a penny a day increase for most households and an increase of £5 a year for a band D property. West Yorkshire households currently pay the third lowest police council tax in England and Wales.

Summary:

- There will be a 3.8% increase to the annual police council tax.
- Band D households will pay £135.50 per year for policing during the coming year (£2.61 per week), an increase of £5 from last year.
- 64% of residents are in Bands A and B and will pay £3.34 and £3.89 more a year respectively (£90.34 and £105.39 in total).

Budget	2012 - 2013 £000	2013 - 2014 £000
Gross Expenditure	492,364	490,328
Council Tax Requirement	89,536	79,578