



Police Budget 2024/25

Making Cheshire even safer

You expect the police to answer the phone quickly, get to you promptly when needed, arrest and charge as many criminals as possible, and be on the beat in your community.

In 2023, Cheshire Police performed better in all of these key areas thanks to the support of the public. Thanks to your support again, I have been able to set a budget that will protect these improvements.

The background to this budget has been difficult. While funding from the government will increase, inflation alone has meant that around £16 million has been added to Cheshire Police's costs. This alone is more than the increase in funding and so a gap existed.

A rigorous review of budgets and use of savings meant this gap was partially closed, but to close it fully and protect our police service 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 79% of residents supported some form of increase.

Although I have opted to raise the police precept, I have not raised it by the full amount allowed. This recognises the impact of an increase on household budgets while ensuring that the county will still receive an effective and efficient police service.

The police precept will rise by £12.50 per year for a Band D Council Tax property. However, with around two thirds of Cheshire households falling into Bands A-C, most will pay less.

I am extremely grateful to the public for recognising the difference that having your say makes and for supporting our police service in delivering for Cheshire's communities.

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

John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire



How your police service is protecting Cheshire's communities*



Contactable

999 calls answered **2 seconds faster**

101 calls answered **58 seconds faster**

Responsive

Emergencies attended **34 seconds faster** and non-emergencies attended **8 minutes and 56 seconds faster**

Proactive

Over 2,000 more arrests, with more charged and 'action taken'

More officers on the beat

Highest number of officers ever, with more officers on the beat as part of the community policing model

Council tax bands for policing

The Government announced on 14 December 2023 that Cheshire Constabulary would receive up to £264 million to fund local policing in 2024/25. An increase of £16.5 million. This figure assumed that the police precept would be raised by £13 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. However, I am mindful of the continuing cost of living crisis and as a result, the precept will rise by £12.50 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 4.99% - in line with the maximum percentage increase available to local councils with social care responsibilities.

2024/25 police precept by council tax band

Band	£	Band	£
A	175.29	E	321.37
B	204.51	F	379.80
C	233.72	G	438.23
D	262.94	H	525.88

Where does the funding come from?



Funding

	£
Government grant	145,579,899
Council tax precept	104,250,637
Other income & specific grants	38,897,971

Total funding and income 288,728,453

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



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* All statistics are the average for 2023 compared to the average for 2022.