



**BY EMAIL ONLY**

[gary.hall@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:gary.hall@chorley.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01772 533587  
Email: [commissioner@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:commissioner@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)  
Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Gary,

**RE: Consultation on police funding settlement**

I am writing to make you aware of the consultation, launched by my office, to determine the level of police precept that council tax residents are willing to pay towards investing in the police here in Lancashire.

As you will be aware, under the new settlement launched by Policing Minister Nick Hurd MP, no new money for local forces was provided through the Home Office Policing Grant. Instead, any new funding will have to come through rises in the local council tax precept. Under the new settlement, Police and Crime Commissioners have been afforded the opportunity to raise the precept by a maximum of £12 per year (or 23p per week) for a Band D property. If realised, this will generate an additional £5m in funding for Lancashire Constabulary.

Since 2010, Lancashire Constabulary has had to make savings of over £72 million, with a further estimated £16m still to find by 2020. This means even with the additional funds through maximising the rise in the precept, Lancashire Constabulary will still have to find ways to save money. Combined with rising demands on the service, increasing costs through inflation, and growing online threats, we have to ensure the police has sufficient resources to keep our county safe.

Across the county, residents tell me how they want to see better investment in policing. This is why I am consulting with residents across Lancashire – including those in your area – to find out how much they might be prepared to contribute towards local policing.

In the consultation, the public will be asked if they want to keep the increase to 6p per week, which would help safeguard some police jobs, increasing it by around 23p per week, or a 40p per week increase which would allow additional resources to be invested in frontline policing.

It might seem like a small amount but an extra £1 per month from the average household would raise over £5m for policing in Lancashire. This would protect officer and staff roles which would otherwise be lost and allow us to invest in a better policing service, one which is fit for the future.

Residents can have their say on the proposals by completing an online survey, and my office will be conducting a telephone survey with a sample of residents from every part of Lancashire in the coming weeks. Residents can also respond to the consultation online through the following link – <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=151396094056>

Anyone who wants to receive a paper copy of the survey can telephone 01772 533 587 and one will be posted out. The deadline for responses to the consultation is 18 January.

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This consultation is likely to be of interest to those in your area and I want to ensure we have as wide a response as possible. If you do have any further questions, or if there is any way I can be of assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

**Clive Grunshaw**  
**Police & Crime Commissioner for Lancashire**

