

“QUESTIONNAIRE”

1. Thinking about the amount that you pay towards policing in Lancashire (as identified by your council tax bill), do you consider that the amount you pay for policing is?

- Very reasonable Reasonable
 Unreasonable Very unreasonable
 Neither reasonable nor unreasonable

If unreasonable / very unreasonable please state reason why:

2. Thinking about the amount of council tax that you contribute yearly towards policing, how do you feel about the value-for-money of the various elements of the service you receive...

An efficient 999 emergency service

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Prompt call handling

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Response to non-emergency incidents

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The level of service received when face to face contact is made with the police

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The level of service received when telephone contact is made with the police

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The level of service when written or e-mail contact is made with the police

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The overall visibility of police officers / PCSOs in the community

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Reduction of crime rates in your local area

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Increased detection and conviction of criminals

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Accessibility of locally based police officers and PCSOs

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The extent to which you are given the opportunity to influence local policing

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

The level of reassurance your local police service provides

- Excellent value for money Good value for money Neither agree nor disagree Poor value for money Very poor value for money Not sure

Please return your questionnaire to: The Communications Team, Lancashire Police Authority, PO Box 653, Preston PR2 2WB or alternatively complete online at: www.lancspa.gov.uk

Our ‘Investors in Policing’ campaign encourages people to think of themselves as owners of the police force, with a right to get involved in shaping how policing is delivered. On the basis that all investors have the right to ask where and how their money will be used, local people are asked if they are satisfied with the return they are getting from their investment in policing.

The benefits of this approach are plain to see, as the public, the police and the Authority work together to set policing priorities that reflect the views of everyone involved. This influences improvements in the subsequent delivery of policing services.

We are firmly committed to putting the public at the heart of policing services in the county.

Investors in policing is about ensuring:

1. Involvement of residents - it's Your County, Your Police, Your Say
2. Maximising your investment - we value your contribution to police service delivery planning by sharing your views
3. Maximising your investment return - we make sure your council tax contributions result in a police service that meets your needs



If you would like this leaflet in a large print or audio format, please call 01772 531 209.

For more information on any part of the Police Authority's work, visit our website, www.lancspa.gov.uk or contact us at the address below.



“IT'S NO BIG SECRET... WHERE YOUR COUNCIL TAX GOES”

“WHAT IS THE POLICE AUTHORITY?”

Lancashire Police Authority is an independent organisation, responsible for ensuring an efficient and effective police service for Lancashire. We work with the Constabulary and local people to:

- Identify local policing priorities
- Set performance targets
- Assess how well the Constabulary meets those targets
- Set the budget and council tax for policing

Over the last few years Lancashire Police Authority, in consultation with you, increased the police part of the Council Tax to provide Lancashire Constabulary with the funds to improve policing and deliver a first class police service for Lancashire people.

“A TOP PERFORMING FORCE”

This investment has clearly paid dividends and has led to some impressive performance achievements. In the last 12 months Lancashire Constabulary:

- Was the top performing police force in England and Wales
- Brought burglary to a 35 year low
- Took vehicle crime to its lowest for 28 years
- Made significant reductions in criminal damage
- Exceeded the Government Standard for Neighbourhood Policing and Citizen Focus (putting the needs of the community first)
- Was awarded the highest possible grade in its Police Use of Resources Evaluation (PURE) by the Audit Commission

“INVESTING IN POLICING”

Through our Investors in Policing campaign the Police Authority has continued to encourage local people, who invest in the service through the payment of their Council Tax, to get involved and help us shape local policing.

This year our consultation on the budget showed that 79% of those responding were willing to pay an increase of £6 a year or more to help maintain the Constabulary’s performance.

“MONEY MATTERS”

When setting the budget this year the Authority carefully considered the current economic climate, alongside the need to protect previous investments, which have funded such impressive developments in performance.

As a result, other than what is absolutely necessary to maintain the current high level of police performance, we agreed it was essential not to place excessive financial burdens on local taxpayers and to keep any increase to a reasonable level.

Therefore the Constabulary will use productivity gains and efficiency savings of £3.6M to ensure that it can continue to deliver a high quality service and further develop key areas such as combating serious and organised crime, protecting vulnerable adults, young people and children from abuse and violence and policing the roads to target criminals and reduce casualties.

“THE BUDGET 2009 - 2010”

This year the budget has been agreed at £270.250M, an increase of 3.1% on last year. The Police Authority has tried to ensure that the right balance between investment in the policing service and an acceptable increase in the Council Tax has been found.

This means that the amount of Council Tax that you will pay towards policing this year for a Band D property will be £142.08 a year, an increase of 4.5% (£6.12 a year) - slightly under 12p a week. Therefore the total amount a Band D household will pay for policing is just £2.73 per week.

At this level the Council Tax for policing in Lancashire remains one of the lowest in England and Wales and the specific amount you will pay, which depends on the band in which your property falls, is set out below:

Council Tax bands:

Band A	£94.72	Band D	£142.08	Band G	£236.80
Band B	£110.51	Band E	£173.65	Band H	£284.16
Band C	£126.29	Band F	£205.23		

“LANCASHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY BUDGET ANALYSIS 2009 - 2010”

	£M	£M	Increase
2008 / 2009 Budget Requirement		262.071	
Add:			
Provision for inflation to 31 March 2010:			
Pay	5.939		
Prices	1.675	7.614	2.91%
Add:			
Committed Variations:			
Reduction in investment income	1.190		
Employers Pension Contributions	0.200		
Capital Financing Costs	0.784		
Other Budget Commitments	-0.678	1.496	0.57%
Add:			
New service developments met by Productivity and Efficiency gains	1.648	(0.931)	-0.36%
		270.250	3.12%
2009 / 2010 Budget Requirements		270.250	3.12%

“LANCASHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY EXPENDITURE & INCOME 2009 - 2010”

	2008 / 2009 £M	2009 / 2010 £M	2009 / 2010 £ per head
Gross Revenue Expenditure	297.278	305.025	206.54
Less: Income	(35.207)	(34.775)	-23.55
Budget Requirement	262.071	270.250	182.99
Less:			
Police Grant	106.613	109.659	74.25
Revenue Support Grant / Non-Domestic Rates	92.185	94.479	63.97
Council Tax Collection Surpluses / (Deficits)	(0.118)	(0.163)	-0.11
Council Tax	63.391	66.275	44.88
Band D Equivalent	£135.96	£142.08	

