



**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**  
for Leicestershire

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Your voice in Leicester,  
Leicestershire & Rutland

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# Precept Survey Results 2016/17

## **Executive Summary**

This survey was undertaken to gain the views of residents in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland about the level of council tax they felt should be paid for policing in 2016/17. The public's response will help Sir Clive Loader, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire, when setting his precept for the year.

A telephone survey of 600 residents was commissioned. This sample size was selected by analysts to be statistically representative of the population as a whole. To support the telephone survey, an online survey was also commissioned. In actuality 603 individuals responded to the telephone survey, and 509 took part in the online survey giving 1112 in total (1107 received and 5 refused to answer) over the three options of 0%, 1.5% or 2%. To ensure value for money, the telephone survey was outsourced and data provided for the Force to analyse in house.

The results are analysed further in this document but show that residents give their support overwhelmingly to increase council tax (over 80%), by either 1.5% or 2%, with over 70% support for the 2% option.

In terms of preference, the 2% option received the most support (70.7%), freezing the council tax was second (18.4%) and an increase of 1.5% the third preference (10.9%).

In receiving the results of the survey, Sir Clive said:

*"I am most grateful to everyone who took part in the survey which helped me decide how much residents should be asked to pay towards policing in 2016-17.*

*Those participants' views provided me with a clear indication that local people would support an increase. Indeed, more than 70% of respondents said they would be willing to pay up to 2% more than last year. After looking carefully at these results, and with the backing of the Police and Crime Panel, I therefore raised the precept for 2016-17 by 1.99%. This amounts to 7p a week (or £3.58 per year) extra for a Band D Council Tax payer. When making my decision, I did so knowing that residents are aware of the fragility of policing funding and want to play their part in protecting those who protect them. I am both thankful for and reassured by their support.*

*The extra amount will help to ensure that our police force is even more effective, including the permanent addition of 38 police officers (beyond those previously planned). In addition, this precept will also enable core funding for the permanent establishment of 251 PCSOs to be sustained beyond March 2017 in support of our local police teams.*

*Overall, my priority is to provide the Chief Constable with what he needs to enhance public safety in the future, to build on work already underway, and to enable new and emerging policing challenges to be tackled effectively. These, I believe, are the priorities for all of us – and I thank you for your support in enabling this to happen."*

## **Methodology – Overview**

It is often impractical to collect the opinions of every single person in a population. However, it is possible to meaningfully assess opinion by sampling the opinions of a representative sample of the population and hence glean an understanding of what overall opinion is likely to be.

This is done by use of statistical sampling whereby one can calculate by comparing the size of the total population to the size of the sample, and obtain confidence that the opinions of the sample are reflective of the opinions of the whole population. The greater the proportion of people surveyed, the greater the confidence received that the collective view of those surveyed is reflective of the population as a whole.

This level of assurance is expressed in terms of the confidence that the true result is within a certain latitude of an actual numeric average of what the sample shows.

Equally, if one knows what level of assurance is required, the sample size that would be required to achieve this can be calculated.

Both the Home Office and HMIC have determined that in terms of information relating to policing, the acceptable level of confidence is to aim to have a sample that will provide with 95% confidence that the average results in the sample are within +/-4% of what the average of the overall population would be were everyone in that population surveyed.

Therefore, this consistent methodology has been applied to the analysis required for local consultation.

In line with the methodology highlighted earlier, this means that since **70.7%** of the sample indicated an increase of 2% in the precept level, it can be concluded that this option was the preferred one for between **68.2% and 73.2%** of the population.

Therefore the PCC can say with over 95% certainty that this is the option preferred by the majority of the population.

## **Methodology Adopted**

1112 residents of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland were surveyed to seek their views on whether or not they would pay more towards policing in their council tax.

The survey was undertaken in two ways; through Leicestershire Police's outsourced external survey company and via an online form on the Force webpage and the OPCC webpage.

The methodology for the outsourced survey aimed to be statistically representative of the population at Force level (603), by gender age and ethnicity. The number of respondents for each of the old LPU areas endeavoured to be proportionate to the population of that area (Census 2011), the sample for each and the confidence intervals resulting from that sample are outlined below:

LPU	Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA)	Council Area	Population	Proportion of Total Population	Count of Outsourced Sample	Proportion of sample	Count of Online Sample	Proportion of sample	Total Sample	Proportion of Total sample	Confidence Interval
Beaumont Leys	West Leicester	Leicester City	48534	4.8%	28	4.6%	16	3.4%	44	4.1%	+/- 12.8%
Hinckley Road	West Leicester	Leicester City	53498	5.3%	32	5.3%	22	4.7%	54	5.0%	+/- 11.5%
Keyham Lane	East Leicester	Leicester City	72122	7.1%	40	6.6%	12	2.5%	52	4.8%	+/- 11.8%
Mansfield House	Central Leicester	Leicester City	22901	2.3%	18	3.0%	16	3.4%	34	3.2%	+/- 14.5%
Spinney Hill	East Leicester	Leicester City	82359	8.1%	49	8.1%	10	2.1%	59	5.5%	+/- 11.0%
Welford Road	South Leicester	Leicester City	50425	5.0%	30	5.0%	26	5.5%	56	5.2%	+/- 11.3%
Harborough	Eastern Counties	Harborough	85382	8.4%	50	8.3%	56	11.9%	106	9.9%	+/- 8.2%
Blaby	Hinckley & Blaby	Blaby	93915	9.2%	55	9.1%	50	10.6%	105	9.8%	+/- 8.3%
Charnwood	Charnwood	Charnwood	90362	8.9%	53	8.8%	49	10.4%	102	9.5%	+/- 8.4%
Hinckley	Hinckley & Blaby	Hinckley	105078	10.3%	62	10.3%	59	12.5%	121	11.3%	+/- 7.7%
Melton	Eastern Counties	Melton	50376	4.9%	30	5.0%	33	7.0%	63	5.9%	+/- 10.7%
North West	North West	North West Leicester	93468	9.2%	55	9.1%	38	8.1%	93	8.7%	+/- 8.8%
Loughborough	Charnwood	Charnwood	75738	7.4%	45	7.5%	24	5.1%	69	6.4%	+/- 10.2%
Rutland	Eastern Counties	Rutland	37369	3.7%	22	3.6%	36	7.6%	58	5.4%	+/- 11.1%
Oadby & Wigston	South Leicester	Oadby and Wigston	56170	5.5%	34	5.6%	25	5.3%	59	5.5%	+/- 11.0%
		Total	1017697	100.0%	603	100.0%	472		1075		+/- 2.6%
		Unknown					37	7.3%			
		Total					509		1112		+/- 2.5%

\*The online survey did not ask for LPUs/NPA or Council, this information was obtained via a lookup between postcode and Mosaic data, and approximation where only half postcodes were provided

As shown the Force level figures confidence intervals are +/-2.5%, meaning that any significant results found from the survey could vary by this amount. Due to the much lower numbers at LPU level results are indicative and could vary by a considerable amount. The further proportion breakdown of gender, age and ethnic group is included within the report.

The online survey was not subject to the sampling methodology therefore the sample collected from this survey method is not entirely proportionate. This is most evident in the over representation of the 45 and over age brackets.

## 2016/17 Precept Survey Results

	Outsourced Survey		Online Survey		Combined Results	
	No Of Resp	%	No Of Resp	%	Total	%
Freeze	45	7.5%	159	31.2%	204	18.4%
Increase by 1.5%	69	11.5%	51	10.0%	120	10.9%
Increase by 2%	484	81.0%	299	58.7%	783	70.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	598		509		1107	
Refused to answer	5					

\*Those respondents who refused to answer (5) are not included in the further analysis leaving 1107 for analysis.

The above table outlines the results from both survey versions separately and combined. The final result being; 70.7% of those who responded said that they would pay an increase of 2% on the current amount, significantly higher than those who said that they wanted the amount frozen/kept the same.

94.9% (1050) of those surveyed pay council tax and, of those who pay council tax, 71% said that they support the 2% increase in the precept.

Views on the Precept?	Do you pay council tax?						Total
	Yes	%	No	%	Don't know	%	
Freeze / keep the same	194	18.5%	8	15.4%	2	40.0%	204
Increase by 1.5%	111	10.5%	8	15.4%	1	20.0%	120
Increase by 2%	745	71.0%	36	69.2%	2	40.0%	783
<b>Total</b>	1050		52		5		1107

## Demographic Comparison

Views on the Precept?	Gender						Total
	Male	%	Female	%	Prefer not to say/Not Stated	%	
Freeze	99	17.0%	71	14.9%	34	69.4%	204
Increase by 1.5%	65	11.1%	53	11.2%	2	4.1%	120
Increase by 2%	419	71.9%	351	73.9%	13	26.5%	783
<b>Total</b>	<b>583</b>		<b>475</b>		<b>49</b>		<b>1107</b>

The above table shows little variation between the genders in terms of the support for the 2% increase, and some variation in the other two responses; however these differences are not significant.

Between the age ranges there are a number of significant differences in the proportion of respondents. Widening the bands, there are significantly more respondents between the age of 45-64 who said that they support the 2% increase compared with respondents between the age of 25 and 44.

Age	Freeze / Keep the same	Age Group %/View on the Precept	Increase by 1.5%	Age Group %/View on the Precept	Increase by 2%	Age Group %/View on the Precept	Total
16 to 24	17	12.9%	16	12.1%	99	75.0%	132
25 to 34	33	20.4%	20	12.3%	109	67.3%	162
35 to 44	36	22.8%	20	12.7%	102	64.6%	158
45 to 54	38	19.7%	17	8.8%	138	71.5%	193
55 to 64	22	13.2%	11	6.6%	134	80.2%	167
65 to 74	19	10.8%	24	13.6%	133	75.6%	176
75 or above	8	10.4%	10	13.0%	59	76.6%	77
Prefer not to say / Not stated	31	73.8%	2	4.8%	9	21.4%	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>		<b>120</b>		<b>783</b>		<b>1107</b>

The table below does show variation between ethnic groups, however as the number of respondents in some categories are low the differences are not statistically significant.

Ethnicity	Freeze / keep the same	% Ethnic Group/View on Precept	Increase by 1.5%	% Ethnic Group/View on Precept	Increase by 2%	% Ethnic Group/View on Precept	Total
Asian	17	18.9%	16	17.8%	57	63.3%	90
Black	2	33.3%	1	16.7%	3	50.0%	6
Mixed	1	7.1%	2	14.3%	11	78.6%	14
Other	1	20.0%	1	20.0%	3	60.0%	5
White	143	15.4%	97	10.5%	687	74.1%	927
DNWTS /Not stated	40	61.5%	3	4.6%	22	33.8%	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>		<b>120</b>		<b>783</b>		<b>1107</b>

In terms of geographic responses, the results can be seen below at NPA Level:

NPA	Freeze / keep the same	% NPA / Views of Precept	Increase by 1.5%	% NPA / Views of Precept	Increase by 2%	% NPA / Views of Precept	Total	Confidence Intervals
Central Leicester	6	17.6%	2	5.9%	26	76.5%	34	+/- 14.5%
Charnwood	28	16.4%	18	10.5%	125	73.1%	171	+/- 6.5%
East Leicester	20	18.3%	10	9.2%	79	72.5%	109	+/- 8.1%
Eastern Counties	31	13.7%	26	11.5%	170	74.9%	227	+/- 5.6%
Hinckley & Blaby	36	15.9%	28	12.4%	162	71.7%	226	+/- 5.6%
North West	18	20.0%	7	7.8%	65	72.2%	90	+/- 8.9%
South Leicester	16	13.9%	13	11.3%	86	74.8%	115	+/- 7.9%
West Leicester	25	25.5%	14	14.3%	59	60.2%	98	+/- 8.6%
Unknown	24	64.9%	2	5.4%	11	29.7%	37	
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>		<b>120</b>		<b>783</b>		<b>1107</b>	<b>+/- 2.5%</b>

Due to the width of the confidence intervals at NPA level any results are indicative, rather than conclusive.

At council boundary level the following is evident:

Council Area	Preferred Option						Total	
	Freeze		Increase by 1.5%		Increase by 2%		No of Respondents	Confidence intervals
	No of Respondents	%	No of Respondents	%	No of Respondents	%		
Leicester City	59	19.9%	35	11.8%	202	68.2%	296	+/- 4.9%
Blaby	18	16.7%	10	9.3%	80	74.1%	108	+/- 8.2%
Charnwood	28	16.6%	18	10.7%	123	72.8%	169	+/- 6.5%
Harborough	13	12.3%	12	11.3%	81	76.4%	106	+/- 8.2%
Hinckley	18	15.0%	18	15.0%	84	70.0%	120	+/- 7.7%
Melton	9	14.3%	8	12.7%	46	73.0%	63	+/- 10.7%
North West Leicester	18	20.0%	7	7.8%	65	72.2%	90	+/- 8.9%
Oadby and Wigston	8	13.3%	4	6.7%	48	80.0%	60	+/- 10.9%
Rutland	9	15.5%	6	10.3%	43	74.1%	58	+/- 11.1%
Unknown	24	64.9%	2	5.4%	11	29.7%	37	
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>70.7%</b>	<b>1107</b>	<b>+/- 2.5%</b>

Due to the width of the confidence intervals at county boundary level any results are indicative, rather than conclusive.

Of those surveyed, 11.6% of the 1107 said that they had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months. In comparison 5.9% (59653 reports / 1,017,697 total population) of the population of the Force area had reported a crime during the same period.

There is therefore a slight over representation of victims of crime within the survey results, which is particularly evident from the online survey.

Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?	Outsourced Survey	Online Survey	Total	% Respondents
Yes	43	86	129	11.6%
No	552	403	955	86.3%
Prefer not to say/ No Response	3	20	23	2.1%
Total	598	509	1107	100.0%

Those respondents who had had not been a victim of crime showed more support (a difference 9.7 percentage points) for the 2% increase which was significantly higher than those residents who had been a victim of crime.

In terms of those respondents who had been a victim of crime, 100 out of the 129 people who had been a victim of crime reported it.

Did you report it?	Outsourced Survey	Online Survey	Total	%
Yes	36	64	100	77.5%
No	7	11	18	14.0%
Not answered		11	11	8.5%
Total	43	86	129	100.0%

## **Summary**

This report provides a summary and high level analysis of the responses received from the survey.

In line with the methodology highlighted earlier, this means that since **70.7%** of the sample indicated an increase of 2% in the precept level, it can be concluded that this option was the preferred one for between **68.2% and 73.2%** of the population.

Therefore the PCC can say with over 95% certainty that this is the option preferred by the majority of the population.



## Appendix

Examining the verbatim comments from the outsourced survey, factors that contributed to their answer were:

Comment Theme	Freeze	1.5%	2.0%	Total
The increase is not a large amount to pay	0	3	236	238
The Police Service has been cut enough/ More police presence needed not less/ The level of service should be maintained	0	4	215	219
Can not afford to pay more/No increase in income/ Already pay too much	86	14	0	101
Already pay a lot, but can afford a bit more/ Cost are still increasing	0	57	0	57
The police need more money to provide the level of service they provide	0	1	50	51
Police are needed to keep communities safe	0	0	50	50
The Police do a good job and need the support	0	1	42	43
With current threats and issues the police are needed	0	0	34	34
Government should pay for the police/ funding should come from elsewhere/ Other agencies waste money	13	2	6	21
Have been a victim of crime/ Crime rate is low need the police to keep it like that/ If police service reduced crime would increase	2	0	16	18
The Force should budget more/ waste less money/ Make cuts in Senior roles	12	0	1	13
Don't pay the bills, but choice seems fair	1	2	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>849</b>

## Demographics

This table demonstrates that with regards to the outsourced survey, the proportion of genders is representative. Cross referencing gender with the age boundaries show that for the most part the sample collected for the outsourced survey was representative, however the addition of the online data means that the finalised combined sample shows an over representation of males over 55.

Age	Population					Outsourced Survey				Online Survey					Total	
	Male	% Male Pop	Female	% Female Pop	Total	Male	% Male Respondents	Female	% Female Respondents	Male	% Male Respondents	Female	% Female Respondents	Prefer not to say/Not stated		% Prefer not to say/ Not stated %
15 to 24	75763	18.4%	72992	17.1%	148755	53	18.0%	44	14.5%	17	5.9%	17	9.9%	1	2.0%	132
25 to 34	64437	15.7%	64358	15.1%	128795	39	13.3%	55	18.1%	35	12.1%	30	17.5%	3	6.1%	162
35 to 44	68797	16.8%	70370	16.5%	139167	49	16.7%	47	15.5%	42	14.5%	20	11.7%		0.0%	158
45 to 54	69467	16.9%	70001	16.4%	139468	41	13.9%	58	19.1%	55	19.0%	36	21.1%	3	6.1%	193
55 to 64	60435	14.7%	59980	14.1%	120415	43	14.6%	50	16.4%	45	15.6%	29	17.0%		0.0%	167
65 to 74	40985	10.0%	43912	10.3%	84897	40	13.6%	34	11.2%	72	24.9%	29	17.0%	1	2.0%	176
75 or over	30819	7.5%	44786	10.5%	75605	29	9.9%	16	5.3%	22	7.6%	10	5.8%		0.0%	77
Prefer not to say/ Not stated						0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	41	83.7%	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>410703</b>		<b>426399</b>		<b>837102</b>	<b>294</b>		<b>304</b>		<b>289</b>		<b>171</b>		<b>49</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1107</b>

Combined Survey Data							
Age	Male	% Male Respondents	Female	% Female Respondents	Prefer not to say/Not stated	% Prefer not to say/ Not stated %	Total
15 to 24	70	12.0%	61	12.8%	1	2.0%	132
25 to 34	74	12.7%	85	17.9%	3	6.1%	162
35 to 44	91	15.6%	67	14.1%	0	0.0%	158
45 to 54	96	16.5%	94	19.8%	3	6.1%	193
55 to 64	88	15.1%	79	16.6%	0	0.0%	167
65 to 74	112	19.2%	63	13.3%	1	2.0%	176
75 or over	51	8.7%	26	5.5%	0	0.0%	77
Prefer not to say/ Not stated	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	41	83.7%	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>583</b>		<b>475</b>		<b>49</b>		<b>1107</b>

Ethnic minorities in the final sample for both survey methodologies were under represented to some extent, but this is not statistically significant:

Ethnicity	Outsourced Survey	Online Survey	Total	% Sample
Asian or Asian British - Indian	74	7	81	7.3%
Asian Bangladeshi		5	5	0.5%
Asian or Asian British - Pakistani	1	1	2	0.2%
Asian or Asian British - Any other Asian background	2		2	0.2%
Black or Black British - African	3		3	0.3%
Black or Black British - Caribbean	4		4	0.4%
Chinese	1		1	0.1%
Mixed - Any other mixed background	1		1	0.1%
Mixed - White and Asian	2	6	8	0.7%
Mixed - White and Black African		2	2	0.2%
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean		2	2	0.2%
Any other multiple ethnic group		1	1	0.1%
White - Any other White Background	4	12	16	1.4%
White - British	498	406	904	81.7%
White - Eastern European	3		3	0.3%
White - Irish	2		2	0.2%
Any other ethnic group		4	4	0.4%
Did not wish to say/ Not stated	3	63	66	6.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>1107</b>	