Message from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

In considering the right precept proposal for 2024/25 I was mindful that Northumbria Police has the lowest precept in the country and is as a result very reliant upon central government funding, over which I have no control.

Northumbria Police is committed to fighting crime but does so against a backdrop of increasing financial pressures. As Police and Crime Commissioner it is my job to set the budget for the force on behalf of our communities and ensure police officers and staff have what they need to keep us safe.

I firmly believe Government should step-up and fully fund our police force. The Home Office has repeatedly turned down these requests and wants the cost of policing passed to local residents.

People in the North East repeatedly tell me they want more police officers out on the streets and over the last four years I have delivered on that. I want to continue to invest in frontline policing and have plans for more investigators, expanding our specialist motorbike ASB units, and following trials I'd like to review all stations and look to reopen some of those that were closed under Government austerity.
To deliver this, we need more funding.
To address the challenges facing Northumbria Police I have approved an increase of 108p per month for a Band D property. For the majority of households in Northumbria, those in a Band A property, the increase is 72p per month.

The increase in the precept will provide over £5m in extra funds for 2024/25 which will help deliver on those further investment plans for frontline policing and provide essential funding to deliver the Police and Crime Plan.

The Band D council tax precept for Northumbria will increase from £168.84 to £181.84 for the year. This remains, by far, the lowest precept of any Police and Crime Commissioner in England and Wales. You can find more information on the OPCC website -
www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

	2023/24				2024/25	
Gross Expenditure £000	**Gross Income £000**	**Net Expenditure £000**		**Gross Expenditure £000**	**Gross Income £000**	**Net Expenditure £000**
			Service			
388,145	40,617	347,528	Northumbria Police	420,562	42,643	377,919
		347,528	**Budget Requirement**			**377,919**
			LESS:			
		266,147	Formula Grant			281,983
		3,423	Special Pension Grant			11,168
		6,867	Council Tax Support Grant			6,867
		1,301	Legacy Council Tax Freeze Grants			1,301
		905	Constituent Authorities' Net Surplus/(Deficit)			1,290
		68,885	**Council Tax Requirement**			**75,310**
		£18.598m	Charge on Northumberland			£20.400m
		£168.84	Band "D" Equivalent Charge			£181.84
			Change in Council Tax Requirement between years is attributable to:			**£000s**
			Pay Awards, Inflation, recruitment, budget pressures and other budget adjustments			38,879
			Budget reductions and efficiencies			(8,488)
			Increase in government Formula Grant			(15,836)
			Increase in Special Pension Grant			(7,745)
			Increase in Council Tax Net Surplus			(385)
						6,425