

Join the Conversation



David Keane
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire

YOUR VOICE POLICING

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David Keane

Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18



David Keane
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire



As your elected representative, it is important that I understand your needs and expectations for keeping our communities safe. I promise to be a listening Commissioner taking into account the views of Cheshire residents.

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Introduction

I am delighted to introduce my annual report for 2017/18, my second year as your elected Police and Crime Commissioner. This annual review provides me with an opportunity to reflect on the past 12 months and highlight some of the key achievements and challenges we've faced.

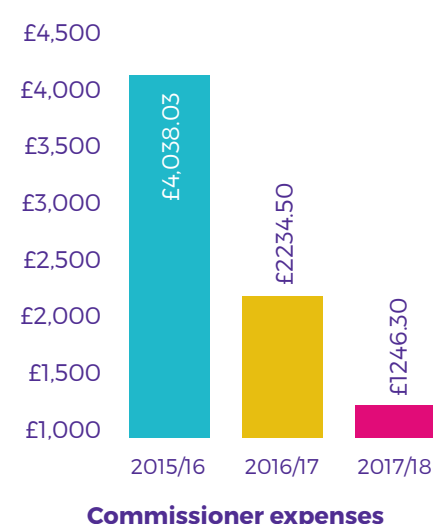
This past year has been one of change where I've been able to make significant amendments to the way the Constabulary and my team at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) operate to ensure we are serving the public to the best of our ability in a climate where we're seeing our resources increasingly under pressure.

The pressures placed on Cheshire Constabulary, both in regards to reductions in funding and the increased complexity of the crimes we're tackling, are increasing year-on-year. Significant work has been done to deliver £5.4 million of savings over the last 12 months alone. As a result of the significant savings made since 2010, our thin blue line is getting thinner. As a listening and campaigning Police and Crime Commissioner, I will continue to press the Government on your behalf for fair and sustainable funding to ensure we can continue to keep Cheshire residents safe.

This year, I have also been able to implement a number of cost saving measures to reduce the cost of my office, providing better value for the taxpayer of Cheshire. This has involved a full restructure of my team, the removal of costly staff benefits and an office relocation which will save approximately £50,000 each year. I have also significantly reduced my expenses, and I'm now spending 70 per cent less than the previous Commissioner on things like essential travel away from the office.

As crime becomes more complex and emerging issues such as cybercrime, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking become more common, residents in Cheshire need increased visibility of police officers who are skilled and properly equipped to tackle these issues in our communities.

This year, I have been able to deliver one of my key election promises – to provide 'more feet on the beat' to increase the visibility of police officers on our streets to create safer communities for the whole of Cheshire. I have created 122 local policing communities across the county, each with their own PCSO that harbours local knowledge and their own police community base which provides an accessible point-of-contact for the whole community. This model will considerably increase the amount of time PCSOs are spending in the heart of the communities they serve, tackling local issues and complex crime at its root-cause. Under the previous model, PCSOs were travelling miles each day wasting valuable time that they could be spending in our communities.



I have also continued to work with the Constabulary to invest in new technologies and specialist equipment to ensure the Constabulary is fit for the future. With 65 per cent of Cheshire classed as 'rural', it's important that our officers have the right equipment to protect some of our more remote communities. This year, police capability increased with the purchase of all-terrain vehicles to police rural crime.

I also made the decision to make a significant investment into a new command and control system for the Constabulary. The SAAB Safe System will transform the ability of the Constabulary to deploy the most appropriate officers to incidents quicker than ever before. This year has also seen increased investment in body worn video, with the kit set to be provided for every frontline police officer in Cheshire ensuring an increased chance of prosecution of offenders and better protection for officers.

Over the last year, I have had the pleasure of meeting many residents across Cheshire and listening to their priorities for building safer and stronger communities. I promise to continue to be a listening Commissioner that delivers on the issues that matter to you most and to continue to do everything I can to ensure Cheshire remains one of the safest counties in the country.

I would like to thank the officers, staff who work tirelessly day-in day-out to serve the residents of Cheshire. They have an incredibly important job and often operate under incredible pressure. Yet, their dedication and commitment to protecting local people ensures that Cheshire remains one of the safest places to live, work and visit in the UK.

David Keane
POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CHESHIRE



Police and Crime Plan priorities

Giving you a voice in local policing

The priorities I set in my Police and Crime Plan drive forward the way Cheshire Constabulary focuses its resources and concentrates its work. These priorities were developed by working with the Chief Constable, key partners and, more importantly, listening to the issues which matter to you most.

My annual report focuses on the progress made during the last 12 months towards delivering these four key priorities:



**Prevent crime
and anti-social
behaviour**

PRIORITY



**A police service
connected
with our
communities**

PRIORITY



**Support
victims and
protect the
vulnerable**

PRIORITY



**A police
service fit
for the
future**

PRIORITY



As your elected representative for policing and crime in Cheshire, I will ensure that you continue to be heard and if your priorities change, that I refresh my plan to ensure it remains relevant and focused on delivering even safer communities across the whole of Cheshire.

My year at a glance

QUARTER 1 - 2017

- ✓ Launched 'Victims Voice 2017' to give victims of crime the chance to have their say on the services which support them
- ✓ Introduced the 'Herbert Protocol' to safeguard vulnerable residents with dementia
- ✓ Participated in 'StreetSafe' initiative to tackle knife crime in Cheshire
- ✓ Launched the 2017 Youth Commission to allow young people the opportunity to discuss ideas for tackling policing and crime
- ✓ Welcomed the roll-out of 'Shield' - a kit used to mark properties to make our rural communities safer
- ✓ Revamped our 'Victims Information Pack' to make it easier for victims to access vital information
- ✓ Developed a two-year action plan with partners to tackle modern slavery
- ✓ Celebrated our volunteers at our annual 'Volunteers Appreciation' event
- ✓ Joined our Special Constables on patrol as part of 'National Specials Weekend'
- ✓ Brought key partners together at our road safety summit to discuss how best to respond to incidents on Cheshire's roads

QUARTER 2 - 2017

- ✓ Appointed new Chief of Staff to oversee the strategic direction of the OPCC
- ✓ Celebrated the first birthday of Remedi, the organisation I commission to deliver restorative justice in Cheshire
- ✓ Consulted with residents on groundbreaking police and fire base in Frodsham
- ✓ Remembered those who lost their lives on Cheshire's roads as part of National Road Victims Month
- ✓ Called for the Government to urgently review corrosive substance legislation following an assault in Lymm
- ✓ Rolled-out the IDVA scheme across Cheshire to provide specialist support for victims of domestic abuse
- ✓ Secured funding from the Police Transformation Fund to develop innovative project to tackle stalking
- ✓ Supported a campaign to remove 250 dangerous drivers from the roads of Cheshire

QUARTER 3 - 2017

- ✓ Became a White Ribbon Ambassador to stand up to domestic violence against women
- ✓ Opened a new joint police and fire community base in Frodsham
- ✓ Hosted National Black Police Association Conference in Chester
- ✓ Launched the 2018/19 budget consultation
- ✓ Called on the Chancellor to provide fairer funding for Cheshire Constabulary
- ✓ Consulted on the relocation of Mickle Trafford Police Station
- ✓ Encouraged victims to speak out during Hate Crime Awareness Week
- ✓ Responded to HMICFRS report on modern slavery to show my support in tackling the issue
- ✓ Brought hundreds of delegates together at the 'We Stand Together' conference

QUARTER 4 - 2018

- ✓ Hosted roadshows across the county to ask Cheshire residents how they want to fund policing in 2018/19
- ✓ Set a balanced budget that protected front line policing resources as much as possible
- ✓ Praised operation by Cheshire Constabulary to take 50 knives off the streets
- ✓ Supported week-of-action to target drivers who use their mobile phone at the wheel
- ✓ Remembered Tim Parry and Jonathan Ball on 25th anniversary of Warrington bombing
- ✓ Held training for third party reporting centres during North West Forces Hate Crime Week
- ✓ Encouraged victims in Cheshire to have their say as part of a national review of victims services
- ✓ Responded to Government's draft Domestic Abuse Bill on behalf of criminal justice partners in Cheshire
- ✓ Hosted an event with Remedi to raise awareness of the benefits of restorative justice



Increased visibility of policing in our communities

One of the key promises I made when setting my Police and Crime Plan was to deliver a visible police service, with officers, PCSOs and specialist staff spending more time in the heart of our communities.

I was able to make great progress on this initiative this year by providing a dedicated PCSO for every community in Cheshire.

PCSOs are an important part of local policing teams across Cheshire. They are the 'eyes and ears' of local communities, gathering intelligence to deal with complex police issues, while providing support to vulnerable residents and focusing on making our roads safer. Having a dedicated PCSO for each area who understands specific local issues will enable us to not only tackle existing crimes, but also prevent crime.

This initiative has led me to create 122 local police communities throughout Cheshire each with their own community base and PCSO. Housed in existing buildings such as libraries and community centres, the bases will allow PCSOs to spend more time in the heart of the communities they serve.

All of the bases will provide the facilities for PCSOs to hold regular surgeries or have confidential discussions with victims, witnesses and other members of the public.

This new model will help increase police interaction and visibility and build assurance with individual communities - providing a named, recognisable officer and an easily accessible police base for local residents in shared community buildings at no extra cost to the taxpayer.

Work is already underway to install signage so the new bases can be easily identified by local residents, and all the bases should be in operation by autumn 2018.



When I was elected I promised the Cheshire residents 'more feet on the beat' and this model is helping us put community officers back where they belong.

Working in partnership to deliver better outcomes for communities

I am proud of the partnership work that has been delivered across Cheshire in 2017/18 to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and reduce reoffending.

This year, I provided £1 million of local funding as part of my Community Safety Fund. Part of this fund was provided to Cheshire's four community safety partnerships in Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington to allow them to invest in projects and initiatives which tackle and prevent crime and reduce reoffending.

Over the last year, the Community Safety Fund has also supported a number of bespoke projects which tackle issues such as domestic abuse, mental health and reducing reoffending and focusing on achieving better outcomes for our communities.

£1m
invested in
partnership
projects

Examples of services funded by Community Safety Fund

£198,000

to support
Cheshire Youth
Offending Service

£44,000

for substance
misuse services

£26,000

to provide mental
health support

£10,000

for street pastors

Peer support for young offenders

My Community Safety Fund supported local organisation, Voice for Children, to develop a peer mentoring scheme for young people across Cheshire involved in the youth justice system. The project recruited ex-service users of the youth justice system who have successfully moved on in their lives and could become positive mentors to young people involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. The scheme aimed to reduce criminalisation of children in care and address a range of issues around re-offending, crime reduction and crime prevention.

Helping women in prison rebuild confidence

I invested money from my Community Safety Fund to provide coaching sessions for women in Styal Prison to help them strengthen their motivation and improve their positive interaction with others ahead of their release. The project delivered 162 sessions during 2017/18, supporting women to address their health, accommodation and financial needs with increased self-confidence and the ability to try new things. Upon release, a number of women are now back in education, exploring new career paths as a result of the coaching received, enabling them to contribute to society in numerous ways whilst decreasing the potential for reoffending.

This has huge benefits, not just for the women in prison but for also society as it will lead to reduced re-offending costs.





Safer Communities Fund 2017/18

Prevent crime and
anti-social behaviour

My Safer Communities Fund has once again supported community projects which make a real difference to community safety. This year, I invested more than £60,000 from my Safer Communities Fund to encourage local communities to get involved in the prevention and reduction of crime as part of my Police and Crime Plan aim to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Safer Communities Fund aims to help create safer communities across Cheshire by providing grants to assist groups and community organisations to tackle local concerns and reduce crime in their area. The funding is intended to act as 'seed funding' - enabling projects to 'get off the ground' with the expectation of longer-term sustainability, with each project able to bid for up-to £5,000.

Once again this year, I received a large volume of applications from a whole range of organisations that all have the same aim of making their community

safer. The competition was extremely strong with 49 applications received, 17 of which were successful and received Safer Communities funding.

A wide variety of projects across the county benefited from the funding; some of which was used to deliver events or activities focused on reducing anti-social behaviour while some of the grants were used by organisations to purchase equipment or tools to prevent crime and community issues such as speeding.

This fund is about empowering local people, giving support to local projects and making our local communities safer. I've been extremely impressed by the outcomes of the projects delivered so far.

Next year, as I roll-out my plans for a PCSO for every community, I plan to redirect more of my budget to the Safer Communities Fund. This will allow more local organisations to apply for funding working closely with their local PCSO to ensure their project tackles the issues in their individual communities.



Examples of projects funded



Prevent crime and
anti-social behaviour

Winter Homeless Accommodation Macclesfield

to improve vulnerable people's health and wellbeing



Halton Play Council

for a play scheme to keep children safe during the summer holidays



Room at the Inn

for buddy programme to help vulnerable people rebuild their lives

Winsford Over 3 FC

to rent facilities and equipment to keep young people safe

Four Estates

to deliver activity sessions to reduce ASB

Crewe Town Council

to install CCTV to reduce ASB in a crime hotspot

Halton Youth Cabinet

to deliver an awareness week for hate crime

Transwarrington

to support the group to celebrate diversity and break down barriers

Next Steps for Vets

to run breakfast clubs for veterans to reduce social isolation





Cheshire Youth Commission – giving young people the chance to have their say

A police service connected
with our communities

With more than a quarter of Cheshire residents under the age of 25, I supported the Youth Commission again this year because I understand how important it is for young people to have a voice in policing and for their ideas and concerns to be heard.

This year, we were able to recruit even more young people to be ambassadors for their peers and communities and 2017/18's cohort were able to speak to more than 2000 young people across the county to help me, the Constabulary and partners have a better understanding of the key issues which affect them.

The members of the Youth Commission worked together to identify five priorities which they thought were important to talk to young people. This year's five key priorities were:

- Mental health and policing
- Sexual harassment and consent
- Social media and staying safe online
- Relationship with the police and stereotyping
- Drug and alcohol use vs. abuse

In addition to these five priorities, the Youth Commission identified the over-arching theme of 'vulnerability' to be embedded across all of their work.

Supported by social enterprise, Leaders Unlocked, the 29 members of the Youth Commission travelled around

the county during 2017 and 2018, holding workshops in schools, colleges and youth and community organisations to capture the views of their peers on these important issues.

This year, I also established the Youth Advisory Group, to allow Youth Commission members to directly inform, advise and challenge the Constabulary on their priority topics.

The Youth Commission presented their findings to me and Cheshire Constabulary and partners at their annual conference - which was attended by more than 80 representatives from key organisations in Cheshire including the fire service, health, education and the voluntary sector.

Recommendations to tackle these issues include police having a more active role in schools enabling them to be more open about issues with drugs, education establishments taking a more active role in talking about sexual harassment and consent with students, and allocating a PCSO to each school to give young people a 'familiar face' in their police service.

I am committed through my Police and Crime Plan to working together with young people on issues relating to policing and crime, and I look forward to working with partners across Cheshire to implement these recommendations to ensure these important issues are addressed.



Championing understanding and inclusivity in our communities



A police service connected
with our communities



Funding for hate crime reporting training

Reports of hate crime to the police increased nationally this year, but some parts of the Cheshire community are still under-reporting incidents. I've encouraged the Constabulary to work with third party reporting centres to give more victims the confidence to come forward. This year, I commissioned refresher training for reporting centres across the county, enabling them to train more staff to provide relevant support to victims.



Hate crime is an ongoing and emerging issue that is currently under-reported in the local area. I am committed to giving the police and partners the relevant support to encourage more victims to come forward.



National Black Police Association Conference

I was proud to host the annual National Black Police Association (NBPA) Conference in Cheshire in 2017. The conference was a celebration of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) representation in policing and saw delegates from across the country come together to develop, support and bring about good relations between the police and BAME community. The conference took place during Hate Crime Awareness Week with the aim of exploring the dynamics of 'hate' in post-Brexit Britain. Officers attending the conference took part in a march in the city centre to raise awareness of the BAME community in policing.



Chester Pride

I joined members of my team and the Constabulary at this year's Chester Pride, which celebrated its fifth anniversary. The annual event celebrates the LGBT+ community and diversity across Cheshire.

The hate crime prevention vehicle was at the event offering advice on hate crime and personal safety whilst providing crime prevention materials. It was also the first time the newly relaunched Diversity Allies joined the parade in support of LGBT+ staff and community members.

Dementia friendly force

I supported police officers and staff from the Constabulary to become 'Dementia Friends'. Dementia Friends is a nationwide initiative run by the Alzheimer's Society which aims to transform the way the nation thinks, talks and acts about the condition. The comprehensive training course gave

officers and staff advanced knowledge of dementia to enable them to handle situations more effectively and compassionately when dealing with people living with dementia; whether that be as a victim, witness, offender or missing person. I have also continued to support the roll-out of the Herbert Protocol - a scheme aimed at helping police identify vulnerable residents with dementia if they are reported missing.



Putting victims first

Support victims and protect the vulnerable

More than £1.2 million of my budget in 2017/18 was dedicated to services that support victims of crime to help them cope and recover from their ordeal.

As your Commissioner, I am responsible for commissioning local support services for victims of crime through this annual grant from the Ministry of Justice. This ranged from providing support for our flagship victims support service and Cheshire CARES, to funding individual organisations and projects which provide a specialist provision for victims.

Examples of victims' projects funded

£79,000

to support victims of rape and sexual abuse

£10,200

for hate crime victim care support

£28,000

to support child victims of sexual violence

£6,700

for the development of a network for modern slavery

£30,000

for a project to protect very young children from domestic abuse

£22,000

for disability hate crime care

Victims Voice 2017

One of the aims of my Police and Crime Plan is to listen to the needs of victims to help shape services. This year, I launched a consultation with victims of crime in Cheshire to learn more about their experiences of victim services and the justice system. I encouraged victims to speak out and give their views online, at focus groups and through partner agencies.

The results of the survey and wider learning was used to inform a needs assessment which identified that, in addition to existing victim support services on offer in Cheshire, there needs to be more support for services which help certain victims of crime including:

- Victims under the age of 18
- Victims with mental health issues
- Victims at risk of exploitation
- Victims of hate crime

Next year, I plan to launch a new fund which organisations in Cheshire can bid for to sustain the vital services they provide to support victims with these specialist needs.

Providing support for all victims of crimes



Support victims and protect the vulnerable

Cheshire CARES - my dedicated service for all victims of crime - continued to deliver a whole range of support for victims, supporting **35,999** victims in 2017/18. The team at CARES work closely with local providers, voluntary and community sector organisations to ensure victims have access to the correct support based on their individual needs. This case study is just one example of how CARES are supporting a whole range of victims across Cheshire.



CASE STUDY

A polish victim and her daughter were assaulted in a racially motivated attack. She was supported by a polish speaking Victim Care Officer who was able to communicate with her in her spoken language in relation to the case and courts system.

Feedback from the victim: *"I found it so easy to talk to you and you made me feel like I wasn't on my own through this though time."*

Almost
36,000
received victims care

Helping victims and offenders repair harm

Remedi, the service I commission to deliver victim led restorative practices in Cheshire, celebrated its first birthday in 2017. In just one year, the service supported 350 victims and offenders to repair harm and find a positive way forward.

In March 2018, Remedi brought together a range of criminal justice partners at an event to understand how restorative justice (RJ) can bring benefits to the wider community and help reduce reoffending. To help with their understanding of the process of RJ, attendees heard from Steph, a victim who was assaulted during a bank robbery, and her attacker, Ian.



CASE STUDY

Steph said: *"I was reluctant at first to take part in RJ, but Remedi walked me through the process and helped me make small steps before my initial meeting with Ian. When we eventually met, Ian accepted full responsibility and answered all of my questions. I now feel like I have my life back, instead of just surviving, and my mental health has greatly improved."*

Ian said: *"I believe that taking part in the restorative justice process was a turning point in my life. I had never taken my victim's feelings into consideration before. I was pleased that I could answer Steph's questions and offer an apology."*

Supporting **350**
victims to find a positive
way forward



Support for victim focused projects



Support victims and
protect the vulnerable

Support victims and
protect the vulnerable



White Ribbon status

As part of my commitment as your Commissioner to tackle domestic violence, my office achieved White Ribbon status in 2017. The White Ribbon campaign aims to end male violence against women. I am now an ambassador for the White Ribbon campaign; that means I've committed to promoting the message to other men that committing violence against women is totally unacceptable. Protecting the public, particularly those who are most vulnerable, is one of the most important responsibilities that is placed on my team and Cheshire Constabulary. As part of the accreditation, my team has received resources to encourage victims of domestic violence to take action and report domestic abuse.

Support for victims of domestic abuse

Following a successful pilot in Halton, the Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) scheme was rolled out across the whole of Cheshire this year. IDVAs work with police officers as part of domestic abuse early intervention, assessing incidents reported to the police and carrying out follow-up visits to victims. Having the courage to speak out about this terrible crime is a very brave thing to do and this scheme provides crucial support, advice and understanding at a time when victims need it most. The pilot scheme has been extremely effective, helping dozens of victims in Halton, and I look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of the Cheshire-wide project.

Tackling modern slavery

Modern slavery stems from organised crime and targets some of the most vulnerable people in our society. It is largely a hidden crime coercing adults and children into a range of exploitation including trafficking, forced labour, child slavery and domestic servitude. I have a strong interest in this issue and work with my other Police and Crime Commissioner colleagues to coordinate the response to modern slavery issues both nationally and internationally.

During 2017, I joined the Chief Constable in hosting a conference with local authorities (LAs) across Cheshire to identify how we could all work together to prevent modern slavery and provide greater protection for victims. This culminated in the creation of a two year action plan that sits alongside the Police and Crime Plan to encourage LAs to work with the police to deliver four priorities to tackle this heinous crime.

Anti-stalking unit

Through the Police Transformation Fund, Cheshire Constabulary was one of only three forces in the country to receive funding for an innovative project to protect victims of stalking and manage perpetrators. We have plans to use that funding to develop one of the country's first integrated anti-stalking units, run by police and healthcare professionals to support stalking victims whilst managing the risk caused by perpetrators through a range of interventions. This ground-breaking work will see agencies work together to improve the way incidents are responded to and to tackle the behaviour of perpetrators head on. During its pilot, the clinic will assess cases across Warrington and Halton with the learning applied across the whole of Cheshire and will be up-and-running during summer 2018.



“As Commissioner, I am committed to representing victims and I am continuing to invest heavily into services to support victims across Cheshire.



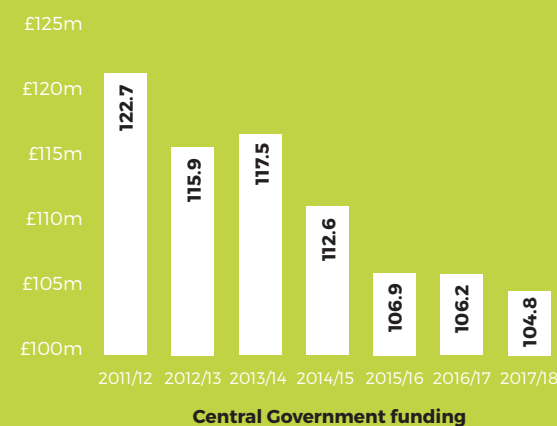
Local police funding for 2017/18

Local police funding continues to be subject to stringent austerity measures implemented by central Government; this has seen the overall policing budget in Cheshire decrease year-on-year since 2010.

It does not sit comfortable with me that the Government has provided no additional funding and is placing the burden of plugging the funding gap upon the council taxpayer of Cheshire, whose household bills are already challenging with increasing prices and stagnant wages for many. In 2017, I wrote an open letter to the Chancellor challenging him to provide fair funding for Cheshire in next year's budget to protect frontline policing. As your elected representative for policing, I will continue to lobby central Government to do more to protect frontline policing to allow officers in Cheshire to respond to the complex challenges we face.

Police budget

Funding from the Home Office to Cheshire Constabulary for the 2017/18 financial year decreased by a further £1.49m compared to 2016/17 grant funding from central Government. When inflation is taken into account, this is a significant reduction in police funding. To address the shortfall in funding, the Government asked Commissioners to consult with the public on a rise to the policing element of council tax. Taking into account the threats and risks facing the county and the investment needed to improve policing for our communities, I undertook a significant consultation with residents and businesses across Cheshire, with 60 per cent of those surveyed supporting a 1.99 per cent increase in the policing percept - the equivalent of £3.21 per year for an average Band D property. This increase in the percept provided an extra £1.16m of funding to support the Chief Constable to put in place the relevant resources to protect the public of Cheshire this year.



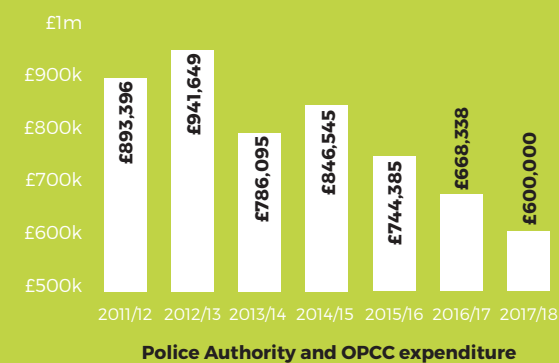
£197m
spent on policing



When taking into account the reduction in funding, plus inflation meant I had to find £5.4 savings in 2017/18. I deeply scrutinised police budgets to ensure front line services were protected and back office functions made more efficient.

My office has also been subject to a significant cost review; efficiencies delivered mean my office has the second lowest cost of all Police and Crime Commissioners nationally. My plans to introduce a number of cost-saving measures in my first year as Commissioner have now come to fruition, including:

- A restructure of my team to ensure all of the posts are relevant to supporting me in my role to set the strategic direction and scrutinise the Constabulary.
- Removing costly staff benefits which weren't necessary to the functioning of the office.
- Relocating my office, saving approx. £50,000 per annum on running costs.

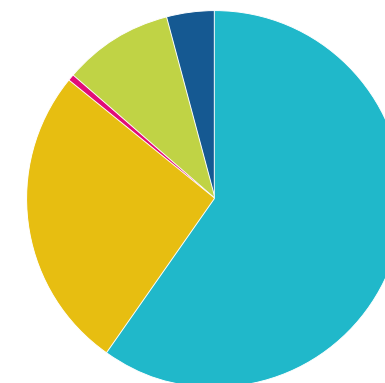


The charts below provide details of funding for policing in Cheshire and an overview of expenditure for 2017/18.

Cheshire Police funding 2017/18

Funding comes from a number of sources with the largest element from central Government as shown.

	Funding £000	
Government Grants	(108,004)	60.0%
Council Tax - Precept	(60,147)	26.3%
Interest on Balances	(56)	0.1%
Specific Grants	(15,488)	9.6%
Service Income	(13,726)	4.1%
	(197,421)	100.0%

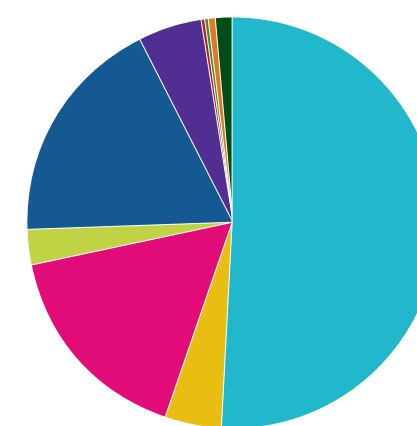


Your Council Tax contributes **26.3%** towards the cost of policing Cheshire, with Government grants, business rates and other income providing the rest.

Cheshire Police Expenditure 2017/18

The below shows the Cheshire Police expenditure for 2017/18 based on the Outturn Report presented to Joint Management Board in June 2018.

	Expenditure £000	%
Police Pay	104,398	51.40%
Local Policing	8,725	4.30%
Force Operations	34,397	16.90%
Centrally Delivered Services	5,428	2.70%
Business Services	36,596	18%
Collaborations	10,288	5.10%
Corporate costs	107	0.10%
Legal and court costs	123	0.10%
OPCC office costs	600	0.30%
OPCC commissioning	2,489	1.20%
	203,151	100%
Corporate Costs and Accounting Adjustments*	4,884	
Transfer to/(from) reserves	847	
Total funding	197,421	





Investing in our people

A police service
fit for the future

A fair wage for all

I am proud that this year I was able to secure 'Living Wage' accreditation. This means that everyone receives a minimum of the independently assessed voluntary hourly wage of £8.75 per hour - a rate that is significantly higher than the statutory minimum for over 25s.

I over saw the insourcing of our cleaning contract to ensure those maintaining our facilities have fair terms and conditions. I am a great believer that hard working people should earn a wage that they can afford to live on and I am challenging the Constabulary to adopt the voluntary 'Living Wage' for its entire workforce in 2018.



Giving something back

My office is supported by a team of dedicated volunteers that give up their free time to help keep Cheshire safe. This year, my team were supported by 45 volunteers in a variety of roles. From making random visits to custody suites to check on the welfare of detainees, auditing

Body worn video

I have agreed to fund the purchase of body worn video (BWV) cameras for all police officers in Cheshire. BWV is an invaluable addition to officers' kit and will improve the effectiveness of policing in Cheshire, helping us to provide a force fit for the future. For the first time, the kit will be used by all frontline officers including local police units, detectives and PCSOs. Previously, only football spotters, firearms officers and Taser officers had access to the equipment. BWV not only increases the chance of prosecution of offenders, saving a great deal of time and money for both Cheshire Police and the courts, it also provides better protection for our officers - capturing assaults on police officers and other people on camera. The roll-out of the kit to all local policing units should be completed by the end of 2018.



calls from the public, observing police activity at protests or demonstrations, visiting police station front desks to carry out audits, ensuring welfare standards are maintained amongst police dogs - all of the roles help inform me whether the Constabulary is upholding the high standards we expect. Quite frankly, I wouldn't be able to do my job without them.



Creating a strong service for the future



A police service
fit for the future

Looking forward

My focus for 2018/19, my third in office, will remain around creating even safer communities through a strong focus on neighbourhood policing.

Protecting our communities in Cheshire will remain at the forefront of my priorities and I will ask the public how our 122 dedicated community PCSOs should spend their working week - this will ensure they are providing the correct support to protect local communities. Further development of the Estates Strategy will ensure all of our police buildings are fit-for-purpose and are delivering in the heart of our local communities.

With such a large proportion of Cheshire residents living in rural areas, I will work closely with the Constabulary on developing a new Rural Crime Strategy that will ensure the Constabulary is putting the right resources in place to deal with the types of crimes that effect remote communities.

As part of my role to hold the Chief Constable to account, I will continue to monitor and scrutinise the Constabulary's performance and how they tackle important issues for local residents, this will include an independent review into how Cheshire Constabulary is meeting its obligations to uphold the laws surrounding fox hunting.

Following a restructure of my team in 2017/18, I will realign my support team to further reduce the overall cost of my office to its low ever level, whilst ensuring I have the best team in place to deliver the best service to the taxpayers of Cheshire.



Collaboration and leadership

Working in partnership and collaborating with other public services is vital to provide the best services that we can, whilst working to our respective strengths and developing preventative approaches.

Along with the Chair of the Fire Authority, I continued to chair the Blue Light Collaboration group between Cheshire Constabulary and Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service to oversee the amalgamation of a number of our back-office service functions. This has led to us sharing facilities, creating a joint headquarters for both services this year.

I have also continued to oversee the growth of our Multi-force Shared Services department as chair of the Joint Oversight Committee to explore options for Cheshire to provide some support functions to other forces nationally. This collaborative approach to working will not only protect staff in support roles, it will also allow me to maximise funding for front line services.

This year, I was elected to lead the North West Joint Oversight Committee which comprises of PCCs and Chief Constables for the six North West police forces. This group allows us to explore collaborative working to ensure our regional policing service delivers the best quality when tackling complex and serious crimes, such as fire arms offences, organised crime groups and cybercrime.

My role of Commissioner has also led me to lead the county's Criminal Justice Board which brings together key partners in the sector across Cheshire to tackle important issues such as women's reoffending.

Cheshire Constabulary top for staff equality

I am proud that the Constabulary was named the top police force in the country for equality by Stonewall in 2018. The national index is an annual audit of workplace culture for the LGBT+ community.

Estates strategy

As part of my Police and Crime Plan, I am continually looking for ways to provide a modern police service that is fit-for-purpose, despite the ongoing financial constraints we face.

Under my Estates Strategy, two of Cheshire's existing police stations - Frodsham and Mickle Trafford in Cheshire West - have been relocated to shared community bases which has increased their accessibility.

Next year, I will conduct a further review of which existing stations may also benefit from this shared services approach.

Independent assessment by

Each year, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) carry out independent assessments of Cheshire Constabulary. This consists of a number of assessments throughout the year providing grading in the areas of police effectiveness, legitimacy and efficiency. In 2017/18, Cheshire Constabulary achieved positive results in all three areas.

The assessments were:



Despite the changing and challenging landscape that policing faces nationally and the resource pressures we're dealing with as a police service, I am delighted to see that HMICFRS has commended the work of the constabulary in a number of key areas that underpin the Police and Crime Plan.

Reducing and preventing crime remains a key priority for the Constabulary, and it is encouraging to see that the Force has been recognised for the measures it has put in place to tackle serious and organised crime in areas identified for improvement in early 2016. This includes tackling the exploitation of young people by criminals travelling from other regions to commit offences, known as 'county lines'.

I am pleased to see that HMICFRS has highlighted the innovative initiatives that have been implemented to build a police Force fit-for-the-future, and one that is ready to tackle the complex issues that modern crime brings.

It is also particularly pleasing that crucial partnership working to support vulnerable people and victims of crime has been commended, including a number of victim support services which I fund.

Whilst overall performance is good, there were also areas of improvement highlighted by HMICFRS. I will continue to monitor the areas identified to ensure, where necessary, that the Acting Chief Constable makes improvements.

Full details of the assessment can be read at HMICFRS Cheshire:

 <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/peel-assessments/peel-2017/cheshire/>

Crime Data Integrity Report

In June 2017, HMICFRS published the findings of its Crime Data Integrity Inspection of Cheshire Constabulary. This found that the Constabulary was performing inadequately in relation to the way it records crime.

As part of this inspection, HMICFRS examined crime reports for the period 1 June 2016 to 30 November 2016 and raised a number of significant concerns regarding crime recording. Over the last year, I have closely and consistently monitored progress against the areas identified for improvement. I'm confident that next year's re-inspections will show a vastly improved position in how the Constabulary records crime.

Holding the Chief Constable to account

It is my responsibility as your elected Police and Crime Commissioner to hold the Chief Constable to account for the running of the force on behalf of the people of Cheshire; effectively making the police answerable to the communities they serve.

As part of my Police and Crime Plan, I set a number of performance measures - linked to my four key priorities - that I use to ensure that the Chief Constable is delivering an efficient and effective police service through constant monitoring of performance and detailed scrutiny.

In 2017/18, we again saw a considerable increase in recorded crime both nationally and across Cheshire, with 32.9 per cent more crimes recorded in the county between April 2017 and March 2018 than the same period the previous year.

This increase can partially be attributed to an improved crime recording process introduced by Cheshire Constabulary following the HMICFRS Crime Data Integrity Inspection, but there has also been an increase in some crimes that we would not expect to be significantly affected by changes to crime recording. This includes an increase in shoplifting, vehicle offences, the possession of offensive weapons and burglary - with all of these crimes on the rise nationally.

While I am pleased that the Constabulary has already put in place successful campaigns to target perpetrators of these types of crimes, I would like to reassure the public that I am constantly monitoring the performance of the Constabulary to ensure it is delivering the best possible police service for our communities.

I have called on the Acting Chief Constable to explain the sharp rise in crime to the residents that she serves at public meetings and I have been consistently monitoring performance and priorities to ensure the Acting Chief Constable puts in place measures to tackle all crimes and keep Cheshire a safe place to live.

The full release of the April 2017 to March 2018 crime statistics from the Office of National Statistics can be accessed below:

 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2018>





01606 364000

Police.crime.commissioner
@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

  @CheshirePCC

**Office of the Police
& Crime Commissioner**

Stockton Heath Police Station
Grappenhall Road
Warrington WA4 2AF

When to call 101

To report less urgent crime or disorder,
to contact the police with general inquiries
or to speak to a local officer. For example:

If your car has been stolen

If your property has been damaged

Reporting a minor traffic incident

Where you suspect drug use or dealing

*Giving police information about crime
in your area.*

Always call 999 in an emergency, where
there is a threat to life or a crime in progress.



David Keane
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire