

### Budget Consultation 2020/21 Summary

#### **Background**

The Police and Crime Commissioner launched his precept consultation on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The consultation ended at midnight on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

The uncertainty around central funding for the forthcoming financial year, caused by a December general election, meant that the Commissioner was unable to provide the public with as much background information as in previous years. Instead, the Commissioner put forward a proposal for a 2.94% increase for the policing portion of council tax (which equates to approximately 50p extra per month for a Band D household). The PCC also included two other scenarios in his consultation. The first was based on a 2% council tax increase (based on the cap that is currently imposed by Government), and the second based on the maximum increase that was allowed for the current financial year (£12/5.54%).

It should be noted that details on the financial settlement for policing were announced on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020, two days before the consultation closed.

#### **Headline results**

A short online survey was provided to enable people to comment on the proposals put forward.

The majority of respondents, **55%** were in support of the precept proposal put forward by the Commissioner. **45%** did not agree with the proposal. Of those who did not agree, only 1% would support an increase to the maximum allowed for in the current financial year of £12/5.54%

#### **Commissioner's response to the comments received**

97 respondents chose to comment on the proposal, 48 comments from people supporting the proposal and 49 from those against the proposal. The comments have been grouped into themes, based on the predominant message in each comment. Further detail is provided in the *Consultation Findings* section below. Rather than annotating each individual comment with the Commissioner's response, a response to each of the main themes is shown below.

**Officer numbers / police visibility / police presence** – After the public asked for more visible policing in their communities, I made a commitment to increase officer numbers up to 2,145 by the end of the financial year. I have delivered more officers than promised, along with a further 93 as a result of investment from Government.

A number of the comments received in the consultation survey show that our communities are starting to see the benefits of this, with the uplift in officers improving the service as more are rolled out across West Mercia.

As recruitment continues, further reviews will take place to ensure that policing models focus resources in the right places and that community visibility is improved as a result of increasing the establishment of officers.

I will continue to hold the Chief Constable to account to ensure police visibility is improved and the positive benefits of additional officers are felt widely across our communities.

**Financial concerns** – I have balanced the drive to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of West Mercia Police in tackling crime with the need to make savings where possible. Therefore, I will only ever ask communities for the lowest possible amount in order to deliver what's needed.

The decision was made to serve notice to end the strategic "Alliance" with Warwickshire Police, in its current form, as it was preventing the delivery of maximum police effectiveness and efficiency. This also allows the communities of West Mercia to remain the priority.

This year's budget reflects that as I wanted to make sure that it delivers on the priorities that matter most to the public. This includes ensuring officers have the resources they need in order to carry out their role, and that investment is focused on the areas that are of concern to communities.

**Resources** - Demand on police forces nationally has increased significantly in recent years. This is due to a number of factors, including improved recording of crime, the emergence of complex types of crime such as cyber-crime and sexual violence, and the demand placed on policing by mental health issues within communities.

However, whilst demand has increased nationwide, the rate of increase in West Mercia is much lower than the national average. Conversely, recorded crime in West Mercia has decreased year on year. We are not immune from the national picture, but we are still a very safe area comparatively.

Despite this, I promised that I would ensure that West Mercia Police has the resources to respond effectively to changing demand and I am committed to continuing the necessary work to reform and modernise the police force to meet these.

**Drugs / County Lines** – Concerns were raised around 'County Lines' and drug use, which I'm aware are blighting communities within West Mercia. The 'County Lines' model involves a group from a large urban area travelling to smaller locations to sell drugs and using local properties as a base for their activities. This is often acquired by exploiting vulnerable adults and young people through coercion, intimidation and violence.

I have developed a Drugs Strategy, taking a whole system approach to tackling the issue. The budget proposals give West Mercia Police the tools and resources they need in order to investigate and bring those responsible to justice. This will also include partnership working through initiatives such as the West Mercia Diversionary

Network. This will provide valuable resources to work with some of our most vulnerable young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime types like this.

### **Consultation summary**

Outlined below is a summary of publicity undertaken, details of the questions asked, findings from the survey and a copy of the comments received.

### **Publicity and media coverage**

A range of communication tools were used to promote the precept consultation to communities across West Mercia. These included:

Holding a Facebook Live public Holding Account Meeting on the budget during the consultation period. This provided the PCC with a more general understanding of public concerns around the police budget

Posting details of what each of the different funding scenarios could mean if implemented on the PCC's website. This included an explanation as to why the consultation was being undertaken in advance of a government announcement on funding.

Social media: The press release and consultation link was shared via the West Mercia PCC Facebook and Twitter pages. A video was also circulated on both channels. Ahead of the live 'Holding to Account' session (held on 20th January), posts highlighted the link and the opportunity for people to get involved in the consultation. It was mentioned again during the 'Holding to Account' session. This video was watched approximately 900 times. The posts were also shared by the West Mercia Police accounts.

Press release/media: The first press release was sent out on 6th January. Another followed about the live 'Holding to Account'. Another was then sent out welcoming the Government settlement announcement. This resulted in coverage in: Shropshire Star, Worcester News, Hereford Times, Ross Gazette, Border Counties, Express and Star, Redditch Standard, Droitwich Standard, BBC Radio Shropshire.

The information was also shared four times on the Community Messaging System (CMS) and through the Neighbourhood Watch groups

### **The consultation survey**

An online survey was used to ascertain views on the Commissioner's precept proposals. The online survey asked either 4 or 5 questions depending upon the answer given to question 1. The survey included one open question enabling respondents to comment on their reasons for either supporting or opposing the proposals. The questions asked were:

**Question 1** – Do you support the proposal to increase the policing element of your Council Tax by 2.94%?

**Question 2** – Only those respondents answering ‘No’ to question 1 then saw an additional question: For what reason do you not support the PCC’s proposals?

There were two options to choose from:

- I support a £12 increase in order to deliver the most possible funding for policing
- I think the increase in Council Tax is too much and would support the 2% cap.

**Question 3** – Please state in which part of West Mercia you pay your Council Tax

**Question 4** – Are you responding on behalf of a business?

**Question 5** – Do you have any other comments?

### Consultation findings

#### Overall response

181 respondents partially or fully completed the survey.

Please note: not everyone answered every question and this is reflected in the results below.

#### Question 1

55% (98) respondents supported the Commissioner’s proposal.

45% (79) respondents were opposed to the Commissioner’s proposals.

#### Question 2

This question was only seen by those respondents not supporting the PCC’s proposal in question 1 and was answered by 71 out of the 79 of the respondents.

- 2 respondents answered by choosing *I support a £12 increase in order to deliver the most possible funding for policing*
- 69 respondents answered by choosing *I think the increase in Council Tax is too much and would support the 2% cap*

#### Question 3

A breakdown of respondents by council tax area is shown below (for those that answered this question)

56% (100) Worcestershire

25% (46) Shropshire

6% (11) Telford and Wrekin

6% (10) Herefordshire

6% (10) Other (this included 9 respondents who said they lived in Warwickshire)

#### Question 4

4 responses were received on behalf of a business.

#### Question 5

97 respondents chose to comment on their reasons for their answer to question one or two.

The word cloud below provides a visualisation of the predominant words from all the comments received.



48 respondents supporting the proposal commented as did 49 of those opposed to the proposal. A summary of all the comments is shown below, grouped by common theme or concern. It should be noted that a number of the comment referred to more than one theme and that there is a degree of subjectivity in the interpretation of each comment.

### Main themes

The main themes arising from the comments were:

**Officer numbers / police visibility / police presence** – 23 respondents made a comment on these issues, 12 supporting the proposals and 11 against. The comments were mixed including from those who had noticed an increase in police numbers through to those who remain concerned about a perceived lack of police presence or action.

**Financial concerns** – 20 people made a finance related comment, many were concerned about the impact on household finances resulting from increases in council tax. How money was spent was also raised by a number of respondents

**Resources** – 12 respondents commented on resources, 8 in support of the PCC's proposals. Their comments included the importance of police staff and vehicles. Of the 4 people opposed the efficient use of resources was the predominant theme.

**Drugs / county lines** – 5 respondents specifically commented on concerns around county lines and another 2 about drug use / cannabis. Drugs were also touched on in a number of other comments not included in this section

**Other Crime and community safety issues** – other specific issues raised included vulnerability (2), road safety (2), rural crime (4)

**General support** – a number of those supporting the proposals just left a positive comment which did not align with any of the main themes.

**Comments on the government / PCC** – 11 people commented on either the government's approach to the police funding (5) or on the PCC, his role, actions and decisions.

**Miscellaneous comments** – a number of respondents both for and against the proposals left a comment which does not directly fit into the above themes. This included comments on the alliance and the Regional Organised Crime Unit.

### **Social media comments**

All social media platforms are monitored and where appropriate comments on the precept have been responded to, however the 'instant' nature of this media means it is not practical to include them in this report.

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<b>SUPPORT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>RESPONDENT COMMENT</b>
<b>Theme:</b>	<b>Police No's / Police Visibility / Police Presence</b>
Yes	There is very little sign of any of the new officers on the streets, there is a perceived lack of officers preventing crime
Yes	More officers please
Yes	Don't neglect the far fringes of Worcestershire especially Rubery and neighbourhood watch
Yes	Your efforts are noticeably visible on the streets. Thank you!
Yes	Local police are needed , people feel reassured by seeing local police.
Yes	We definitely need more officers, not back to 2012 levels but far beyond that!
Yes	A visible responsive police force is vital.
Yes	We I rural Shropshire need a police presence, not 30 miles away, thieves are pinching anything that moves here.
Yes	More police needed on foot and seen by residents in out of City areas. Getting to know local characters and people and picking up on local gossip/buzz,
Yes	As long as the money is actually used to deliver a noticeable reduction in crime and a visible increase in police presence - I would happily pay 10 times this.
Yes	Support Officers work hard. Real action on bad driving and parking infringements is needed. I live near Hollywood Lane and Houndsfield Lane Cross Roads and we need active speed and traffic management to reduce crashes which happen far too frequently. There has been a decrease in house burglary and continued vigilance is necessary. Antisocial behaviour may not be dangerous but it needs attention.
Yes	I often hear residents complaining that Police Officers have not turned up when a burglary has been committed or when there's been a minor accident. My logical interpretation of this is insufficient manpower, hence I support any initiative to increase the number of officers and I welcome the extra 215, plus the extra 93 by April next year. Basically, if we want more Police we may have to pay a little towards it, hence I fully support the 2.94% increase you're proposing.
No	In Market Drayton the crime and drug issues are horrendous yet the police presence is zero. I wouldn't pay a penny extra for other towns to have the services we should get.
No	I would support an increase if I thought it would increase the number of officers in Worcester actually tackling crime. I believe that the police have given up on Worcester and aren't interested in enforcing the law any more so there is no point wasting any more money on then.
No	All I have seen and experienced for the past years is less service for my money, I myself and neighbours have witnessed and provided registration numbers of vehicles collecting drugs in broad daylight we have reported this and absolutely nothing has happened, not surprisingly people in general have no respect for the police and authority in general, all I ever see is police driving around in top of the range cars achieving absolutely nothing.
No	Would it be possible for the Police to have a visible presence?
No	We do not get enough police patrols in the area and would welcome more. We are the forgotten area and would not support an increase just to have moire officers in Worcester town centre

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SUPPORT PROPOSAL	RESPONDENT COMMENT
No	I live in a small town Cleobury Mortimer and have seen very little police around . We pay here more than people in Coventry who have a very active police force who you see in many capacities- how is it fair that I pay more and have no local police ???
No	We no longer have a Police presence in our village! Having had to request the 999 service recently, it would seem the nearest Officer was Bridgnorth!! It was a icy dark morning and an awful drive for them and an even longer wait for a 61 year old woman! There have been numerous incidents in the past months here and we should have a presence. I could go on and on.....
No	WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE POLICE IN FAIRFIELD
No	Wythall has been left without any support; we have drug dealing, shops raided on a regular basis, vandalism. Also the tax/rate payer is required to fund a PCC with I understand expenses.
No	I believe we pay enough on our council tax as it is. I do agree we need more police as we had to wait over 5 hours for a police officer to attend our property after being burgled but as the government cut costs why the public have to pay more think it's disgusting
No	There are no police around when you call them to report crime they have no one to send
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Financial concerns</b>
Yes	I would like proof the funds are spent within the force, and what they are spent on.
Yes	The amount we pay in council tax for the police, is relatively small, is invisible to us for the most part and is frankly not an issue. It was a huge mistake to freeze the council tax and hurt your funding when you did, please raise the council tax as much as you can and then show us the return on our investment. We have faith in you, but you and the police need cash.
Yes	Support of increase is dependent on increases in Council Tax from other organisations (eg County Council social care will increase). Too many at too high a rate and what may start as a £2 for my council tax band increase becomes more and starts to impact on my finances more significantly. However I do appreciate that if we want good services and the government doesn't have the funds, money is needed from somewhere.
No	save money in other ways, buy less expensive vehicles, do more things in house, just take charge of the money you have and don't waste it.
No	I commend the commissioner's efficiency achievements, but cannot support above inflation budget increases, where these exceed gdp growth.
No	The highest increase on my council tax every year is the police portion but I am not seeing any evidence in Worcester of the additional spending. It feels like Mr Campion is not spending my money wisely so I see no reason to give him more than the government cap.
No	Council tax payers are an easy target for tax increases. Police (and others) should live within their means, like ordinary folk!
No	Services are diabolical As a single household it is a disgrace that I only get 25% reduction when considering my minimal impact on council services
No	Police smarter rather than expecting to money to solve your inadequacies. If you were targeting the right issues to make the society a happier, better, safer place to exist rather than the soft and easy targets, I would be prepared to pay more (considerably more). As with all state run operations including the NHS, it is a farcical money pit. Don't bother recruiting 20,000 police officers, if they are just going to be more brain dead, overpaid numbskulls. Council tax is already a rip off!



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<b>SUPPORT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>RESPONDENT COMMENT</b>
No	I am a pensioner and my increase does not support the large increases yourself and the Councils are imposing upon us , I have to have enough left to afford to live a reasonable life
No	The police are receiving additional central government funding and have no justification for seeking additional local funding. Perhaps Champion could cease employing his former campaign manager to save money.
No	I think a lot more could be achieved with the funds that the police receive, but then it's always easy spending other people's money. More needs to be done with the funds that are available, they need to be spent more wisely. Why do the police travel to Morrisons supermarket in Wellington for breakfast, in police cars, that costs the force money, when I worked I had my breaks at my workplace. If they had been more proactive with info given, so many charity shops would not have been burgled.
No	What has to be understood is that tax payers also do not have infinite resources. With 9% last year and a fully funded Force then the raise should only be at the 2% cap or less. Council tax is a tax that has no soul it is not based on ability to pay. It needs reform otherwise it runs the risks that took place with the poll tax disaster.
No	It can't keep increasing, sometimes it's about maintaining the status quo and looking for in house cost savings
No	I can't support the increase as I don;t know what we are getting for it. The proposal is spend more money not achieve more outcomes. Not all spending delivers positive outcomes. I may support a higher increase - just depends what you are proposing to do for it.
No	I don't feel police workers do enough to work to solve crime and lock up criminals in North Shropshire. Especially tool thefts and vehicle thefts. Out of £10,000 income I already pay over £1000 in council tax and have to self-police my area, using my time, effort and fuel.
No	We do not feel that this is the right time to increase our Council tax for Police services yet again. It seems we are being targeted for more money without receiving the benefits.
No	Living on a pension More than a 2% rise with all other increased costs with gas electric etc would impact on our house hold budget
No	The increase in police funding should come from the government. The cost of my council tax is one months wages, how depressing is that I work a month of my life every year just to pay this tax. I live on my own and the only services I use are lighting, bin collection of which I have to pay extra for. I would like to say maintenance of pathways etc but they are not maintained. Where is the increase going? I see NO improvements year on year. If increased it should be clear where this money is going.
No	How much money was wasted merging with Warwickshire and then separating from this arrangement? How much will the unnecessary take over of the fire service cost? These costs need to be looked at and justified before asking for a larger contribution from the Council Tax. Perhaps the figures should be published so the public are fully aware of how the money is being spent.
<b>Theme:</b>	<b>General support</b>
Yes	I congratulate the PCC for his ongoing professionalism in genuinely listening to the concerns of those who live within West Mercia and his proactive approach in addressing these concerns. I fully endorse the proposed increases.
Yes	The Commissioner is doing an excellent job. He works very hard and is excellent :-)
Yes	I fully support this budget approach

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<b>SUPPORT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>RESPONDENT COMMENT</b>
Yes	Mr John Campion a great professional and a good person. I trust his plans.
Yes	I live in a rural area and in the last 12 months our Parish Council has hosted visits from the Rural Crime Officer (Mick Simpson) and Bob Haynes (Senior Police Traffic Advisor). This level of interest and advice by the Police is unprecedented - and very much welcomed. I fully support the proposal to increase the policing element of my Council Tax by 2.94%.
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Yes	Police staff are also essential to the service. It's easy to grab media headlines by announcing more police officers but there are a lot of civilian operational and public facing staff that are cut time and time again but aren't considered vote winners. New regulations under ISO 17020 is crippling Forensic Services with the current level of staffing. Business decisions should not always be about popularity. The service being provided is not good enough and consumed by auditing and regulation.
Yes	Can you please invest in more marked vehicles so that new (& existing) officers can actually get out of the station.
Yes	Happy to support but only if this means better response times. Last few times at work when I e called 999 police I have been put on hold
Yes	Please keep funding our community policing. They do a great job.
Yes	A modest increase is acceptable, as long as promises are delivered by government and new officers are focussed on the biggest frontline issues.
Yes	There is a need to have more proactive policing to prevent crime and to assist those on the cusp of a criminal career. This will pay dividends in the long-term. Judicious investment in the Police and Justice service is needed now and I heartily support the modest uplift in proposed funding.
Yes	Increase should support recruitment and reestablishment of previous resources to tackle community crime, eg more officers on the beat, street lighting kept on in all areas, expansion of CCTV
Yes	The Police are clearly underfunded and the Wythall area doesn't have a great deal of resource. The officers who do cover the area do a great job, however criminals from the West Mids force area cross the border to undertake car key burglary etc. hence need for great resources / money.
No	The policing element of the average council tax bill is relatively low and if a 5.54% increase equates to £12 a year then the PCC should consider an uplift over and above that proposed. An additional £1 a month for the provision of a police service that has sufficient capacity and resources to be as effective as possible is supported.
No	Employ proper police officers and get rid of pc so's.
No	The police waste enough money and are behind the times. I fully support the police but after seeing it all first hand, for example the amount of overtime officers were paid during the Athena project. I have had enough now and will be looking to share more details about the wastefulness of the police (NOT police OFFICERS) and how the PCC uses the CC as a scapegoat. Disgraceful.
No	Remove the dreadful Athena system to free Officers from the stress, wasted time and bureaucracy it creates. This is the single worst thing that has ever happened to West Mercia. The money wasted on this system would have plugged any funding gaps.

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<b>SUPPORT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>RESPONDENT COMMENT</b>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Rural crime</b>
Yes	Concentrate on getting policing in rural areas better. leave our already well performing and cost effective fire service alone. Perhaps you could look at how the fire service provide a very cost effective and efficient service in rural areas by the use of retained or on call fire fighters and introduce a similar type of response for the police.
Yes	We trust that rural crime will be given some attention e.g. Machinery theft
Yes	I have been helping XXX to set up a Rural Crime Watch WhatsApp in South Worcestershire with my many contacts through our Farmers Fallen Stock business at the kennels in Broadway. It is working so well in Gloucestershire, hopefully it will do the same for South Worcestershire.
No	I am disappointed in the police force in my area, the response time, and their upholding of the law in relation to rural crime, in particular fox hunting. It is blatantly obvious from reports that the constabulary appear to ignore cries for help from the public to stop the local hunts continuing to chase and kill foxes in Shropshire. Why is this. I presumed that the Law passed in 2004 covered all areas of the country, and was to be upheld by ALL police forces ?
<b>Theme</b>	<b>County lines /drugs</b>
Yes	Having had a "drugs den" set up in a house in ny close last year, I am so grateful for the help and action taken by the local neighbourhood team in getting it closed down.
Yes	We need more focus on "county lines" drug dealing and online crime such as fraud.
Yes	The PCC is doing an excellent job and clearly establishing an overall strategy to reduce crime. Need sufficient resources to counter County drug lines.
Yes	Organized Drug trafficking is one of the biggest threats to our youth (under 18) in county towns and rural areas. The Police need to enlarge its anti-drug squad focusing on education and prevention as much a response to a crime committed.
Yes	Increase local support of Neighbourhood Watch. Improve confidence in the reporting and actions regarding to drug use. (Local communities regularly witness and are aware of drug dealing, but don't feel that action is taken when dialling 101). A dedicated, anonymous line of communication to report would be most useful.
No	There needs to be more work done on drugs, weapons being carried by youths and fighting county lines
No	Yes. Ensure there are far more criminal convictions for cannabis. Cannabis use has gone up, and the number of prosecutions has gone down. Stop the Police warnings, Ensure prosecutions! "Cannabis possession offences have dropped up to 75 per cent in 10 years, as MPs have accused police of decriminalising the drug." [News from April 2019 - and it's getting much worse]
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Vulnerability</b>
Yes	I would like to see the extra funds invested in supporting policing to the most vulnerable.
Yes	Officers are increasingly been expected to assist in mental health issues, consultations with local health services are urgently required to set up mental health first responders to allow police to hand over complex cases early on so they can get back to policing duties.
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Roads safety</b>

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SUPPORT PROPOSAL	RESPONDENT COMMENT
Yes	If the council committed more of their money to Road safety we wouldn't have to give it to the police
Yes	I would like to see more road traffic enforcement. I don't know where the money goes from speeding or other traffic offences but if you spent a week in Bransford which has some fast and bad driving I reckon that would fund a large part of your finances. Also it is not police action but the punishment the courts don't impose. No deterrent.
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central government / political</b>
Yes	Yes! Please do not state that there will be 20,000 more Police Officers when Tories took more than that out of the force. You are insulting my intelligence. Tories are ruining this wonderful country. Traitors!
Yes	The Police need more support and backing from Central Government now more than ever before .
No	I'd gladly pay it, if the money went direct to the police and was pledged forever, however I don't believe the government will continue to give the money to the police and it will only be a matter of time before the "extra funding" stops and our council tax continues to rise!! The government has enough money to support a decent police force they just need to put the money where it's needed and get all these huge multi national businesses to pay their share of tax!
No	The Government should stop cutting direct taxes and should instead spend more money centrally on the public sector. This is a Tory stealth tax. If the Tories had not cut public services you would not now need such a huge increase. Furthermore, I see little if any value of having a PCC and suggest this post and others associated with it be cut and the money saved put directly into policing locally.
No	It is commendable officer numbers are now the highest since 2012, but if the government is to fund a further 93 then cost increases should be limited to 2% for 2020-21 and reviewed next year when effective central government should be operating.
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Comment on PCC role, actions and decisions</b>
No	IS THE INCREASE TO COVER THE MONEY WASTED BY OUR PCC SETTING UP AN ALLIANCE ONLY TO BREAK IT AND FACING AN (UNDISCLOSED) BREXIT STYLE DIVORCE SETTLEMENT. ALSO WILL THE PCC BY GIVING HALF HIS SALARY BACK NOW HE IS ONLY PART TIME AS HAS TIME TO MESS UP THE FIRE SERVICE ALSO QUESTIONS ARE VERY CLOSED AND MISLEADING TO GET YOU YOUR DESIRED RESULT, I DONT SUPPORT ANY INCREASE
No	The PCC seems quite happy to waste countless funds on abortive mergers and reorganisations so instead of asking me to pay for his profligacy with public funds maybe he can focus his mind on achieving his stated aims with the money which paid for these abortive and wasteful campaigns.
No	You ask whether the increase is acceptable, so NO is my answer then you ask why, with answers including £12 increase or 2% cap. Rather than manipulating the results of your survey, to force a positive response to justify a rise, realise that you are only in the position you are because of the people of West Mercia, even then the West Mercia turnout was only 20.67%. Either respect the office, and make a fair survey that doesn't lead respondents, or respectfully stand down at the next election.
No	I have no confidence that Campion will manage the current budget, as demonstrated by appointment of his campaign manager and the issues of selling the AB1 plate. He is also getting funds from central government for expansion of the force so stop asking more money locally.

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<b>SUPPORT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>RESPONDENT COMMENT</b>
No	Remove the police commissioner role and all the associated administrative costs. Put the funds back in the hands of the professional police chiefs and let them do the job they have trained for
No	Stop talking about what your going to be doing cos your not doing it up here on Cleve Hill. More dead sheep, more livelihoods damaged. You did nothing but waffle in the village hall!!! Some and I say money towards a sign isn't going to cut it up here!!!
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>
<b>Yes</b>	An increase is only acceptable if it results in visible outcomes. Concerns in my community are around county lines drug dealing, lack of police response to crime, withdrawal of CCTV monitoring, car theft, and other "low level " crime. People have lost faith in most institutions. A rise in contribution without clear results which impact on our community would not be welcome.
Yes	Get out of the ROCU, it's a mess, costs a fortune and delivers little for West Mercia. The PCC should start asking serious questions about the effectiveness of the Chief Constable. There are better leaders out there and his risk adverse attitude is impacting in police officers trying to do their jobs. Get someone with a bit of charisma who can bring morale up. You will see the benefit.
Yes	You say you have made the lowest increase, % agewise, precept nationwide, does that include last year which was 9.9%
Yes	Are we still policed by West Mercia Police? I thought that Warwickshire had become independent again.
Yes	Not sure if Warwickshire is covered by West Mercia?
No	I have no confidence in WMP
No	You need to retain current officers. Not recruit more who will realise the job is not great. Then they will follow to MDP, BTP and CNC. Or maybe become train drivers.
No	Why do your officers need bmw cars to ride around in. When my business was broken into it took two days to come out the person was on cctv but you couldn't be bothered to come and take finger prints and nothing more was done about it so no I don't agree to any increase and all these new officers you don't see any more about than before your about as much use as a chocolate teapot
No	Wasted Money on joining with WARKS Police Force"