



Wednesday 19 December 2018

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
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**Philip Seccombe TD**  
Police and Crime Commissioner

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To all Parish Councils,  
via WALC

Dear Councillors,

This week I have begun consulting the public on the Police Precept, as I begin the process of setting the 2019/20 budget for Warwickshire Police. In my proposals I set out the case for increasing the number of police officers, community support officers and police staff investigators in the county by up to 100, in order to meet rising levels of demand and to provide a better service to local communities.

This will build on the Police Precept I set last year, which has allowed for the investment in 50 frontline police officer posts in Warwickshire. These are now in the active stages of recruitment and will be ready to police our streets over the course of the coming months.

The Precept consultation follows the Government's annual funding settlement announcement for policing on 13th December, which has given PCCs flexibility to raise their precept by up to £2 per month on a Band D property for 2019/20.

The Government has also provided some welcome additional funding for policing this year, but this alone will not deliver enough resources to be able to make the substantial increase in officer numbers that I believe is required here in Warwickshire, nor would it fully allow for the investments in IT, equipment and estates that are badly needed in order to improve the quality of service given the public.

Doing nothing to change this situation is not an option that in my view is either sustainable or desirable, which is why I am consulting on increasing the Police Precept for 2019/20.

At the maximum permitted level, this would deliver improved capacity for urban and rural policing, through the funding of 85 new police officer posts, five new police community support officers and an additional 10 police staff investigators.

Options for smaller increases of £1.50 per month and £1 per month (at Band D) are also being consulted upon, but these would see fewer new officers posts created and no new PCSOs or police investigators appointed.

I understand that any proposals to raise Council Tax cause concern, so I am very keen to get the public's views on which of these options is the most preferable.

I want to get as wide a feedback as possible and am therefore writing to you as an elected member within Warwickshire to invite you to both complete the online survey and also to seek your support in helping to publicise it within your local ward.

The opinions gathered by the consultation survey will help influence my final decision on next year's budget, which will be set in early February.

You can give your feedback online at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WarksPrecept19-20](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WarksPrecept19-20). The consultation will be open until Tuesday, January 24, 2019.

I look forward to receiving your responses.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Seccombe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a stylized 'S'.

**Philip Seccombe TD**  
Police and Crime Commissioner