

**24**  
additional Officers  
for just 23p\* a week

Our priority is to ensure that the Chief Constable has the resources needed to police Bedfordshire and Luton effectively

Peter Conniff, Chair  
Bedfordshire Police Authority

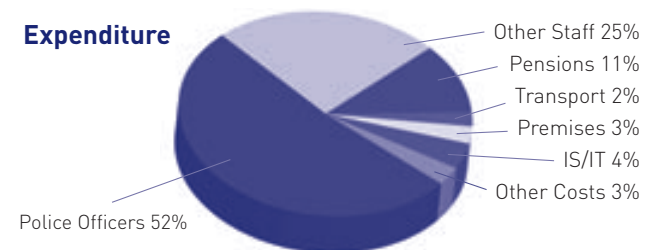
\*based on a Band D property.

Working with the community  
to build a safer Bedfordshire

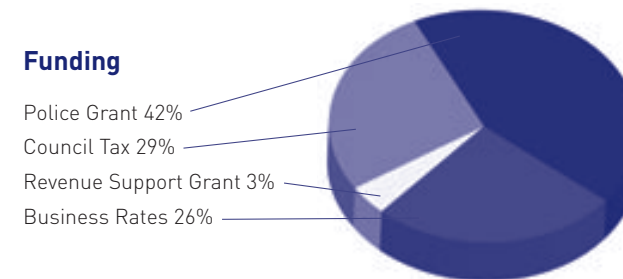


## Expenditure and Funding Charts

### Expenditure



### Funding



The Police Authority element of your overall Council Tax bill is approximately 9%, with the remaining 91% being used to provide you with other local services.

The average\* cost per household for policing is £135.28 per annum, but varies depending on the banding of your particular property, as shown below:

	£
<b>Band A</b>	<b>90.19</b>
<b>Band B</b>	<b>105.22</b>
<b>Band C</b>	<b>120.25</b>
<b>Band D*</b>	<b>135.28</b>
<b>Band E</b>	<b>165.34</b>
<b>Band F</b>	<b>195.40</b>
<b>Band G</b>	<b>225.47</b>
<b>Band H</b>	<b>270.56</b>

This means that for a Band D property (the average) the amount of Council Tax which goes towards policing is around 37p per day.

## The Budget

Having considered the funding issues and the key priorities, the Authority approved a one-off investment in the force and set a budget of £96.056M, a 5.3% increase on the 2007/08 budget of £91.229M.

This leaflet is for information only - it is not a demand for payment.

This, alongside savings of over £1M, will provide for an additional 24 Officers, taking the total to 1,274, the highest level in Bedfordshire Police's history, allowing for an increased police presence in areas such as Prolific and Persistent Offender Management; Rape Investigation; Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable People.

Through investment in technology and further collaboration arrangements with other forces, the Authority will seek to achieve the Government's target of 9.3% efficiency/productivity savings by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011. The Authority anticipates savings of this nature in 2008/09 will equate to approximately 3.5% and is therefore well on its way to achieving these targets.

In funding the revenue budget of £96.056M the Government provides £68.508M (71%), with the remaining £27.548M (29%) coming from the locally raised Council Tax.

## Capital Expenditure

The Police Authority has agreed a three-year capital programme totalling some £26M with the key component being the replacement of Greyfriars Police Station in Bedford, which will be replaced as part of the Bedford Town Centre redevelopment. However, the programme will still provide for major IT systems in relation to mobile data and the management of police information as well as improving the communications infrastructure of the force.

5 The role of the PCSO is to provide high visibility policing and engage with local people. They assist the safer Neighbourhood Teams, enhancing public confidence and addressing anti-social behaviour. Overall, the PCSO should provide a reassuring and confidence-building presence in their community. Do you agree that in general the role of the PCSO brings a reassuring presence to your local area? (Tick ✓ one box only)

I strongly believe that PCSOs are a reassuring presence in my area

I believe that PCSOs are a reassuring presence in my area

I am unsure of whether PCSOs are a reassuring presence in my area

I disagree that PCSOs are a reassuring presence in my area

I strongly disagree that PCSOs are a reassuring presence in my area

## About you

Are you male / female? *(delete as appropriate)*

Are you? *(please tick box)*

16-25  26-35  36-50  51-65  65+

Are you registered Disabled? Yes / No

Please state your ethnic origin .....

I live in a Band ..... property

To reply simply detach this section and return it to us free of charge using the Freepost address:

*(This survey is also available online. Please reply before April 30th 2008)*

**Bedfordshire Police Authority**  
FREEPOST ANG 5778  
Bridgebury House, Woburn Road  
Kempston, Bedford  
MK43 9ZD





# Cutting Crime Costs

The Police Authority has responsibility for ensuring an efficient and effective police service for Bedfordshire and Luton and this year it faced some difficult decisions when setting the budget for 2008-2009.



Since 2006/07 its Government funding has been reduced by approximately £4.0M per year which has inevitably affected police performance, leading to the disappointing report on Bedfordshire Police published by HMIC last year.

In addition, the policing precept set by the Authority is one of the lowest in the country. Therefore the Authority decided to increase this, the only flexible part of its funding, to redress the balance and provide the resources necessary to improve police performance.



# The Priorities

We know that people want a visible and responsive police service and our budget this year will give the Chief Constable more resources with greater capacity to deliver this service.

The Authority has set a number of key priorities for the force that will ensure an enhanced and improved delivery of core services, based on what you have told us is of most importance to you and targets set by the Government.

### Bedfordshire Police will aim to:

- Provide a visible and accessible local policing service, working with communities to identify and solve local problems
- Provide a timely and quality response to calls for service
- Prevent, reduce and investigate burglary, robbery, vehicle crime and other volume crimes
- Protect the public from violent crime, organised crime and terrorism

More information can be found in the Annual Policing Plan and Three Year Strategic Plan at: [www.bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk)



# Your Views

Between December 2007 and January 2008 the Authority conducted a survey of local residents to find out how they felt about the policing service they received and whether or not they would be willing to pay more for policing.

The majority of those consulted were pleased with the level of service provided and were prepared to pay more for an enhanced level of service.

## About the Police Authority

Bedfordshire Police Authority is an independent body. Its responsibilities include monitoring force performance, setting the budget and identifying which policing issues most concern local people.

If you would like further information about the Police Authority please visit our web-site at [www.bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk)

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This leaflet is available in different languages or formats on request. Please telephone: **01234 842066.**

Bedfordshire Police Authority is committed to equality and diversity in every aspect of its business.

# Your thoughts please

Please spare a minute or two to answer these questions about policing where you live.

Neighbourhood Policing provides a dedicated and visible service designed to tackle local problems in your area. For more information on Neighbourhood Policing please look on the Bedfordshire Police website, [www.bedfordshire.police.uk](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk)

1 Are you aware of a Neighbourhood Policing Team in your local area? Please tick ✓ one box only.

Yes  No  Don't Know

2 Do you know any of the local Police Officers or Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) that patrol your local neighbourhood by name or sight? Please tick ✓ one box only.

Yes  by name only Yes  by sight only Yes  by both name and sight No

3 Do you know how to contact any of the local Police Officers or PCSOs that patrol your local neighbourhood? Please tick ✓ one box only.

Yes  by phone only Yes  e-mail only Yes  phone and e-mail Yes  other (please specify) No

4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Please tick ✓ one box only.

*My local Neighbourhood Police are working effectively with people in the community to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.*

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree   
Strongly disagree  Don't know