

3. How much of a 'good job' do you feel the police are doing in your local area?

- Very good job
- Fairly good job
- Neither
- Not a very good job
- Not a good job at all



4. How confident are you in Bedfordshire Police?

- Very confident
- Fairly confident
- Not very confident
- Not at all confident



5. Do you think that, at £2.70 (the average) per week, policing in Bedfordshire represents good value for money?

- Very good value
- Fairly good value
- Not very good value
- Don't know



About you

• I am male / female (please delete as appropriate)

• I am (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 below or complete online at: www.bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk

Please reply before April 30th 2009

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



Finance Information

The budget for 2009-10 takes into account the responses to our consultation and the need to sustain the improvements in performance made following the 'one-off' investment that local taxpayers supported last year.

The key focus has been to maintain officer numbers; enable improvements in areas of Serious and Organised Crime; and provide the resources for further developments in Neighbourhood Policing.

These points have been considered against the current economic climate and the need to keep any Council Tax increase to a minimum, whilst providing the taxpayer with the very best service possible.

A commitment to achieving improved productivity from the resources available and therefore better value for money will see further work to modernise the workforce and reduce bureaucracy during 2009-10. This will help the Authority to achieve efficiency savings of £10.5M by 31 March 2011.

Taking all these points into account the revenue budget for 2009-10 has therefore been set at £99.507M, an increase of £3.451M over last year. The Government provides £70.754M (71%) of the total amount, with the remaining £28.753M (29%) coming from the locally raised Council Tax.

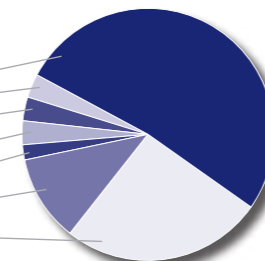
This means that the amount of Council Tax that you will pay towards policing this year for a Band D (the average) property will be £140.56 a year, an increase of 3.9% (£5.28) a year or approximately 10p per week. Therefore the total amount a Band D household will pay for policing is just £2.70 per week.

Approximately 8% of your total Council Tax bill goes towards policing. The rest goes to pay for other local services.

Expenditure and Funding Charts

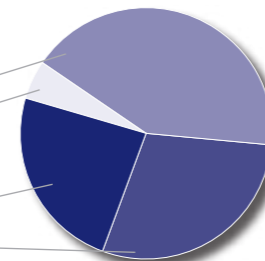
Expenditure

Police Officers 52%
Premises 3%
IS/IT 3%
Other Costs 3%
Transport 2%
Pensions 11%
Other Staff 26%



Funding

Police Grant 42%
Revenue Support Grant 5%
Business Rates 24%
Council Tax 29%



The average* cost per household for policing is £140.56 per annum but varies depending on the banding of your particular property, as shown:

Band A	93.71
Band B	109.32
Band C	124.94
Band D*	140.56
Band E	171.80
Band F	203.03
Band G	234.27
Band H	281.12

Capital Expenditure

The Police Authority agreed a three-year capital programme totalling £28.4M which incorporates the provision to replace Greyfriars Police Station in Bedford. It also provides significant investment into the use of Information Technology to deliver a more effective and visible police service.

Council Tax Information 2009-2010

Bedfordshire Police Authority aims to be an organisation that inspires trust and confidence, that listens, responds and meets the needs of individuals and communities.

“Our focus in setting the budget this year has been to protect the investment in policing made last year and maintain frontline police officer numbers.”

Peter Conniff
Chair, Bedfordshire Police Authority



Delivering Results

The Police Authority has responsibility for ensuring an efficient and effective police service for Bedfordshire and Luton. Last year we asked local taxpayers to support us with a 'one off' investment to provide the resources necessary to improve police performance.

Thanks to this investment:

- Safer Neighbourhood Teams are firmly embedded in local communities
- The number of crimes detected has improved significantly
- Overall crime is falling month on month
- Specialist officers are in place in the Force's Public Protection Unit.

In the coming year we will continue to focus on the areas that are most important to local taxpayers and keeping people safe with a resilient, robust police service.

A Visibly Better Service

Like you, the Authority wants to see a visible and responsive police service. To ensure that our Safer Neighbourhood Teams remain firmly in the public eye, we have made a commitment to keeping these teams fully staffed. This has been helped by our collaboration work with neighbouring Forces, which has reduced significantly the number of officers taken away from their normal duties to work on major crimes. We will continue to develop collaboration opportunities for future efficiencies.

Getting the Priorities Right

Work to ensure continuous improvement in all areas of performance will not stop. However, this year the Authority has asked the Force to focus on two major strands of police work, based on what you have said is most important to you.

Neighbourhood Policing

(including tackling anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, specific local priorities and visible patrols)

Protective Services

(including asset recovery, reducing road casualties, child protection, domestic violence, major crime and counter-terrorism)



Policing Pledge

The recently introduced Policing Pledge is not a target. It is designed to set out the quality of service people can expect to receive from Bedfordshire Police.

It includes answering calls promptly, giving the public a say over how their neighbourhoods are policed, providing up to date details about local crime and improving the ways in which a victim of crime is treated and supported.

By aspiring to meet the ten core strands of the Pledge, we will strive to make Bedfordshire an even better place to live.

The full Pledge can be viewed at:
www.bedfordshire.police.uk



What you said

Earlier this year we asked people for their views about police service delivery, local crime and whether or not they feel a small increase in the amount paid towards policing is reasonable.

The majority of people who responded to our consultation said that:

- 1 An increase of 8-13p per week was reasonable
- 2 They would be concerned to see a decrease in officer numbers
- 3 They agreed that work should focus on Neighbourhood Policing and Protective Services

About the Police Authority

Bedfordshire Police Authority is an independent organisation. Its responsibilities include monitoring Force performance, setting the budget and identifying what 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

Bedfordshire Police Authority
Bridgebury House, Woburn Road
Kempston
Bedford MK43 9AX



Tel: 01234 842066 Fax: 01234 842068
info@bedfordshirepoliceauthority.co.uk

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

Please spare a minute or two to answer these questions about local policing.

Your thoughts please

1. Are you aware of your local police Safer Neighbourhood Team and how to contact them?

- I am aware and know how to contact them
- I am aware but do not know how to contact them
- I am not aware of my Safer Neighbourhood Team

2.	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Neither	Fairly Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
How satisfied are you that police in your neighbourhood...					
Can be relied on to be there when you need them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treat everyone fairly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Would treat you with respect if you had contact with them for any reason?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understand issues that affect your neighbourhood?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deal with issues that affect your neighbourhood?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can be relied upon to deal with minor crimes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

see overleaf for more questions