

# Your policing contribution

# What you need to know

# What is council tax

Council tax is a property-based charge for domestic properties which helps to pay for local services in your area. The council tax year runs from 1st April - 31st March and the price you pay depends on what band property you live in.

To find out what band property you are visit: https://www.gov.uk/council-tax

# What is the police precept 🌍

Police Precept is the amount you pay as part of your council tax and is used towards paying for local policing services. On your council tax notice it will be marked as a payment for the 'Police and Crime Commissioner', who is responsible for setting the budget for the police. Households in South Wales currently pay amongst the lowest for policing in Wales.

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## Who is the Police and Crime Commissioner



Alun Michael is the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales. The role of the Commissioner is to be the voice of the public, to set the priorities for the police and to hold them to account. The Commissioner's aim is to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service in your area. The Commissioner receives all government grants and council tax precept payments and allocates the police budget in consultation with the Chief Constable.



#### Why do I need to pay towards policing 🕜

The decision on how policing is paid for is taken by Central Government, with a split between the Police Grant which comes from the Home Office and funds raised locally through the Council Tax system. The Police Grant provides most of the money but has been slashed by a third in recent years, so maintaining resources to keep our communities safe becomes ever more challenging each year. The government is increasingly asking Police & Crime Commissioners to use the council tax precept to fill gaps in police funding and the money raised through the precept is vitally important. We work hard to intervene early and to prevent bad things happening, and we work with partners such as the local council, the NHS and voluntary organisations to "do more with less" - but we have to cope with ever-increasing demand as well as complex issues like online crime, hate crime and criminals from outside our area preying on vulnerable people. Your contribution towards the police precept is an essential part of police funding and without which we could not maintain a police service that effectively and efficiently responds to your needs.

# What would my money go towards 🥐

The Commissioner recognises that any increase to your council tax may be challenging and it is therefore not a decision that is taken lightly. Any increase in the precept will help to maintain and improve the existing police service in South Wales – for example



Further investment in technology to help tackle serious, organised and cyber crime

Continuous improvement in



Protect neighbourhood policing teams in your local area



**Protect victims and** 



our public service centre to effectively respond to 999 and 101 reports vulnerable people while maintaining the capacity to investigate and respond



## Your opinion matters to us

#### The Commissioner wants to hear your views

To tell us what your priorities are as the Commissioner considers setting the precept level for next year, visit the link below to complete a short survey

#### https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/P670L/

Alternatively, you can contact us via the below methods to request a paper copy



#### SOUTH WALES POLICE & CRIME PLAN 2018-21

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



#### Stay in touch

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We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English •

#### This document is also available in Welsh