

# Council tax information 2013-14

## Doing what I said I would do

At the election last November I pledged to stop the wholesale privatisation of large parts of the police to G4S, to do all I could to protect frontline policing and to ensure that victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime receive the priority they deserve.

I am pleased to report that I am making progress on all these priorities. The negotiations with G4S have stopped, cuts to our valuable Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been halted and my forthcoming



*Olly Martins, Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire*

Police and Crime Plan details how services to victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime will improve.



*Commissioner announces PCSO posts are safe*

## The future

Nevertheless, huge challenges remain as I seek to balance the police budget for future years. Due to Government grant cuts £12m has had to be saved during 2011/12 and 2012/13 and a further £7m needs to be found by 2015. The modest rise in the council tax you pay for policing (roughly 1p a day extra for most households) will generate an extra income of £560,000 for the Force in 2013-14. This puts us in a better position to balance future budgets and protect frontline policing.

Work on my plan “Building a Safer Bedfordshire” is now well underway. The following themes, which are the framework for this plan, have also influenced the 2013/14 budget:

- Protecting the Public - by cutting crime and anti-social behaviour to reduce harm
- Partnership Working - by building confident communities and deliver more effective services for the victims of crime
- Preventing Crime - by tackling the underlying causes that drive offending.



## Finance

Bedfordshire's budget for policing in 2013-14 is £102.877m, of which £70.7m comes from the Government Funding Grant and the remainder from the police part of your council tax payment. The Government offered a grant to freeze the council tax but this would have effectively left the Force short of more than £1.1m over the next three years, almost inevitably leading to further cuts in police strength.

The amount you will pay:

Council Tax Band	Amount £	Increase from last year £
A	<b>102.33</b>	2.00
B	<b>119.38</b>	2.33
C	<b>136.44</b>	2.67
D	<b>153.49</b>	3.00
E	<b>187.60</b>	3.67
F	<b>221.71</b>	4.34
G	<b>255.82</b>	5.00
H	<b>306.98</b>	6.00



*Police and Crime Commissioner Olly Martins and Chief Constable Alf Hitchcock*

There are a number of contacts that might be helpful:

In an emergency you should always call **999**, or **112** from a mobile

For all non-emergencies and general police enquiries, call **101**,  
24 hours a day

Stop Hate - **0800 138 1625** [www.stophateuk.org/](http://www.stophateuk.org/)

Ring Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111** if you have any  
information relating to any crime, anywhere in the UK

To speak to one of Victim Support's care teams, please call  
**0845 456 5995** or email [vcu.eastofengland@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:vcu.eastofengland@victimsupport.org.uk)

You can also get in touch with me in the following ways:

Write to: Commissioner Olly Martins, Office of the Police and  
Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire, Bridgebury House, Woburn  
Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire MK43 9AX

Email: [pcc@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:pcc@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

Tel: **01234 842064**

[www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk](http://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk)

Twitter: [@bedspcc](https://twitter.com/bedspcc) and [@ollymartins](https://twitter.com/ollymartins)