

COUNCIL TAX FOR POLICING 2015 -16



Building a Safer Bedfordshire



Policing costs

This year Police and Crime Commissioner Olly Martins has set a budget of £104.606m for 2015/16 compared to £101.691m in 2014/15. This figure includes an increase in the amount of council tax paid towards policing (the Police Precept) of 15.8% compared to 2014/15 which means that a Band D property will rise by £24.80 a year, or 48p a week – making a total of £181.35 per annum. Of the total police budget 66% will come from the government and the remaining 34% via the local council tax. Because the Police Precept rise is higher than 2% it has to be approved in a referendum.*

What your money will be used for

The 15.8% increase will raise around £4.5m which will be used to fund 100 additional police officers. This will mean that warranted officers can be put back into Neighbourhood Policing Teams in each part of the County. The majority of Police Constables were removed from local teams in 2012.

- 30 additional officers in Central Bedfordshire
- 25 additional officers in Luton
- 20 additional officers in Bedford Borough
- 25 more will be trained as specialists to tackle cyber-crime and child-sexual exploitation



What it will cost

Band	2014/15	2015/16 +15.8%	+15.8% Difference
A	104.37	120.90	16.53
B	121.76	141.05	19.29
C	139.16	161.20	22.04
D	156.55	181.35	24.80
E	191.34	221.65	30.31
F	226.13	261.95	35.82
G	260.92	302.25	41.33
H	313.10	362.70	49.60



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The increase will come into effect in April 2015, although the Referendum will not take place until General Election day on 7 May 2015. It is important that you are aware that you are being asked whether you support the increase that was introduced in April and not another increase following the vote.



Getting in touch and finding out more

If you have any further questions about this you can contact 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

Tel: 01234 842066 **Twitter:** @BedsPCC

www.bedspcc.org

*NB: This council tax increase is classified as "excessive" according to Government regulations. A referendum will therefore be held in accordance with the Local Government and Finance Act of 1992. This referendum will be held on the same day as the other elections this year, Thursday 7 May 2015. Additional information regarding the referendum will be provided in due course.