

Support For Policing In Sussex - 08.12.17

This is a message sent via In The Know - Surrey and Sussex. This information has been sent on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch

Message sent by

Derek Pratt (NHWN, Administrator, Sussex)

Will you pay more to support policing in Sussex?

This message is being sent by Sussex Neighbourhood Watch to all residents in Sussex. Please forward it to Neighbourhood Watch members, your relatives and friends.

This is a reminder that Neighbourhood Watch colleagues, residents, their families and friends can now take part in the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner's consultation for the 2018/19 Police Precept. This asks residents if they would be prepared to pay more per household to sustain policing in Sussex.

The Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, has launched a county-wide consultation to ask the public if they would be prepared to pay more for policing in Sussex. If you have not already done so, can you please spare a few moments to complete a very short survey?

The PCC has opened an online survey via her website at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/public-consultations to seek residents' views on supporting policing in the county. She explains: "I know that residents support Sussex Police in preparing for threats like terrorism and cybercrime, but I'm also aware that issues closer to home, such as anti-social behaviour, are affecting local people."

"In previous years, the Chief Constable has asked for my help to raise more funds to invest in specific areas of policing, including public protection, community investigation and armed response. Thanks to the money you've already contributed through your council tax, Sussex Police has been able to build its capacity and capabilities in these areas, and others, to deliver a more effective and efficient service to the public. Now we need your help to sustain this service."

Last year Mrs Bourne carried out her biggest consultation to date: almost 4,500 people responded with nearly 80% supporting an increase in the police precept part of their council tax bill. She said: "Sussex Police has already saved £76m since 2010, and the Chief Constable's Local Policing Plan is working towards delivering further savings over the next four years."

"The Chief Constable and I are continuing to work together to drive further reform, and substantial progress has already been made through collaboration with local and regional partners and through investment in mobile technology," added Mrs Bourne.

"I want to help Sussex Police explore and identify all opportunities for investment. That is why I have carried out a review of the amount of money Sussex Police holds in its reserves and released £15m to reduce the impact of reductions in police officer numbers. I've done this because I recognise the scale of the impact that these changes are having on the police and the public, and I remain committed to investing in local policing."

"I am also seeking further sources of external funding, including contributions from new building developments that lead to increased demand on local services. I – and other Police & Crime Commissioners – continue to negotiate with the Government for more funding for policing, as well

as asking for the removal of the current cap on the police precept.”

You can find a link to the online survey, as well as further information, at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/public-consultations . We know that some people are, understandably, hesitant to click on links sent by E-mail. If you feel uncomfortable about following this link you can also search online for the PCC’s website, where you will find the link to the survey clearly displayed on the home page, and also there is a short video explaining why the increase is being proposed.

Do you support this proposal? Please give your views by taking part in this short survey by 5th January 2018. We would encourage you to forward this message to all your neighbours and friends in Sussex.

For more information or to contact the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner please visit www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk .

To contact Sussex Neighbourhood Watch please E-mail enquiries@sussexnwfed.org.uk or visit www.sussexnwfed.org.uk.