



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-2017-0212, 3 November 2017

Funding for community policing

Westminster Hall, Tuesday 7 November 2017, 9.30am

A Westminster Hall debate on Funding for community policing is scheduled for Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 9.30am. The Member leading the debate is Sir Edward Davey MP.

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1. Background

1.1 Summary

Community policing has become a key element of the policing model in England and Wales. Labour rolled out a neighbourhood policing model throughout England and Wales, involving small teams of uniformed officers, police civilians and volunteers working with local communities.

The Coalition Government made sweeping reforms, most notably through the introduction of directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).

Ring-fenced funding (including for PCSOs) was abolished within the first two years of the Coalition Government. According to the National Audit Office (NAO), Central Government funding to police forces reduced by 25% in real terms between 2010/11 and 2015/16. Budget cuts varied between forces due to additional revenue from local taxation (the 'police precept'), averaging at 18% reductions across England and Wales.

Whilst continuing to support the principle of neighbourhood policing, Government ministers have argued that deployment of the workforce to meet local need is a matter for Chief Constables and PCCs.

In its 2017 annual review of police effectiveness, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)¹ noted that all forces allocate at least some resources to crime prevention through neighbourhood or local policing teams, and that in some the investment is considerable. However HMIC did raise concerns that neighbourhood police officers are being diverted too frequently to other policing duties, at the cost of their work within local communities.

1.2 Introduction

What is community policing?

The term "community policing" has been defined in various ways. The Police Foundation's 2015 publication, [*Neighbourhood policing: Past, present and future*](#) describes the following as providing a "reasonable definition":

"Community policing is the delivery of police services through a customer-focused approach, utilising partnerships to maximise community resources in a problem-solving format to prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime, apprehend those involved in criminal activity, and improve a community's quality of life."
(Morash and Ford, 2002)²

The term 'neighbourhood policing' is often used interchangeably with community policing, but it tends to be used to describe the rather more

¹ HMIC has since been renamed Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services

² The Police Foundation, [*Neighbourhood policing: Past, present and future*](#), p9

specific arrangements by which police forces deploy small teams of officers and civilians to work with communities on a local level. The term encompasses a broad range of policing practices and has been defined in numerous ways. In 2008, a Home Office review described neighbourhood policing as “an approach that seeks to increase contact between the police and the public in defined local geographic areas”, in order to make the police “more responsive to the needs of local people”.³

The roots of neighbourhood policing in the UK can be traced back partly to the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) in the 1990⁴ and partly to the 1981 Scarman report into the Brixton Riots made a number of recommendations aimed at enhancing police-community relations.⁵ The Police Foundation explains the influence of Scarman as follows:

The report exposed shortcomings in police-community relations, identifying that the police service had become unresponsive and uncommunicative to the community. Policing was said to be police-oriented rather than community-oriented, with the need for policing to shift towards a ‘service’ ethos (Savage, 2007).

Since then, community policing became increasingly prominent in England and Wales, first in the form of reassurance policing and subsequently as neighbourhood policing, both of which have their genesis in the broader community policing movement (Fielding, 2009).

Labour reforms

The Police Foundation’s 2015 publication describes in detail how under New Labour, a renewed focus on neighbourhood policing arose in response to concerns about a gap between the falling crime rate and the public’s perception of crime as still rising. Labour introduced a number of reforms designed to increase police engagement with local communities including:

- Broadening the policing family through the introduction of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) - uniformed non-warranted officers – by the Police Reform Act 2002;
- Establishing the National Reassurance Policing Project (NRPP), which was piloted between 2003 and 2005; and
- Setting up a £50m Neighbourhood Policing Fund and committing to providing 25,000 PCSOs by 2008.⁶

³ P Quinton and J Morris, [Neighbourhood policing: the impact of piloting and early national implementation](#), Home Office Online Report 01/08, 2008

⁴ Under the programme, police were given training in problem solving and small local beat teams held meetings with local residents.

⁵ Home Office, *The Brixton Disorders 10-12 April 1981, Report of an Inquiry by the Rt Hon The Lord Scarman O.B.E.*, Cmnd 8427, November 1981, paragraph 8.58

⁶ Home Office, [Building Communities, Beating Crime](#), Cm 6360, November 2004

Box 1: Police Community Support Officers

PCSOs are uniformed civilians employed by police forces, and were introduced by provisions in the *Police Reform Act 2002*. The White Paper outlining their intended role stated that they would be “empowered to carry out basic patrol functions” and would provide “visible presence in the community with powers sufficient to deal with anti-social behaviour and minor disorder”.⁷

PCSOs have a range of standard powers, including issuing fixed penalty notices for disorder, dog fouling and graffiti, and can detain a suspect in certain circumstances until a police officer arrives (for up to 30 minutes). They may be granted certain additional powers by their Chief Constable if required.

The Labour Government later pledged that every area in England and Wales would have a dedicated neighbourhood policing team by 2008.⁸ These consisted various combinations of uniformed police officers, PCSOs, special constables and neighbourhood wardens dedicated to a particular local area.

Labour also introduced improved public confidence as a single target for the police, simultaneously abandoning all other national targets for policing.⁹

An HMIC report published in 2007 declared that all forces had made neighbourhood policing a core part of their work. It expressed concern, however, that:

- Neighbourhood boundaries were “seldom identified” (meaning that the needs of communities were not always met);
- There were inconsistencies between forces in their community engagement methods and management of community intelligence; and
- Local partners were not fully integrated into neighbourhood policing.¹⁰

Coalition reforms

The Coalition Government of 2010-2015 oversaw sweeping changes to policing organisations at a national level, including the creation of the National Crime Agency (NCA), the College of Policing and the National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC). Under the then Home Secretary, Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Police Authority Chairs were replaced by elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), with the power to hire and fire Chief Constables. The national public confidence target was abolished.

The Coalition Programme for Government pledged to require police forces to hold regular ‘beat’ meetings, “so that residents can hold them to account”.¹¹ The Coalition Government continued to support the

⁷ Home Office, [Policing a New Century: A Blueprint for Reform](#), Cm 5326, December 2001

⁸ Home Office, [Neighbourhood Policing: Progress Report](#), May 2006

⁹ *BBC News*, [New target for police confidence](#), 5 March 2009

¹⁰ HMIC, [Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary – serving neighbourhoods and individuals](#), November 2007

¹¹ Cabinet Office, [The Coalition: Our Programme for Government](#), 20 May 2010

principles of neighbourhood policing whilst arguing that PCCs were best placed to meet local needs:

Mr Andy Slaughter: What assessment has she [the Home Secretary] made of the effect of recent changes in the level of neighbourhood policing?

The Minister for Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims (Damien Green): The Government strongly support neighbourhood policing. It provides a visible presence in communities, cutting crime and disorder. By slashing red tape and sweeping away central targets, we have empowered chief constables and police and crime commissioners to respond to the individual and specific needs of their communities. Police reform is working. Crime is down by more than 10% since June 2010, and victim satisfaction is up.¹²

1.3 The present Government

The present Government has continued to emphasise that it is for Chief Constables and PCCs to decide how to arrange their workforce to meet local needs. See for example this response to a Lords Written Parliamentary Question on 1 November 2017:

Asked by: Lord Condon

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the proposal by Norfolk Police to dispense with all of their Police Community Support Officers.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | Home Office

It is for the Chief Constable and the directly accountable Police and Crime Commissioner of each force area to take decisions on the size and composition of the workforce including community support officers in order to meet local needs and priorities.¹³

In March 2017, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary described what is happening in forces in England and Wales:

All forces allocate at least some resources to the prevention of crime and anti-social behaviour through neighbourhood or local policing teams, and in some forces this investment is considerable. HMIC found several different models for such teams: 25 forces had a dedicated neighbourhood model, 12 a partially integrated model, 3 a fully integrated model, 2 a prioritised model, and 1 force did not specify.¹⁰ This finding supports HMIC's concern there is now a varied and inconsistent approach to neighbourhood policing across the service. HMIC understands that different local circumstances might require a service to be provided in a different way, for example in a rural area neighbourhood teams may be more likely to mix a preventative proactive role and one which is focused on emergency response, as they will be the closest people to the incident.

The data shows a very mixed picture of spending on neighbourhood policing, but, regardless of their chosen model, over two-thirds of forces now allocate less than 13 percent of their total overall budget to it.

¹² [HC Deb 7 July 2014 c10](#)

¹³ HL 2325 [on [Norfolk Constabulary: Police Community Support Officers](#)] 1 November 2017

(...)

HMIC remains concerned that in too many places the police service is in danger of becoming too reactive. The extent to which neighbourhood teams are diverted to other work is too often detracting from neighbourhood policing and limiting problem-solving opportunities. HMIC encourages forces to find ways to provide resources for preventative policing. Effective neighbourhood policing can produce valuable local information to help the police to reduce and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and to safeguard the public from risk.¹⁴

2. Background Statistics (Grahame Allen x2457)

2.1 Coalition Government funding reductions (2010-2015)

Ring-fenced funding (including for PCSOs) was abolished within the first two years of the Coalition Government.¹⁵ According to the National Audit Office (NAO), Central Government funding to police forces reduced by 25% in real terms between 2010/11 and 2015/16. Budget cuts varied between forces due to additional revenue from local taxation (the 'police precept'), averaging at 18% reductions across England and Wales. Surrey relied the least on central government funding, experiencing 12% (real terms) funding reductions between 2010/11 and 2015/16, while forces in Northumbria and the West Midlands absorbed cuts of 23%.¹⁶

During the 2015 Autumn Statement, the then Chancellor, Rt Hon George Osborne MP, committed to protecting the police budget over the Spending Review period:

I am today announcing there will be no cuts in the police budget at all. There will be real terms protection for police funding. The police protect us, and we're going to protect the police.¹⁷

While overall funding has been protected, the increase has largely been diverted to specialised areas of policing, such as child sexual exploitation, counter-terrorism and cybercrime. The Central Government grant is expected to fall in real terms between 2015 and 2020, so force-level funding will remain flat only if PCCs raise the maximum level permitted from the police precept.^{18,19}

¹⁴ HMIC, [PEEL: police effectiveness 2016: a national overview](#), March 2017, p28 and p31

¹⁵ The Police Foundation, [Neighbourhood policing: Past, present and future – A review of the literature](#), May 2015

¹⁶ National Audit Office, [Financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales](#), 4 June 2015

¹⁷ HM Treasury, [Chancellor George Osborne's Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015 speech](#), 25 November 2015

¹⁸ [Police Grant Report England & Wales 2016/17](#): Written statement - HCWS510, 4 February 2016

¹⁹ [Police Grant Report England and Wales 2016/17](#): Written statement - HLWS431, 17 December 2015

The 2015 Spending Review settlement for the police, England and Wales

	15/16 ^a	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	Change	Cash change (%)	Real terms change (%)
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)		
Government Funding	8,271	8,378	8,497	8,631	8,785	514	6.20%	-1.40%
<i>Of which:</i>								
<i>Home Office</i>	8,099	8,204	8,321	8,453	8,604	506	6.20%	-1.40%
<i>DCLG</i>	37	37	37	37	37	0	0.00%	-7.20%
<i>Welsh Govt</i>	135	137	139	141	143	8	6.20%	-1.40%
Precept	3,105	3,194	3,286	3,379	3,474	369	11.90%	3.80%
Total	11,376	11,572	11,783	12,010	12,259	883	7.80%	0.00%

a) Central government funding includes Airwave which has been brought into the police settlement and council tax freeze grant amounts which were not known at the time of the 2015/16 annual police settlement

Source: [Police Grant Report England & Wales 2016/17 Written Statement - HCWS510, 4 February 2016](#)

2.2 Police Grant Report 2017/18

Direct resource funding for each police force in England and Wales for 2017/18 was announced to the House on the 1 February 2017 in a [Written Statement](#) made by Brandon Lewis (The Minister of State for Fire and Policing)²⁰.

²⁰ [HCWS446](#), 1 February 2017

Table 5: Change in total direct resource funding compared to 2015/16*

Local Policing Body	2015/16	2017/18	Cash change	
	£m	£m	£m	%
Avon & Somerset	269.3	272.2	3.0	1.1%
Bedfordshire	99.6	100.8	1.2	1.2%
Cambridgeshire	128.1	129.3	1.3	1.0%
Cheshire	169.5	171.8	2.3	1.4%
City of London	55.4	56.0	0.7	1.2%
Cleveland	122.3	122.8	0.5	0.4%
Cumbria	99.2	100.1	0.9	0.9%
Derbyshire	160.7	162.1	1.4	0.8%
Devon & Cornwall	278.0	280.8	2.8	1.0%
Dorset	118.4	120.1	1.7	1.5%
Durham	112.5	112.8	0.3	0.3%
Dyfed-Powys	93.3	93.7	0.4	0.4%
Essex	260.8	265.8	5.0	1.9%
Gloucestershire	104.3	106.0	1.6	1.6%
Greater London Authority**	2,517.4	2,500.0	-17.4	-0.7%
Greater Manchester	541.2	543.1	1.9	0.4%
Gwent	117.8	119.7	1.9	1.6%
Hampshire	299.1	303.0	3.9	1.3%
Hertfordshire	181.1	182.0	0.9	0.5%
Humberside	169.4	170.5	1.1	0.6%
Kent	273.1	277.9	4.8	1.8%
Lancashire	258.9	259.5	0.6	0.2%
Leicestershire	167.7	169.6	1.8	1.1%
Lincolnshire	108.4	110.2	1.8	1.7%
Merseyside	307.0	307.0	0.0	0.0%
Norfolk	145.5	147.9	2.3	1.6%
North Wales	139.8	141.8	1.9	1.4%
North Yorkshire	137.1	139.8	2.8	2.0%
Northamptonshire	119.2	121.2	2.0	1.7%
Northumbria	259.5	259.6	0.1	0.0%
Nottinghamshire	188.9	189.8	0.9	0.5%
South Wales	255.1	259.2	4.1	1.6%
South Yorkshire	239.1	240.0	0.9	0.4%
Staffordshire	176.7	177.0	0.2	0.1%
Suffolk	110.9	112.3	1.3	1.2%
Surrey	205.0	209.2	4.2	2.1%
Sussex	249.7	255.1	5.4	2.2%
Thames Valley	369.7	374.5	4.8	1.3%
Warwickshire	89.5	90.9	1.4	1.6%
West Mercia	198.5	201.7	3.1	1.6%
West Midlands	522.8	523.3	0.4	0.1%
West Yorkshire	404.6	407.1	2.5	0.6%
Wiltshire	102.8	104.8	1.9	1.9%
TOTAL	10,927.0	10,991.9	64.9	0.6%

* Total direct resource funding consists of core grant funding, NICC grants, Legacy Council Tax Grants and police precept. These figures reflect actual precept outcomes in 2016/17 and assume that PCCs in England increase their precept to the maximum referendum limit in 2017/18, PCCs in Wales raise council tax by 2%, and tax base growth of 0.5% across England and Wales in 2017/18. All PCCs who maximise precept in both 2016/17 and 2017/18 will receive at least cash flat direct resource funding compared to 2015/16.

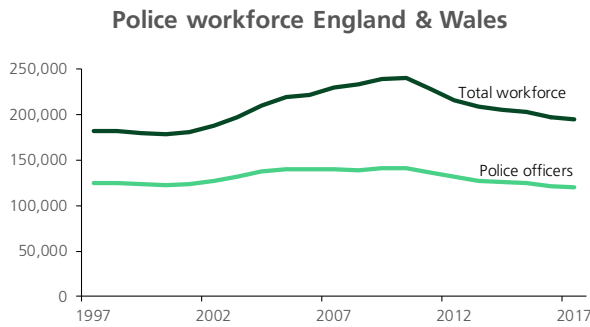
** The forecast reduction in Greater London Authority funding compared to 2015/16 reflects that rather than maximising precept income in 2016/17, the Mayor of London reduced precept by 3.24%.

Table 5 of the tables that accompanied the Written Statement: [Tables - Police Grant Report 2017/18](#) (reproduced above) shows that, assuming all Police and Crime Commissioners maximise their precept income (increasing their precept up to the 2%/£5 referendum limit in England and 2% in Wales in 2017/18) total direct resource funding for police forces in England and Wales will increase to just under £11 billion in 2017/18 from just over £10.9 billion in 2015/16 - a cash rise of 0.6%.

2.3 Police workforce

Wages make up a significant proportion of force budgets, so cuts in funding have resulted in reductions to the size of the police workforce.

Following a period of year on year growth in the first decade of this century, the police work force has declined since 2010.



Source: Home Office [Police workforce England and Wales statistics](#)

The police workforce reduced by 36,800 between March 2010 and March 2015: a 12% cut in the number of officers, a 20% cut in staff and a 27% cut in PCSOs. Workforce reductions varied between forces, ranging from a 23% cut in officer numbers in Cleveland to a 1% cut in Surrey.²¹

Police workforce full time equivalent numbers, England and Wales

	Mar-10	Mar-15	Change 2010 to 2015	
			Numbers	%
Police officers	143,734	127,192	-16,542	-11.5%
Staff	79,596	63,894	-15,702	-19.7%
PSCOs	16,918	12,370	-4,547	-26.9%
Total	240,248	203,457	-36,791	-15.3%

Source: Home Office [Police workforce England and Wales statistics](#)

The police workforce fell further between March 2015 and 2017, reducing by an additional 4% to 194,419 overall, with 4,050 fewer police officers, and around 2,850 fewer staff and 2,150 fewer PCSOs.

Police workforce full time equivalent numbers, England and Wales

As at March:	Police officers	Staff	PSCOs	Total
2007	141,893	75,188	13,529	230,610
2008	141,157	77,071	15,807	234,034
2009	143,769	79,326	16,507	239,602
2010	143,734	79,596	16,918	240,248
2011	139,110	74,010	15,820	228,940
2012	134,100	67,472	14,393	215,965
2013	129,584	65,509	14,205	209,297
2014	127,909	64,097	13,066	205,072
2015	127,192	63,894	12,370	203,457
2016	124,066	61,668	11,043	196,777
2017	123,142	61,063	10,213	194,419

Source: Home Office [Police workforce England and Wales statistics](#)

2.4 Neighbourhood policing and police officers

Data from CIPFA’s 2016/17 [Police Objective Analysis](#) (subscription required) can be used to estimate the number of Police Officers in each police force that are engaged with neighbourhood policing.

²¹ Home Office [Police workforce England and Wales statistics](#)

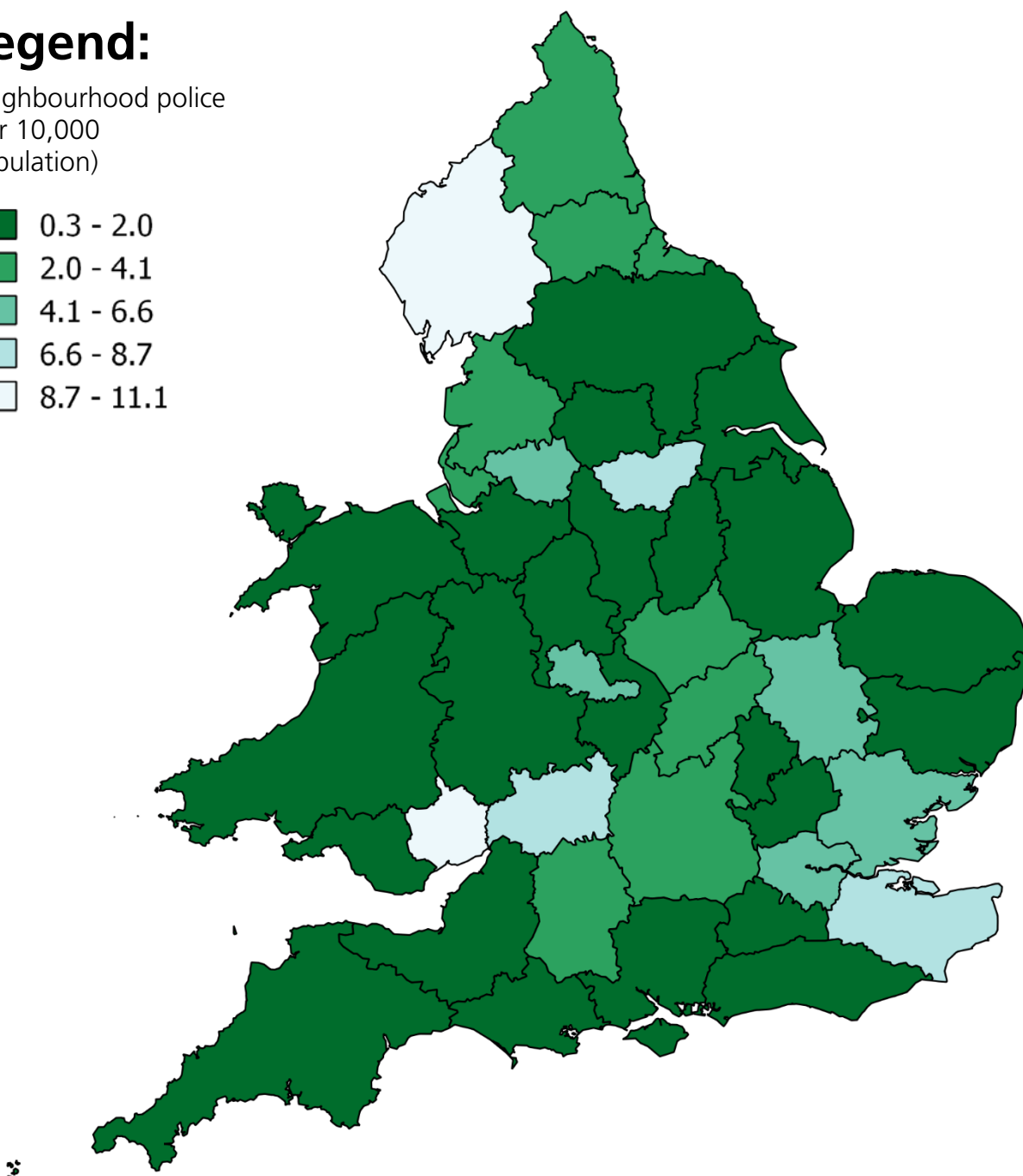
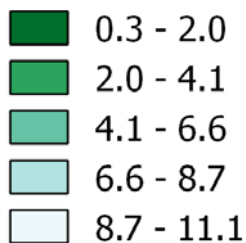
The highest number of neighbourhood police officers in 2016/17 was recorded by the Metropolitan Police Service (4,675 or 5.4 per 10,000 head of population).

In 2016/17, the highest rate of neighbourhood police officers was recorded by the Cumbria Police Force (11.1) followed by Gwent (10.5) and South Yorkshire (8.7).

Neighbourhood Police by police force area, England and Wales (Per 10,000 head of population)

Legend:

Neighbourhood police
(Per 10,000
population)



Excluding the City of London Police, the lowest rate of 0.8 was recorded by Bedfordshire Police, followed by 0.9 in Humberside, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk.

Neighbourhood rate by police force area, England and Wales, 2016/17

Police Force Area	Neighbourhood Police number	rate per 10,000 population
Cumbria	550	11.1
Gwent	612	10.5
South Yorkshire	1,199	8.7
Kent	1,559	8.7
Gloucestershire	517	8.4
Essex	1,177	6.6
Cambridgeshire	552	6.6
West Midlands	1,694	6.0
Metropolitan Police	4,675	5.4
Greater Manchester	1,384	5.0
Merseyside	573	4.1
Northumbria	569	4.0
Wiltshire	241	3.4
Leicestershire	350	3.3
Cleveland	173	3.1
Durham	157	2.5
Thames Valley	587	2.5
Northamptonshire	173	2.4
Lancashire	335	2.3
Nottinghamshire	230	2.0
Staffordshire	175	2.0
Hampshire	393	2.0
Hertfordshire	226	1.9
Derbyshire	150	1.9
Dorset	144	1.9
Suffolk	139	1.9
South Wales	219	1.7
Avon & Somerset	278	1.7
Dyfed-Powys	81	1.6
Cheshire	158	1.5
North Wales	105	1.5
Surrey	172	1.5
Sussex	245	1.5
Devon & Cornwall	249	1.4
West Mercia	172	1.4
North Yorkshire	105	1.3
Warwickshire	61	1.1
West Yorkshire	240	1.1
Norfolk	79	0.9
Lincolnshire	66	0.9
Humberside	82	0.9
Bedfordshire	52	0.8
City of London ¹	13	0.3

The neighbourhood police officer rate in the City of London was 0.3 per 10,000 population. This estimate is based on daytime population.

Note: 1. City of London rate estimated per day time population

Source: www.cipfastats.net and ONS [Mid 2015 Population Estimates for UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland](#)

3. Media

3.1 Press releases

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

[PCC re-affirms her commitment to neighbourhood policing](#)

25 October 2017

Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner

[New policing model for Northamptonshire revealed as operational base opens its doors in the north of the county](#)

22 September 2017

Home Office

[Home Office sets out police pay award for 2017 to 2018](#)

12 September 2017

Mayor of London

[Real neighbourhood policing at centre of Mayor's plan for safer London](#)

20 March 2017

College of Policing

[College of Policing response to HMIC report into police effectiveness](#)

2 March 2017

Mayor of London

[Mayor on track to deliver second dedicated PC in every neighbourhood](#)

4 January 2017

UNISON

[New vision for policing strategy fails to deal with declining workforce, says UNISON](#)

16 November 2016

3.2 Articles and blogs

Independent

[Government must increase funding to combat attack threat, terror police chief warns](#)

2 November 2017

Guardian

[Amber Rudd lambasts police chiefs over extra funding demands](#)

1 November 2017

Guardian

[Met police chief warns further cuts will make it harder to fight crime](#)

31 October 2017

Telegraph

[London now more dangerous than New York City, crime stats suggest](#)

20 October 2017

Guardian

[Norfolk police plan to axe all community support officers](#)

20 October 2017

Independent

[Terrorism putting 'unsustainable' strain on British police, says Met Commissioner Cressida Dick](#)

22 September 2017

Telegraph

[Where are all the bobbies on the beat? Just one in five people say they feel officers are 'highly visible'](#)

16 August 2017

Guardian

[Police cuts hit fight against terrorism says former security chief](#)

6 June 2017

Financial Times

[Does the UK need more police to tackle terrorist threats?](#)

5 June 2017

BBC news

[Police commission: neighbourhood policing under threat](#)

24 November 2013

4. Parliamentary Business

4.1 Ministerial Statement

[Policing](#)

Brandon Lewis (The Minister of State for Fire and Policing):

My Rt Hon Friend, the Home Secretary, has today laid before the House, the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2017/18 (HC 944). Copies are available in the Vote Office. The Report sets out, my Rt Hon Friend, the Home Secretary's determination for 2017/18 of the aggregate amount of grant that she proposes to pay under section 46(2) of the Police Act 1996, and the amount to be paid to the Greater London Authority for the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

The allocations that have been laid before the House today are as set out in my Statement of 15 December. This reflects the fact that the Government is committed to protecting the public. The Government will provide the resources necessary for the police to do their critical work, and prioritise finishing the job of police reform by enabling the police to transform so they can tackle changing crime, deal with previously hidden crimes and protect the vulnerable.

Following the principles set out on the 4 February 2016 when setting out the final police funding settlement for 2016/17 [HCWS510] direct resource funding for each PCC, including precept, will be protected at flat cash levels compared to 2015/16, assuming that precept income is increased to the maximum amount available in both 2016/17 and 2017/18. No PCC who chooses to maximise precept in both years will face a reduction in cash funding next year compared to 2015/16. We have updated our precept forecasts for 2017/18 since February to reflect actual tax base increases in 2016/17.

I will continue to allocate specific funding for Counter Terrorism Policing to ensure that critical national counter-terrorism capabilities are maintained. We have allocated £633m Resource funding and £42m Capital funding to support counter-terrorism policing in 2017/18. In addition a further £32m will be provided for armed policing from the Police Transformation Fund in 2017/18. Police and Crime Commissioners will receive full counter-terrorism funding allocations imminently. For security reasons these allocations will not be available in the public domain.

This Statement also includes details of other funding streams that the Home Office, the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Welsh Government intend to provide to the police in 2017/18.

I have set out in a separate document (attached) the tables illustrating how we propose to allocate the police funding settlement between the different funding streams and between Local Policing Bodies for 2017/18. These documents are intended to be read together.

Police capital

As set out in the Provisional Police Grant Report in December I still intend to allocate the majority of capital funding directly to Local Policing Bodies.

[Tables - Police Grant Report 2017/18](#) (PDF Document, 202.68 KB)

1 February 2017 | Written statement | HCWS 446

4.2 Debates

[Police Funding: London](#)

HC Deb 25 October 2017 c109-35WH

[Aggressive Antisocial Behaviour](#)

HC Deb 10 October 2017 c1-23WH

[Knife Crime](#)

HC Deb 6 September 2017 c276-84

[Security in the UK](#)

HL Deb 10 July 2017 [c1082-103](#), [c1114-52](#)

[Safer Neighbourhood Policing: London](#)

HC Deb 5 January 2016 c34-59WH

4.3 Parliamentary Questions

[Norfolk Constabulary: Police Community Support Officers](#)

Asked by: Lord Condon

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the proposal by Norfolk Police to dispense with all of their Police Community Support Officers.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | Home Office

It is for the Chief Constable and the directly accountable Police and Crime Commissioner of each force area to take decisions on the size and composition of the workforce including community support officers in order to meet local needs and priorities.

1 November 2017 | Written question | HL 2325

[Police: Funding](#)**HL Deb 26 October 2017 c976-8**

Including, c977:

Asked by: Lord Kirkhope of Harrogate

My Lords, in view of the fact that funding is very important so far as the police are concerned, many people are becoming increasingly concerned about the way in which the resources are spent. Apart from detection of crime and the work at the sharp end of that matter, police are often involved in community projects of one kind or another where many people feel they should not be involved, or at least not to the extent that they now appear to be. Can we please have a further emphasis on the need to concentrate those important resources on the detection of crime?

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | Home Office

My Lords, the police will deploy their resources in the area that they think is most important in their communities. The police have always been operationally independent of government and it is vital that that continues. They are best placed to make those decisions. We understand the pressures that the police and PCCs are under. That is why my right honourable friend in the other place, the Minister for Policing, is engaging with local forces to make sure that they have the resources and the capability that they need.

[Police: Recruitment](#)**Asked by: Stephen Doughty**

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average annual cost has been of (a) training and (b) employing a full-time (i) police officer, (ii) detective constable and (iii) police community support officer in each of the last three years.

Answered by: Nick Hurd | Home Office

The estimated average full-time equivalent employment costs for police officers and PCSOs (including pay, National Insurance and pension contributions) are set out below:

2016/17 Police Officer £50,300 PCSO £28,300

2015/16 Police Officer £48,800 PCSO £27,700

2014/15 Police Officer £48,000 PCSO £27,700

The average cost of a detective constable cannot be calculated separately. Training costs are not collected centrally. Training and development costs for officers and PCSOs are a matter for individual Police and Crime Commissioners.

26 October 2017 | Written question | 109117

[Children: Protection](#)

Asked by: Thelma Walker

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the effects of the recent changes in neighbourhood policing levels on the police's ability to protect vulnerable children.

Answered by: Nick Hurd | Home Office

We recognise that it is crucial that the police have the right resources, capabilities and powers to keep the public safe. We have provided millions of pounds of extra investment through the Police Transformation Fund to transform policing to respond to changing crimes and threats including crimes against vulnerable people such as child sexual abuse.

The 2015 Spending Review protected overall police spending in real terms. We are undertaking a programme of engagement with the police to understand the impact of changing demands, and to hear how the police are managing these. That includes what more can be done to improve productivity and efficiency, reduce bureaucracy, and make prudent use of financial reserves.

24 October 2017 | Written question | 109746

[Counter-terrorism: Police](#)

Asked by: Keith Vaz

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential effect of a change in the level of neighbourhood policing on police counter-terrorism operations.

Answered by: Ben Wallace | Home Office

We recognise that it is crucial that the police have the right resources, capabilities and powers to keep the public safe. That is why we protected spending on counter-terrorism policing in the 2015 Spending Review and included a significant capital increase to deliver growth of key counter-terrorist policing capabilities. The Government has agreed up to £24m of additional funding for counter-terrorism policing this year, further to the £707m we have previously announced.

The Government has recognised that terrorists Modus Operandi in the 21st century has changed and that is why we have increased funding across the broader CT partnerships. HMG has seen funding rise in CT within the 2015 spending review by 30% from 11.7bn to 15.2bn.

24 October 2017 | Written question | 107844

[Topical Questions](#)**Asked by: Anna Soubry**

Nottinghamshire police has decided, without any consultation and with hardly any notice—literally, a note under the clerk’s door—to end community policing in Kimberley and Nuthall in my constituency. I do not expect the Minister to comment on the merits of the decision, but does he agree that in community policing, it is really important to work with and communicate with communities?

Answered by: Nick Hurd | Home Office

I could not agree with my right hon. Friend more. It is not for me to comment on the individual decision. Nottinghamshire police does a good job and it has difficult decisions to take, but when it takes such decisions, it must make sure that it takes the community with it, particularly on an issue as sensitive as community policing.

HC Deb 16 October 2017 c579

[Topical Questions](#)**Asked by: Shabana Mahmood**

In the Newtown area of my constituency there have been seven shootings in the past three months. Local people tell me that they simply do not feel safe, and cuts to police funding and neighbourhood policing are having a devastating impact. Why cannot the Home Secretary see that she is failing in her responsibility to resource the services that are required to keep us safe? How much more will my constituents have to suffer before she changes course?

Answered by: Ben Wallace | Home Office

The hon. Lady makes the valid point that a number of shooting crimes are being committed at the moment. That is why the Government have increased funding to police and specialist policing by £32 million for armed uplift to ensure that we have trained officers on the ground to deal with such threats, and that when we go after criminals who are armed, the police are protected and have the right equipment to do the job and make sure that those people are put in prison.

HC Deb 16 October 2017 c 583-4

[Neighbourhood Policing](#)

Oral questions

HC Deb 16 October 2017 c559-61

Including, c561:

Asked by: Sir Edward Davey

Given that the Met police are issuing guidelines that some so-called low-level crime will no longer be investigated in London, is it not now crystal clear that Government cuts in community policing are helping criminals and hurting victims? Will the Home Secretary now tell the House that she is campaigning in the Government for a big rise in police funding in the forthcoming Budget?

Answered by: Amber Rudd | Home Office

Let me respectfully observe to the right hon. Gentleman that, having spoken to the Metropolitan Police Commissioner very recently, I know that there is no change in the operating model of the Metropolitan police. They will continue to triage crimes as they arrive in the appropriate way, to ensure that they always prioritise the most important. Conservative Members will always be on the side of the victims, and will always ensure that the police have the right resources to address crime.

5. Further reading

Library briefing

[Police funding](#), Commons Library Briefing Paper 7279, 26 February 2016

Government

HMIC, [PEEL: police effectiveness 2016: a national overview](#), March 2017

Mayor of London, [Police and crime plan 2017-2021](#), 20 March 2017

Home Office, [The Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2017/18](#), February 2017

Home Office, [Delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership](#), Research Report 61, 23 May 2012

Home Affairs Committee

Home Affairs Committee, [Oral evidence: Policing for the future](#), HC 515, 24 October 2017

Home Affairs Committee, [Oral evidence: Policing for the future: changing demands and new challenges](#), HC 652, 28 March 2017

Home Affairs Committee, [Written evidence: Policing for the future](#), 14 March 2017

David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire

Others

College of Policing, [Implementing neighbourhood policing](#), July 2017

Police Foundation, [Neighbourhood policing: a police force typology](#), April 2017

Full Fact, [Police officer numbers have fallen](#), 3 March 2017

Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and National Police Chiefs' Council, [Policing vision 2025](#), 16 November 2016

Police Foundation, [Neighbourhood policing: past, present and future: a review of the literature](#), May 2015

Independent Police Commission, [Policing for a better Britain](#), November 2013

Home Office, [Delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership](#), Research Report 61, 23 May 2012

N8 Research Partnership, [Community engagement: evidence review](#), Policing Research, Undated

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