Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner’s Proposals for Policing precept for 2020/2021
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Police funding for 2020/21

1.2 This document sets out the Chief Constable’s proposals for the policing element of the precept increase for 2020/21. These proposals would be implemented if there was an increase of £10 per year for a Band D property. This equates to a precept increase of 4.69%.

1.3 Full consideration has been given to the Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021 and the following proposals will enhance the Constabulary’s ability to achieve all four objectives outlined in section 3 below.

1.4 Following on from HM Government announcement in 2019 to increase the number of Police Officers in England and Wales by 20,000, the National ‘Uplift’ Programme was created. This will enable the Home Office and The National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC) to work with Police and Crime Commissioners and local police forces to co-ordinate the introduction of these additional officers. The Home Office has only confirmed that Suffolk Constabulary will receive funding for an additional 54 Officers in the 2020/21 financial year.

1.5 A separate document has been prepared in consultation with the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner to show how the Chief Constable intends to deploy these 54 police officers in 2020/2021.


1.6 The Chief Constable’s proposals for the policing element of the precept increase for 2020/21 complement and support Operation Uplift proposals.

1.7 These proposals, considered together, will improve the Constabulary’s ability to deliver the Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021, but also complement proposed national themes and outcomes for police forces measured by the Home Office. Both are considered important in terms of ensuring the force remains effective and efficient, deals with the issues that matter most to the public and delivers the best performance possible to enhance confidence and satisfaction in policing.

1.8 It is important to clarify that these proposals are in addition, and complementary to, the proposals for an increase in police officer posts through the National Uplift Programme. Any increase in precept provides opportunities to enhance the Constabulary’s capacity and capability to deal with modern day policing challenges by creating posts for police staff as well as police officers, whereas Operation Uplift (at this time) specifically focusses on additional police officer posts.

1.9 The Chief Constable proposes that any increase in precept in the 2020/21 financial year focusses on the following themes:

- Improving the standards of police investigations to bring more offenders to justice.
- Enhancing Suffolk Constabulary’s capacity and capability regarding pro-active policing to tackle serious and organised crime, county lines and knife crime.
- Making Suffolk’s roads safer.
- Enhancing the Constabulary’s ability to prevent crime happening in the first place and working with our partners to solve problems that matter most to our communities.
2 SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSALS

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3 POLICE & CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES


- **Objective 1** – Making Suffolk Safer – Responding to calls for urgent assistance.
- **Objective 2** – Making Suffolk Safer – Caring about victims, communities, the local economy and our workforce.
- **Objective 3** – Making Suffolk Safer – Protecting Vulnerable people and communities by preventing, reducing and solving crime and reducing anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- **Objective 4** – Making Suffolk Safer – Delivering efficient and effective services with the right resources.
3.2 The Police and Crime Plan for Suffolk 2017/21 can be found at:

4 SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY VISION, MISSION, VALUES

4.1 Suffolk Constabulary’s key priorities and principles are set out in its Vision Mission and Values. The proposals set out in this document support the ambition and delivery of these priorities.
5 PLANNED INVESTMENT OF £1.862m

5.1 To deliver the Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021 the Chief Constable would like the following to be implemented through the increase in the policing element of council tax, to enable the Constabulary to continue to achieve its mission in keeping people safe and catching and convicting criminals;

5.2 This next section provides further details on each of the proposals.

1. An additional 4 Police Staff Investigators in to the ANPR Operation Sentinel teams. Cost £0.181m

The Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Operation Sentinel team was created as a result of last year’s precept increase to crackdown on criminals, protect local communities and tackle cross-border criminality. To date the team has achieved over 160 arrests for serious offences and is having a significant impact.

Operation Sentinel is a county wide team of 21 Police officers using ANPR technology to tackle serious crime by targeting travelling criminals who use Suffolk’s roads networks.

We will provide an additional 4 Police Staff Investigators working alongside the Operation Sentinel team as their Investigator focussing on the management of demand within the custody arena. This will free up Police Officer time to be visible and pro-active on the county’s roads.

Potential Benefits

- Improved standards of investigation and solved rates for serious crime, violence and serious sexual offences.
- Bring more offenders to justice regarding serious crime offences.
- Further align the right skills, powers and training to meet modern day policing challenges.
- Improved level of expertise regarding new technology and digital media.

Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021

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<th>Objective 3</th>
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Key Messages

- Protect those most vulnerable in relation to serious organised crime including drugs, knife crime and serious violence.
- Tackling Suffolk’s criminals who use vehicles and the road network in Suffolk.
- Enhanced resources dealing with complex and challenging crime.
- Enhanced capacity and capability to capture and present digital evidence.
- More prosecutions improving service to victims.
2. **An additional 1 Police Sergeant, 6 Police Constables, 2 Police Staff Investigators and 1 Digital Support Officer in to the Serious Crime Disruption Team. Cost £0.549m**

Create an additional Serious Crime Disruption Team to tackle county lines and other serious and organised criminality. This will complement the existing team based in Ipswich that is effectively tackling issues such as drug supply and serious violence.

We will provide an additional 7 police officers and 3 police staff posts covering the West and East areas doubling the existing resource. This team will have surveillance capacity and also be trained and accredited to investigate serious and complex crime.

**Potential Benefits**

- Bring more offenders to justice regarding serious and organised crime
- Enhanced capacity and capability to tackle county lines and cross border criminality
- Mobile resource to respond to threat, harm and risk across the county
- Increased number of surveillance operations, search warrants, street arrests and stop and search

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**Key Messages**

- Protect those most vulnerable in relation to serious organised crime including drugs, knife crime and serious violence.
- Strengthening Suffolk Constabulary’s proactive policing capability to respond to and address local community concerns regarding serious crime and criminality.

3. **An additional 1 Police Constable for the countywide Rural Crime Team. Cost £0.058m**

The Rural Crime Team deals with a wide range of issues including vehicle and machinery theft, domestic abuse, incidents involving firearms, hare-coursing, wildlife crime, heritage and metal theft as well as arson. There are currently two Rural Crime Police Constables operating on a countywide basis.

We will provide one more additional Police Constable to strengthen the county wide team and ensure that there is one officer for each area.

**Potential Benefits**

- Increased visibility in the rural community.
- Enhanced ability to deal with rural crime such as theft of agricultural machinery and other crimes that occur due to rural isolation.
- Enhanced capacity to work with neighbouring forces regarding travelling criminality.
- Increased specialist officers to advise colleagues and coordinate an improved policing service in rural areas.
- Adopt a problem-solving approach working with landowners and partners.
**Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021**

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**Key Messages**

- Respond to public concerns regarding visibility in rural areas
- Improved tasking and coordinating of local policing teams to address rural policing issues
- Making Suffolk a hostile place for travelling criminals and criminality
- Improving the way Suffolk Constabulary prevents and reduces rural crime

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**4. An additional 2 Police Constables creating a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit. Cost £0.116m.**

Create a new Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit to improve road safety by reducing the numbers of dangerous vehicles and drivers from the road network.

We will provide 2 specialist Police Constables who can improve the way we deal with dangerous vehicles or driver offences that contribute to serious collisions, and keep the roads safe and moving.

These officers will be part of the collaborated roads policing team however they will only be deployed within the county of Suffolk.

**Potential Benefits**

- Provide specialist officers with knowledge and skills to tackle driving offences or goods vehicle offences
- Respond to an increase in goods vehicle in the County travelling to and from the Port of Felixstowe and also in preparation for any expansion at Sizewell
- Work more closely with other partners such as Suffolk County Council and the Highways Agency to solve problems and improve road safety and traffic flow
- Respond to increase in demand that exists on Suffolk’s roads as a result of increased commercial vehicle usage (e.g. collisions and breakdowns)

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**Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021**

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**Key Messages**

- Greater enforcement for national and international hauliers who break the law
- Positive action towards keeping Suffolk’s roads safe and free flowing
5. An additional 2 Police Constables and 1 Police Staff Administrator in to the Outcome Resolution Team. Cost £0.151m

We will provide an additional 2 Police Constables and 1 Police Staff Administrator to enhance the Outcome Resolution Team of detectives working with convicted offenders to identify other offences they have committed. This approach is fully embedded in Suffolk Constabulary and is achieving significant positive outcome rates regarding acquisitive crime. The type of offences detected include those within the Home Office proposed national themes and outcomes for police forces and therefore is an important part of ensuring the Constabulary can demonstrate high performance against these objectives.

Potential Benefits

- Increase the number of detected offences and demonstrating to victims that every effort is taken to bring offenders to justice
- Improve Suffolk’s performance regarding Home Office performance measures
- Enhance our intelligence picture regarding the causes of crime and the identification of offenders

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Key Messages

- Bringing more offenders to justice and increasing confidence and satisfaction amongst victims that every effort is being made to catch criminals responsible for crimes
- Since 2017 over 1,400 offences have been solved through further admissions by offenders after they have been convicted and sentenced for other offences; over 136 offenders have been brought to justice for offences in this way.
- Since 2017 over 210 house burglaries have been solved in this way.
6. An additional 3 Police Staff Missing Persons Liaison Officers, 1 Police Staff Modern Slavery Coordinator and 3 Police Staff Modern Slavery Tactical Advisors in to the neighbourhood policing teams countywide. Cost £0.301m

Increase resource in the neighbourhood policing teams across the county to focus on crime prevention, missing people, and modern slavery.

We will provide an additional 3 Police Staff Missing Persons Liaison Officers to find missing people using the most up to date techniques, work with those who most frequently go missing and to adopt a more prevention-based approach. These staff will also work with partners in children’s homes and mental health services to improve multi-agency working.

We will provide an additional 1 Police Staff Modern Slavery Coordinator and 3 Police Staff Modern Slavery Tactical Advisors to ensure the Constabulary delivers the national Modern Slavery strategy to protect vulnerable people, pursue those exploiting victims and work with partners to prevent modern slavery in Suffolk’s communities.

Potential Benefits

- Increased response for visiting areas, premises or organisations that cause concern
- Raising awareness to identify vulnerable people
- Provide specialist advice to local policing teams to identify and tackle these issues
- Work with partners to ensure an effective multi-agency approach is taken

Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021

Objective 2
Objective 3
Objective 4

Suffolk Constabulary Priorities

Key Messages

Missing People

- Prevention - reducing the number of people who go missing, including through prevention strategies, education work and early intervention in cases where children and adults repeatedly go missing
- Protection - reducing the harm to those who go missing, including through a tailored, risk-based response and ensuring agencies work together to find and close cases as quickly as possible at a local and national level
- Provision - providing support and advice to those that go missing and their families by referring them to agencies promptly and ensuring they understand how and where to access help

Modern Slavery

- Pursue - prosecuting and disrupting individuals and groups responsible for modern slavery.
- Prevent - preventing people from engaging in modern slavery.
- Protect - strengthening safeguards against modern slavery by protecting vulnerable people from exploitation and increasing awareness and resilience against this crime.
- Prepare - reducing the harm causes by modern slavery through improved victim identification and enhanced support and protection
7. An additional 1 Police Constable and 1 Police Staff Administrator to create a Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Scheme. Cost £0.093m.

We will create a new Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Scheme to reduce and prevent harm to vulnerable victims.

We will provide an additional 1 Police Constable and 1 Police Staff Administrator to work with high risk and frequent domestic abuse offenders. Similar programmes are in place in other forces across the country that have been evaluated. There is evidence that schemes have improved the safeguarding of vulnerable victims, provided significant reductions in re-offending and reduced demands on the police and wider public sector.

**Potential Benefits**

- Working with offenders to address behavioural issues
- Managing offending prevention plans
- Protecting vulnerable victims and wider families including children
- Presenting comprehensive information to courts and partner agencies
- Ensuring the domestic violence perpetrators are managed effectively throughout the criminal justice system

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**Key Messages**

- Providing a capability that Suffolk has not previously had taking an evidence-based methodology to protecting vulnerable people
- Domestic Abuse Perpetrator programmes are in place in various forces across the country, have been evaluated and found to significantly reduce re-offending and preventing physical harm potentially saving lives

8. Create a Neighbourhood Crime Proactive Team. Provide 1 x Police Sergeant, 6 x Police Constables as a countywide team. Cost £0.413m.

We will create a countywide neighbourhood crime proactive team of 1 Police Sergeant and 6 Police Constables. This team will be part of the Constabulary’s proactive capability and will be deployable to any part of the county to deal with operational threats and challenges. The team will be highly visible uniformed officers tackling crimes such as violent crime, burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour. This team will tackle high volume crimes acting on issues that matter to local communities.

**Potential Benefits**

- Increased number of arrest and person brought to justice
- Dedicated team that can be dynamically deployed into areas to target crime and criminality
- To work alongside local policing teams
- To lead operations involving multi agency support enhancing police visibility and tackling emerging issues and be a key part of the police response working with partners and solve problems in a sustainable way
Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021

Objective 2
Objective 3
Objective 4

Suffolk Constabulary Priorities

- Protect the vulnerable
- Manage demand
- Improve satisfaction
- Build confidence

Key Messages

- Increased number of solved crimes and offenders brought to justice.
- Robustly tackling emerging issues to reduce crime.
- Strengthening Suffolk Constabulary’s proactive policing capability to respond to and address local community concerns regarding neighbourhood crime.
- Enhancing confidence and satisfaction by being more visible and seen to be dealing with crime that affects local communities.

5.3 More detailed work will need to be carried out if these proposals are agreed. Early indicative figures are that the proposals above will create an additional 20 front line police officer posts and 16 additional police staff posts.

5.4 The costs presented in this paper relate only to pay. Additional expenditure such as fleet, ICT and equipment will be met within existing Constabulary budgets and if necessary further efficiency savings will be required and made to achieve this.