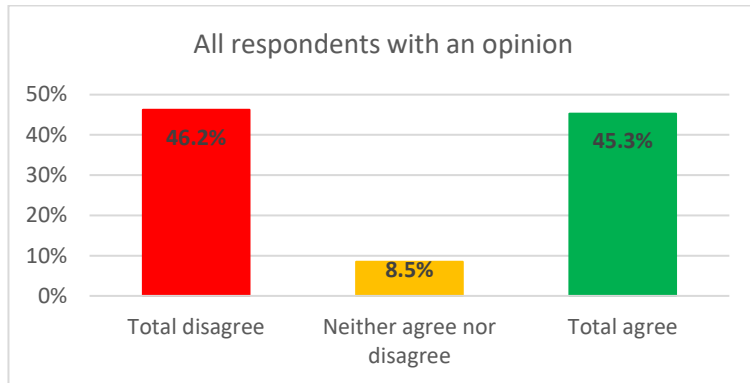


2023/24 Precept Survey Analysis – Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner

Results – precept

The first question respondents were asked is: *PCC Mark Shelford intends to ask for the maximum, annual, precept increase of £15 for the average Band D household. This is equivalent to £1.25 a month. Taking this information into account, how much do you agree or disagree with this proposal?*

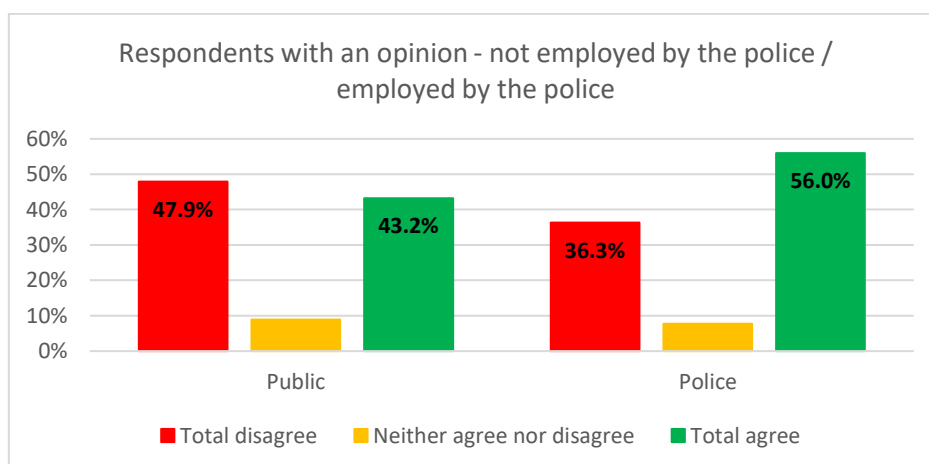


We received 3,760 survey responses.

The responses were finely balanced, with slightly fewer people agreeing with the increase than disagreeing with it.

There is less support from those not employed by the police.

Response	Number of responses	% of respondents with an opinion	% of respondents not employed by the police	% of respondents employed by the police
Strongly disagree	1,212	32.5	34.6	22.7
Tend to disagree	511	13.7	13.3	13.7
Neither agree nor disagree	316	8.5	8.9	7.7
Tend to agree	688	18.5	18.8	20.6
Strongly agree	999	26.8	24.4	35.4
Don't know	34			



After asking whether or not the proposed level of precept increase was supported, respondents were asked about the reasons for their response (options below). Respondents were allowed to select as many options as possible. The top three reasons were supportive of an increase. The top 'negative' reason was that people think the increase should be funded by central Government (29.5%).

Reason	Number	%
I am supportive of the police	1595	42.4
I am concerned about the impact of cuts on policing	1470	39.1
I believe the police budget has already been reduced enough	1154	30.7
I think the increase should be funded by central Government	1108	29.5
I am concerned about my cost of living and can't afford to pay more	1106	29.4
I feel that I already contribute enough for policing services	1005	26.7
I am concerned about the impact of cuts on the personal safety of me or my loved ones	986	26.2
I believe the police to be inefficient and do not provide good value for money	935	24.9
I lack confidence in the police	776	20.6
I would need more information about spend on policing to make an informed decision	416	11.1
None of the above	58	1.5

Results – confidence

After the questions related to the precept there were three questions about people's confidence in the PCC and the police.

Agreement level	I have confidence in the police		I have confidence in the PCC	
	Number	%	Number	%
Strongly disagree	567	15.1	660	17.6
Tend to disagree	738	19.6	548	14.6
Neither disagree nor agree	618	16.4	1,134	30.2
Tend to agree	1,069	28.4	788	21.0
Strongly agree	650	17.3	427	11.4
Don't know	118	3.1	203	5.4

What most influences confidence in Avon and Somerset Police?	Number	% of respondents with an opinion
Perceptions of local policing	1731	51.0
Perceptions of policing nationally	304	9.0
Both, equally	1357	40.0
Don't know	368	

45.7% of respondents agreed they had confidence in the police while 34.7% disagreed.

32.3% of respondents agreed they had confidence in the PCC while 32.1% disagreed.

Methodology

Opinions about next year's precept were collected in two different ways. Firstly, an online survey was hosted on the PCC website and promoted by the OPCC. This survey was open – for anybody to complete – from 20th December 2022 to 31st January 2023.

The second method was a postal survey, 15,000 were dispatched on 3rd January. Targeting of these surveys was based on two strata: local authority area and ethnicity of the population. Firstly, each of the five local authority areas were assigned a number of surveys directly proportional to their total population. Within each local authority area, the surveys were sent to the LSOAs which were most ethnically diverse. Where part of an LSOA was needed to reach the total, addresses were selected at random.

Number of responses by medium	Last year	This year
Online	4,731	3,118
Postal	874	642
Total	5,605	3,760

It should be noted the plan was to consult for a 12-week period but this was not possible due to the late announcement of the precept levels by Government, therefore it was only open for 6 weeks.

About the respondents

After the precept and confidence questions there were a series of demographic or household questions: asked in order to understand the types of people responding

Gender identity	Number	%
Female	1,417	37.7
Male	1,977	52.6
Non-binary	18	0.5
Prefer to self-describe	14	0.4
Prefer not to say	334	8.9

Gender identity the same as sex assigned at birth	Number	%
Yes	3,360	89.4
No	18	0.5
Prefer not to say	382	10.2

Age	Number	%
16 - 24	88	2.3
25 - 34	399	10.6
35 - 44	544	14.5
45 - 54	634	16.9
55 - 64	701	18.6
65 - 74	631	16.8
75 or above	443	11.8
Prefer not to say	320	8.5

Ethnicity	Number	%
Asian or Asian British	78	2.1
Bangladeshi	4	0.1
Chinese	10	0.3
Indian	28	0.7
Pakistani	6	0.2
Any other Asian background	30	0.8
Black or Black British	54	1.4
African	24	0.6
Caribbean	22	0.6
Any other Black background	8	0.2
Mixed	53	1.4
White and Asian	18	0.5
White and Black African	5	0.1
White and Black Caribbean	9	0.2
Any other mixed/multiple ethnic background	21	0.6
White	3,220	85.6
white - British/English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish	3,068	81.6
White - Irish	15	0.4
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	4	0.1
White - Roma	2	0.1
Any other White background	131	3.5
Other	16	0.4
Arab	5	0.1
Any other ethnic group	11	0.3
Prefer not to say	339	9.0

Religion / Faith	Number	%
None	1,473	39.2
Buddhism	19	0.5
Christianity	1,620	43.1
Hinduism	10	0.3
Islam	36	1.0
Judaism	14	0.4
Sikhism	4	0.1
Other	101	2.7
Prefer not to say	483	12.8

Sexual orientation	Number	%
Bisexual	86	2.3
Gay / lesbian	65	1.7
Heterosexual / straight	2,907	77.3
Prefer to self-describe	31	0.8
Prefer not to say	671	17.8

Disability	Number	%
Yes	433	11.5
No	2,940	78.2
Prefer not to say	387	10.3

Local Authority	Number	%
BANES	386	10.3
Bristol	628	16.7
North Somerset	746	19.8
Somerset	1,227	32.6
South Gloucestershire	620	16.5
Prefer not to say	153	4.1

Council tax band	Number	%
A	312	8.3
B	427	11.4
C	460	12.2
D	1,073	28.5
E	391	10.4
F	153	4.1
G	104	2.8
H	17	0.5
Don't know	487	13.0
Prefer not to say	336	8.9

Responsible for paying council tax	Number	%
Yes - jointly	1,895	50.4
Yes - solely	1,523	40.5
No	138	3.7
Prefer not to say	204	5.4

Household income	Number	%
Up to £5,199	36	1.0
£5,200 – £10,399	121	3.2
£10,400 – £15,599	200	5.3
£15,600 – £20,799	206	5.5
£20,800 – £25,999	236	6.3
£26,000 – £31,199	246	6.5
£31,200 – £36,399	215	5.7
£36,400 – £51,999	511	13.6
£52,000 – £66,999	367	9.8
£67,000 or more	515	13.7
Prefer not to say	1,107	29.4

Indices of Multiple Deprivation Decile	Number	%
1	182	10.5
2	129	7.4
3	123	7.1
4	149	8.6
5	153	8.8
6	167	9.6
7	277	15.9
8	164	9.4
9	134	7.7
10	260	15.0

Financial situation	Number	%
Difficult to cope	554	14.7
Manageable	1,955	52.0
Comfortable	785	20.9
Don't know	11	0.3
Prefer not to say	455	12.1

Main source of household income	Number	%
Benefits	87	2.3
Employment or self-employment	2,182	58.0
Pension	1,059	28.2
Prefer not to say	432	11.5

Employed by the police	Number	%
No	2,540	67.6
Yes	922	24.6
Prefer not to say	294	7.8

Victim of crime	Number	%
No	1,105	29.4
Yes	2,361	62.8
Prefer not to say	294	7.8

Voted in PCC election	Number	%
No	1,612	42.9
Yes	1,744	46.4
Prefer not to say	403	10.7

Addendum

The information on pages 1-6 of this report is as it was presented to the Police and Crime Panel prior to them making the decision to support the precept on the 1st February 2023. At this meeting the Panel asked to see a breakdown of the results by local authority area. The below table shows the results for respondents who declared that they were not employed by the police.

