A key responsibility of the directly elected Police & Crime Commissioner is to represent the public on policing, crime and community safety.

The PCC is supported by an award winning engagement team. To build on that success, it is important that you share your views on policing in your neighbourhood.

Office of the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner
Force Headquarters
Winfirth
Dorchester
Dorset DT2 8DZ

Tel. 01202 229084
E. pcc@dorset.pnn.police.uk
or in confidence at:
E. contactpcc@pccdorset.org.uk
@PCCDorset

www.dorset.pcc.police.uk

DORSET ALERT

We would also encourage you to sign up to Dorset Alert, so that the PCC and Dorset Police can keep you informed.

The system allows you to choose the type of information you would like to receive concerning crime and anti-social behaviour, witness appeals, crime prevention, community events and local good news in your neighbourhood.

You will not be notified about every crime or incident. Our aim is to send you information where we believe doing so will reduce the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour, or will help officers to solve a crime.

There are currently over 20,000 residents signed up to the alert system which we are keen to increase, to share information, prevent crime and improve community safety.

To sign up to the scheme visit: www.dorsetalert.co.uk

ABOUT THIS LEAFLET

This leaflet meets the PCC’s obligation, as the Precepting Authority, to explain to the public the reason for the decision to raise the policing element of the Council Tax Precept (as set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992). To print this leaflet, it has cost approximately 2.4p per copy.

The leaflet has been printed on paper from a sustainable source, and has used vegetable based inks through an ISO 14001 accredited printer.
One of the most important tasks I undertake as your elected Police and Crime Commissioner is determining the contribution that local taxpayers make towards policing in Dorset. This contribution is taken via council tax payments, and is known as the precept.

This year, I have made the decision to increase the precept by 1.98%, amounting to an average additional cost to the taxpayer of £3.80 per year. This decision has not been taken lightly, and I would like to share with you the reasons why I have decided on this course of action.

Over the last five years, Dorset Police has experienced central Government cuts of £19m. The Force has had to adapt to this reduction in funding at a time when new types of crime are emerging and threats faced by local communities are changing. In order to offset these cuts, the Government has requested that Police and Crime Commissioners increase the precept each year, for the next three years.

Last year, I consulted with over 4,000 members of the public and 82% supported the rise, which was consequently implemented. In addition to saving the jobs of 23 operational police officers and seven police staff dedicated to frontline operational support, this allowed the Force to invest in tackling online crime, protecting the most vulnerable in our communities and increasing the accessibility of police services.

Given the Chief Constable’s request, the unanimous support received from the Police and Crime Panel and the strong levels of public endorsement, I have decided to raise the precept. I am confident that this is the right choice for the people of Dorset.

I would like to thank those who took part in the consultation. In this leaflet you can find information on the key areas of policing where council tax investment was used last year. If you would like to provide feedback or have other queries relating to policing and crime, please use the details on the back of this leaflet to get in touch.

Martyn Underhill
Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner
2017/18 PRECEPT BUDGET

IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, DORSET POLICE’S BUDGET HAS BEEN CUT BY £19M IN REAL TERMS BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE CUT BY £1M EVERY YEAR FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

WITHOUT A RISE IN 2016/17, THE FORCE WOULD HAVE HAD TO LOSE:

- 23 OPERATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS
- 7 POLICE STAFF DEDICATED TO FRONTLINE OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

LAST YEAR THE £3.74 INCREASE WAS INVESTED IN:

- Employing extra investigators dedicated to investigating child abuse and protecting vulnerable children.
- Creating a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to increase joined-up working to protect vulnerable people.
- Increasing the number of officers in the cyber-crime intelligence and investigation team, and enhancing the software available to them to identify sexual and violent offenders.
- Recruiting a dedicated cyber-crime prevention officer to educate businesses and residents on staying safe online.
- Relaunching the Dorset Police website to make it easier to access information, interact with local Neighbourhood Policing Teams and report crime online.

THIS YEAR THE INCREASE WILL BE INVESTED IN:

- Protecting people at risk of harm
- Including enhancing our ability to prevent and investigate abuse of the elderly, which is a trend in Dorset and nationally.
- Improving our response to common, non-emergency types of crime
- Investing in Appointment Cars to visit victims and take details at prearranged times.
- Continuing to embrace new technology
- Including further enhancements to Dorset Police’s website, such as the ability to make payments online rather than by post.

LAST YEAR WE INVESTED IN...

101 SERVICE

On average 1,300 non-emergency calls are received every day. The average duration of a non-emergency call is seven minutes.

However some calls, due to the nature of the incident and vulnerability of the caller, can take up to 50 minutes to resolve.

In an attempt to release some pressure on the 101 service, a call back system has been developed to enable people to receive a call at a time that is convenient. Call back services are currently available Monday - Friday between 8am and 4pm.

Did you know that many services are available through the website? Do It Online is a contact portal that can be found on the front page of our website www.dorset.police.uk. Here you can select the service most appropriate to your enquiry and complete the form as directed.

The Do It Online function enables you to make enquiries without calling 101, therefore saving you time and expense.

You can now go online to...

- Report a crime
- Request a call back
- Message an employee
- Make a complaint
- Make a general enquiry
- Provide feedback
- Make a freedom of information request
- Email us
More and more criminals are exploiting the speed, convenience and anonymity of the internet to commit a diverse range of criminal activities.

The threat from cyber-crime is a rapidly growing problem nationally for policing and tackling it is a priority in Dorset.

Within his first 100 days in office, the Commissioner pledged to continue to educate residents and businesses on how to stay safe online.

A new Cyber-Crime Prevention Officer role was created to enhance the education that the Force already provides to members of the public and local businesses around cyber-crime prevention.

Jake Moore took up this new role as a Cyber-Crime Prevention Officer on 1 August 2016. He is committed to educating individuals and businesses on how they can stay safe online.

Jake said; “The internet is now an integral part of modern life for most of us. There are so many opportunities offered by the internet.

“While you shouldn’t be afraid to make the most of the cyber world, your online safety shouldn’t be taken for granted or assumed either. Few people really understand the risks that can affect you online and how easy it is to remove these risks.

“It is my job to ensure that you have all the information you need to stay safe online.”

Jake Moore
Cyber-Crime Prevention Officer

For information and advice about staying safe online visit www.dorset.police.uk/cybersafe

The abuse, exploitation and neglect of any adult or child is unacceptable. Dorset Police works with partners to stop those who commit crimes against the vulnerable.

A dedicated team of officers work for the Dorset Police Public Protection Unit and are responsible for investigating incidents which fall under the umbrella of Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) as well as safeguarding vulnerable people in Dorset.

PVP issues include: adults at risk, child abuse and neglect, child sexual exploitation (CSE), domestic abuse, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, honour based abuse, human trafficking and modern slavery, managing offenders, missing persons, prostitution, sexual offences, and stalking and harassment.

While officers investigate offences and support victims, these types of offences are often hidden and vulnerable members of society may be less likely to speak up if they are experiencing abuse, neglect or have been a victim of a crime. That’s why it is important that the general public of Dorset is vigilant and all individuals ensure they report any suspicions or concerns immediately.

Please report by visiting: dorset.police.uk/do-it-online or call 101. Dial 999 in an emergency.

More information, including what signs to look out for and where to get support, can be found by visiting: dorset.police.uk/PVP

TOP TIPS

- Remember, one click can change everything
- Use random, strong passwords and protect your identity
- Always update anti-virus and software
- Check for the padlock symbol or https:// at the beginning of the url