



**Lincolnshire**  
**POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER**

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SAFER TOGETHER

## **BUDGET CONSULTATION**

I am delighted to report to the panel that at the end of last year I launched one of most comprehensive consultations ever undertaken by a PCC.

Knowing this county faced some significant challenges which need to be addressed I launched a wide ranging public consultation designed to cover a breadth of subjects.

They included issues from people's actual experience of crime versus their fear of crime, to where they would deploy extra officers if they were available and the appetite to pay more for policing in Lincolnshire.

We set out to create a consultation that met a professionally accepted level of engagement, so the statistical analysis would be robust in sample sizes covering age range, gender, social grouping and geographical residency.

Not only did we manage to reach that target but we exceeded it by 50% - with 1,000 more taking part in the 10-minute survey than we originally planned.

It is one of the most comprehensive consultations carried out in Lincolnshire and, I believe, by any PCC across the UK.

The approach taken in the survey was to ensure that every district council area had at least 265 respondents to the survey to ensure that data from each area was statistically robust enough to rely upon.

In every single area our original target was exceeded.

The ONS mid-year 2017 population estimate for Lincolnshire of 599,746 Adults aged 18+ was used to calculate the target sample required in order to achieve a Confidence Interval of  $\pm 6$  for each of the demographic segments on the right at the 95% Confidence Level.

**The Confidence Interval for the sample as whole, at the County Level is  $\pm 1.81$ .**

Actual completed surveys achieved are shown beside the target.

**All target sample levels were met and exceeded for each segment.**

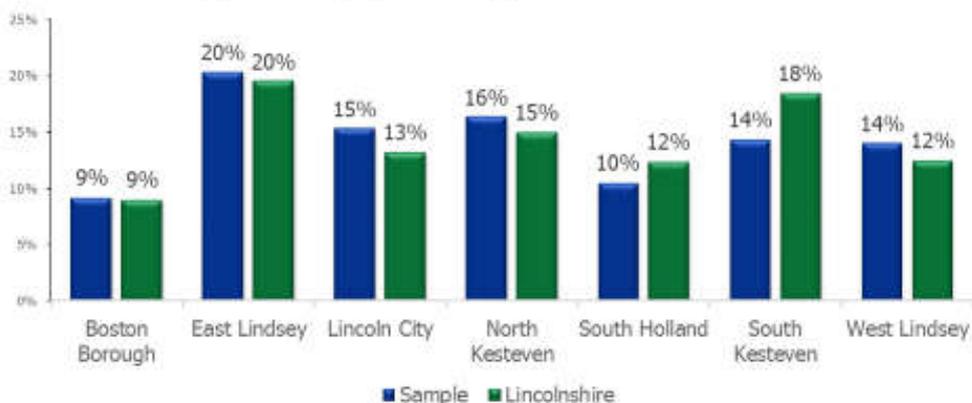
NB No target sample volumes were originally set for participants categorising their gender as 'Other' or Socio Economic Group = S for Full Time Students.

Segment	Target Sample	Actual Survey Completes achieved
Gender = Male	898	1,473
Gender = Female	963	1,356
Gender = Other	N/A	70
Socio Enomic Group = ABC1	1,077	2,053
Socio Enomic Group = C2DE	673	804
Socio Economic Group = S	N/A	49
Age Band = 16-34 years	489	492
Age Band = 35-49 years	457	716
Age Band = 50-64 years	457	885
Age Band = 65+	459	813
Local Authority = Boston Borough	265	271
Local Authority = East Lindsey	266	585
Local Authority = Lincoln City	266	448
Local Authority = North Kesteven	266	471
Local Authority = South Holland	266	305
Local Authority = South Kesteven	266	416
Local Authority = West Lindsey	266	410
<b>Total Sample</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>2,906</b>

Source: Lincolnshire Crime and Policing Survey Dec 2017. Conducted by Helios Limited.

The resultant survey sample was a very good reflection of the make-up of the county's population.

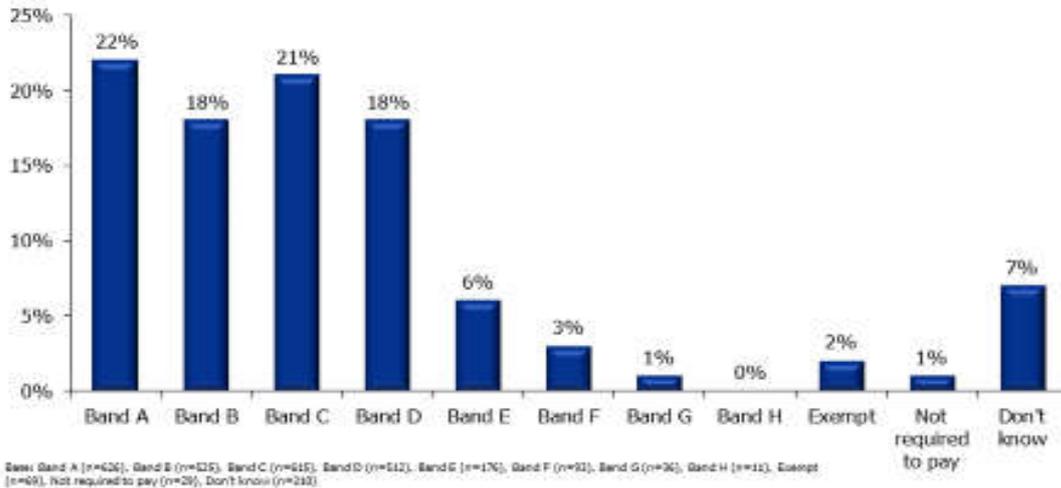
Which local authority area are you permanently resident in?



Work is still being done to understand, in depth, the 3,000 responses but what has emerged, in a striking way, is the level of extra council tax residents are prepared to pay to protect and enhance our police force.

The mechanics applied to questions around council tax were sophisticated – with respondents asked what council tax band they were in and their answer used to generate the extra weekly costs for increases of 5%, 10%, 15% and 20% **specific to them** - as well as offering a no increase option.

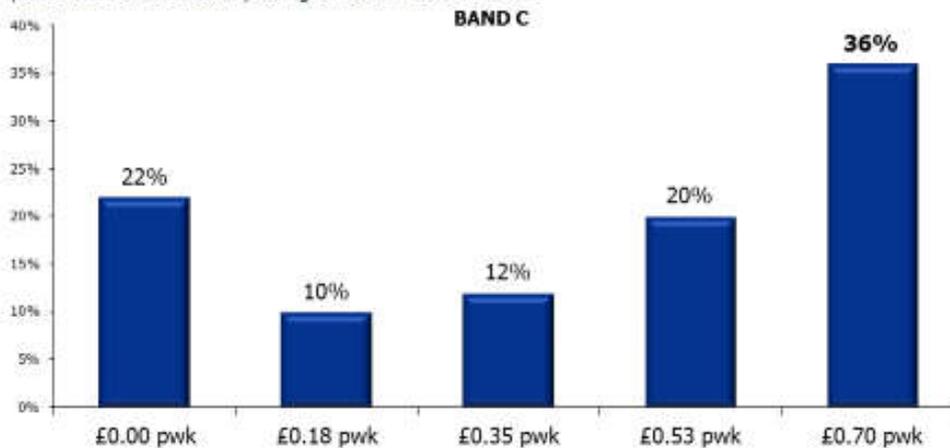
Please indicate from the options below which Council Tax Band your place of residence falls into.



For instance a Band C respondent was given the options of 18p, 35p, 53p and 70p

**78% of residents in Band C properties are prepared to pay more per week for more police and a better policing service, with 36% choosing the highest amount.**

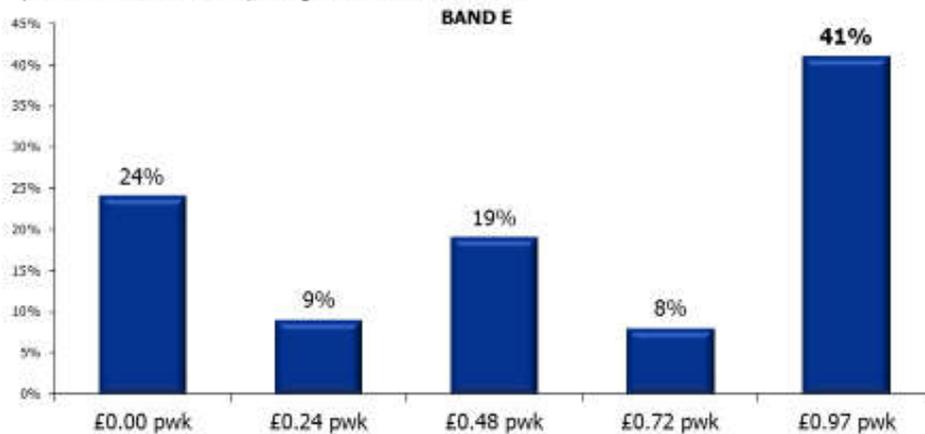
Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



...— while a Band E respondent had the options of 24p, 48p, 72p and 97p.

**41% of residents of Band E properties are prepared to pay the highest incremental amount of £0.97 per week.**

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.

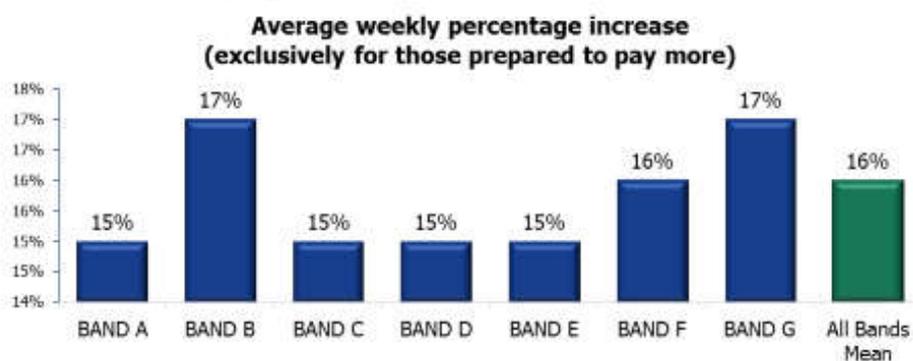


In every single tax band the HIGHEST percentage of people opted for the BIGGEST increase – averaging at more than a third of respondents opting for the 20% increase (see Annex 1)

Across all tax bands at least half of people opted for increases of at least 16% - considerably higher than the increase of less than 6% I propose.

**The average weekly percentage increase selected across all survey participants, amongst those prepared to pay more, is 16%.**

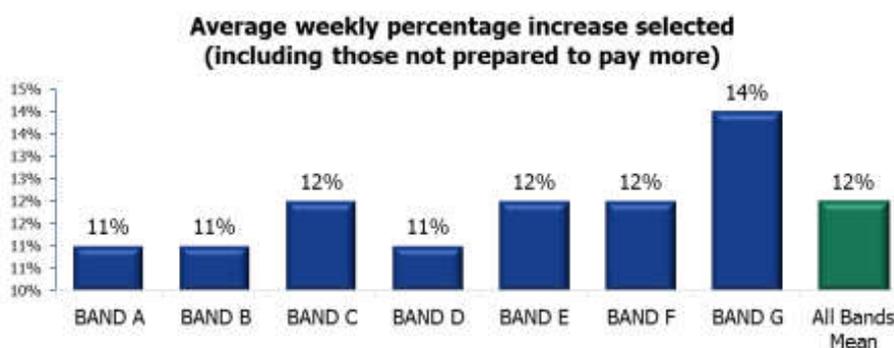
Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



Even including those respondents who expressed a preference not to pay more the average increase came in at 12% - DOUBLE the current proposed rise.

The average weekly percentage increase selected across all survey participants, including those unprepared to pay more, is 12%.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



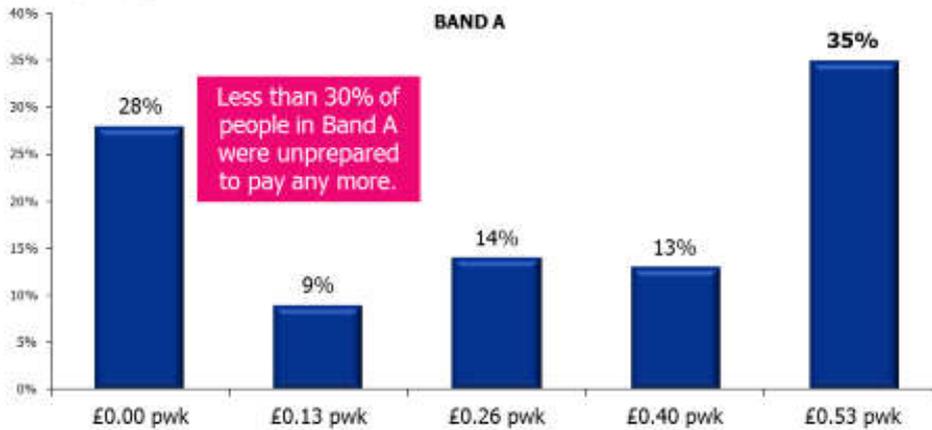
With this robust research I am confident that my proposed increase of less than 6% has strong public support.

There is still a great deal of information within the research to digest, analyse and respond to. How I, and the force, will tackle these issues going forward will be the subject of reports at future meetings.

ANNEX 1

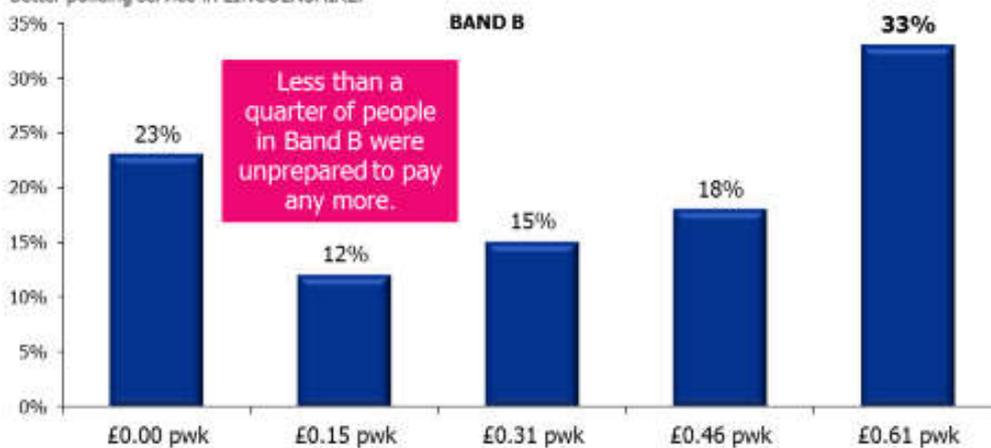
Over a third (35%) of people living in a Band A property select the highest weekly increase option.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



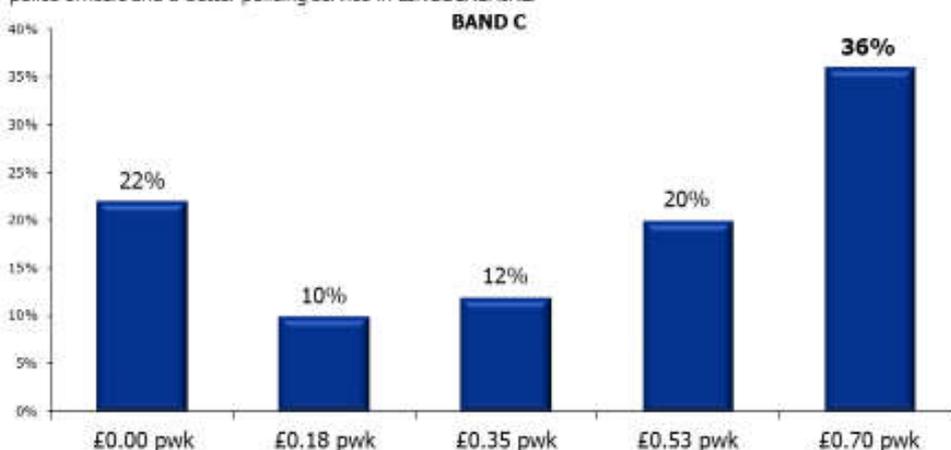
Exactly a third of people living in a Band B property, selected the highest weekly increase option of £0.61 per week.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



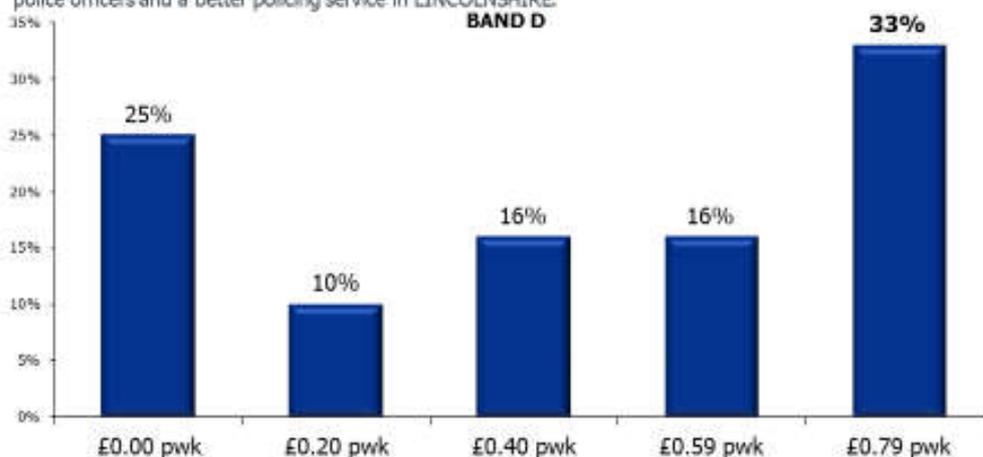
78% of residents in Band C properties are prepared to pay more per week for more police and a better policing service, with 36% choosing the highest amount.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



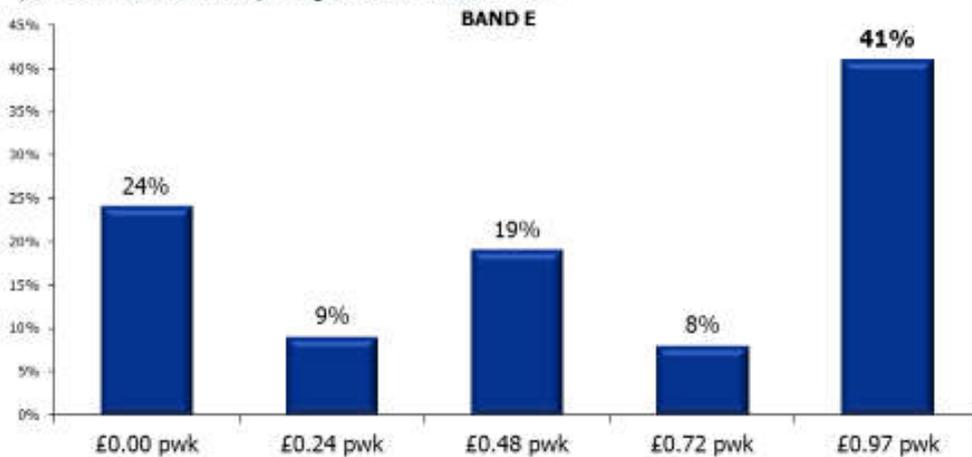
Again, a third of participants select the highest option amongst residents of Band D properties.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



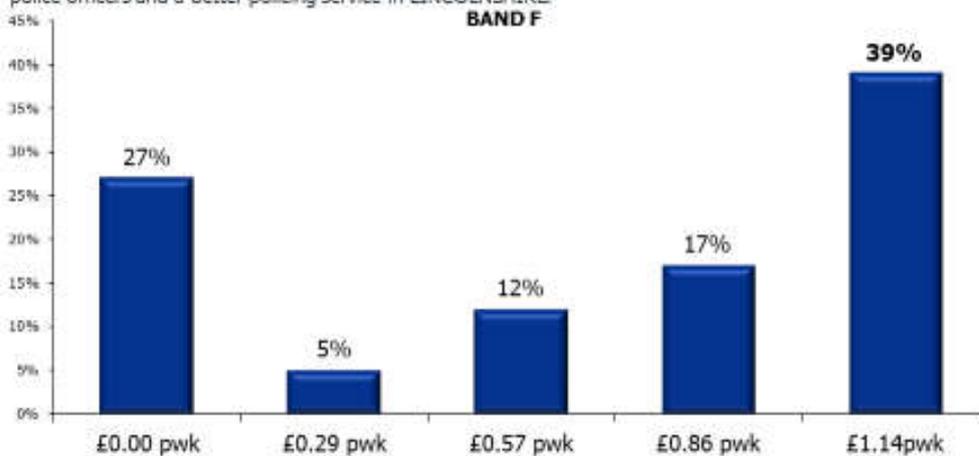
### 41% of residents of Band E properties are prepared to pay the highest incremental amount of £0.97 per week.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



### 39% of residents in Band F properties are prepared to pay considerably in excess of £1 per week more.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.



## Fewer than 1 in 8 residents (14%) of Band G properties are unprepared to pay more for better policing.

Please indicate below how much more you would be prepared to pay per week, for more police officers and a better policing service in LINCOLNSHIRE.

