

About the 2010/2011 Surrey Police Authority Budget

- The Authority has agreed a 2.41% increase in the police's share of council tax. For a Band D property, this represents an annual increase of £4.68, from £193.86 to £198.54.
- In all, Surrey Police's net budget for the year will increase by 2.8% to £202.7m.
- This is the lowest increase since 1995
- We have two main streams of funding – the local council tax precept and government grants. We cannot raise money by charging for services like local councils can.
- Surrey taxpayers have to pay a higher percentage of the cost of their police force – nearly 50% of the total budget - than taxpayers in any other county in England. The national average is around 25%.
- Surrey provides more tax money to the Exchequer than any other county in England but receives one of the lowest levels of central funding for policing in the country. The reasons for this rest primarily with problems in the calculations used by the Government to decide how much money a county needs for policing.
- Because of our reliance on council tax funding, we are always at higher risk of capping by the Government. By making radical changes to the force and the way it is structured, we are hoping to break the cycle of capping and put the force on a more sustainable footing
- The Home Affairs Select Committee has recognised that Surrey is one of the forces disadvantaged by current funding arrangements.
- We are continuing to work with the Government to get a fairer deal for the people of Surrey to help us reduce what we must ask for in council tax each year.