

Council tax information 2013-14

Doing what I said I would do

At the election last November I pledged to stop the wholesale privatisation of large parts of the police to G4S, to do all I could to protect frontline policing and to ensure that victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime receive the priority they deserve.

I am pleased to report that I am making progress on all these priorities. The negotiations with G4S have stopped, cuts to our valuable Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been halted and my forthcoming



Olly Martins, Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

Police and Crime Plan details how services to victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime will improve.



Commissioner announces PCSO posts are safe

The future

Nevertheless, huge challenges remain as I seek to balance the police budget for future years. Due to Government grant cuts £12m has had to be saved during 2011/12 and 2012/13 and a further £7m needs to be found by 2015. The modest rise in the council tax you pay for policing (roughly 1p a day extra for most households) will generate an extra income of £560,000 for the Force in 2013-14. This puts us in a better position to balance future budgets and protect frontline policing.

Work on my plan “Building a Safer Bedfordshire” is now well underway. The following themes, which are the framework for this plan, have also influenced the 2013/14 budget:

- Protecting the Public - by cutting crime and anti-social behaviour to reduce harm
- Partnership Working - by building confident communities and deliver more effective services for the victims of crime
- Preventing Crime - by tackling the underlying causes that drive offending.



Finance

Bedfordshire's budget for policing in 2013-14 is £102.877m, of which £70.7m comes from the Government Funding Grant and the remainder from the police part of your council tax payment. The Government offered a grant to freeze the council tax but this would have effectively left the Force short of more than £1.1m over the next three years, almost inevitably leading to further cuts in police strength.

The amount you will pay:

Council Tax Band	Amount £	Increase from last year £
A	102.33	2.00
B	119.38	2.33
C	136.44	2.67
D	153.49	3.00
E	187.60	3.67
F	221.71	4.34
G	255.82	5.00
H	306.98	6.00



Police and Crime Commissioner Olly Martins and Chief Constable Alf Hitchcock

There are a number of contacts that might be helpful:

In an emergency you should always call **999**, or **112** from a mobile

For all non-emergencies and general police enquiries, call **101**,
24 hours a day

Stop Hate - **0800 138 1625** www.stophateuk.org/

Ring Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111** if you have any
information relating to any crime, anywhere in the UK

To speak to one of Victim Support's care teams, please call
0845 456 5995 or email vcu.eastofengland@victimsupport.org.uk

You can also get in touch with me in the following ways:

Write to: Commissioner Olly Martins, Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire, Bridgebury House, Woburn
Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire MK43 9AX

Email: pcc@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Tel: **01234 842064**

www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk

Twitter: [@bedspcc](https://twitter.com/bedspcc) and [@ollymartins](https://twitter.com/ollymartins)