



# PROTECTING OUR POLICE

As your Police and Crime Commissioner, it is my responsibility to ensure Merseyside Police is well-equipped to manage and respond to the risks that threaten your safety and make you feel unsafe.

Regrettably, this is becoming more difficult year on year. As new problems and risks emerge, and crime becomes more sophisticated, the gulf between what we have and what we need keeps on growing. The position is made more challenging by rising costs, including pay and inflation, stretching the policing budget ever more thinly.

While I was extremely reluctant to ask local taxpayers to pay more, I am grateful for your support for paying a little extra towards policing to ensure the force can still deliver the strong and visible policing presence important to all of us. I am also grateful to the Police and Crime Panel, the body tasked with scrutinising my work, for unanimously endorsing my proposals.

Even with the additional precept income, and the funding provided by the Government, there is still a significant budget gap. The Chief Constable is working hard to find further efficiency savings on top of those already identified, and I plan to utilise reserves and one-off funding this year to balance the budget in a way that will protect officer and staff numbers and continue service delivery. I will also hold the Chief Constable to account to ensure we maximise every penny of the budget delivering on the priorities set out in my Police and Crime Plan to keep you safe.

Despite the budget challenges, crime on Merseyside is falling. The most recent crime figures show a drop of 13% in overall crime in the year ending 30 September 2024, with reductions in key



crime types including violence, robbery, anti-social behaviour and burglary.

During the 2024/25 financial year I successfully secured £12.017m of additional funding, an increase of £1.637m on the previous year to make Merseyside safer, by preventing crime, bringing offenders to justice and protecting victims.

I will continue my work to secure more funding for our region and will fight to get Merseyside Police the funding it needs to see the return of the 450 missing officers, as well as protect staff jobs, so it can deliver a visible police presence in every community on Merseyside.

Thank you for playing a vital role in helping us to protect our police service.

*Emily Spurrell*

## POLICE PRECEPT 2025/26



**EMILY SPURRELL**  
MERSEYSIDE POLICE  
& CRIME COMMISSIONER





# THE BUDGET

## HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT...

Description	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
Police Officer Pay	221.466	246.092
Police Pensions	69.219	72.099
Police Staff Pay	92.411	111.261
Police Staff Pensions	14.611	16.584
Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner	1.650	1.837
PCC Controlled Expenditure	12.184	10.156
Other	60.721	43.846
Gross Expenditure	472.262	501.875

## HOW OUR SPENDING HAS CHANGED...

	£m
Gross Expenditure 2024/25	472.262
Full Year Effect of 2024 pay award above original budget	5.456
Impact of Price Inflation above 2024/25 contingency	0.742
Increase in Employers National Insurance	6.920
Cost of Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee	6.665
Additional Recruitment Top Up Expenditure	1.722
Allowance for Pay Inflation	12.801
Allowance for Price Inflation	1.866
Net Committed Growth/(Savings)	(6.559)
GROSS EXPENDITURE 2025/26	501.875

## WHY HAS COUNCIL TAX CHANGED?

	£m
Council Tax Requirement 2024/25	(103.292)
Increase in tax base	(2.397)
Increase in Band D Equivalent	(5.584)
Council Tax Requirement 2025/26	(111.273)

## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM...

Source	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
Police General Grant	(304.702)	(315.998)
Council Tax Grants	(15.641)	(15.641)
Council Tax Requirement	(103.292)	(111.273)
Collection Fund Deficit / (Surplus)	0.180	(0.928)
Net Contribution to / (from) Reserves	(3.425)	(4.116)
Specific Government Grants	(42.249)	(50.747)
Income	(3.132)	(3.172)
Total Funding	(472.262)	(501.875)

# YOUR COUNCIL TAX

2024/25		2025/26	Increase
389,826	Tax base (Band D equivalent properties)	398,872	9,046
£264.97	Band D Equivalent Charge	£278.97	£14.00

## YOUR CONTRIBUTION 2025/26:

## INCREASE FROM 2024/25

*\*majority of taxpayers on Merseyside*

Tax Band A*	£185.98	£9.33
Tax Band B	£216.98	£10.89
Tax Band C	£247.97	£12.44
Tax Band D	£278.97	£14.00
Tax Band E	£340.96	£17.11
Tax Band F	£402.96	£20.23
Tax Band G	£464.95	£23.33
Tax Band H	£557.94	£28.00

## CONTACT MY OFFICE:



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