
ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE 2019 POLICING PRECEPT CONSULTATION

1. Purpose of Report

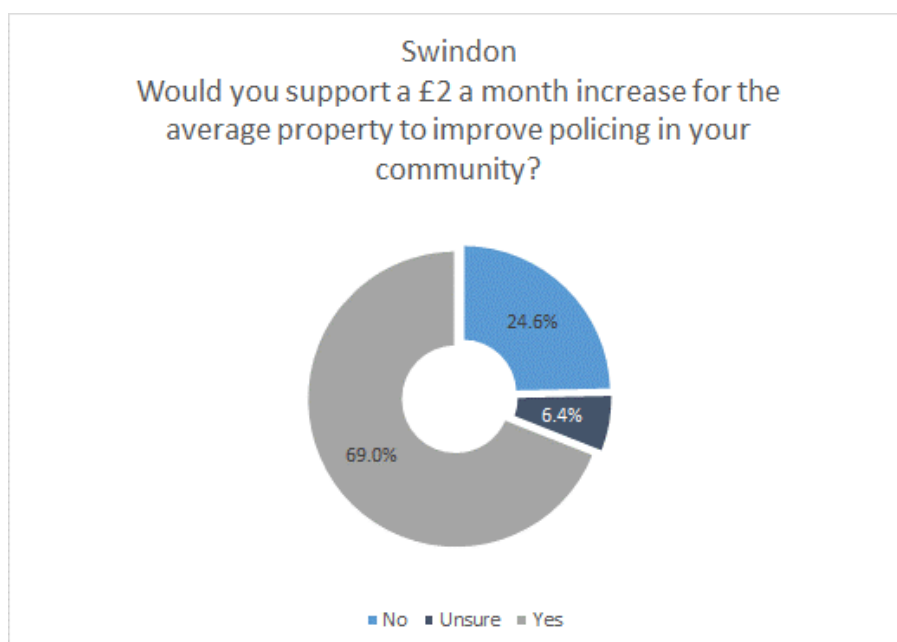
1.1. To provide additional analysis to the Panel on the PCC's 2019 policing precept consultation. This is an addendum to the report presented in February 2019.

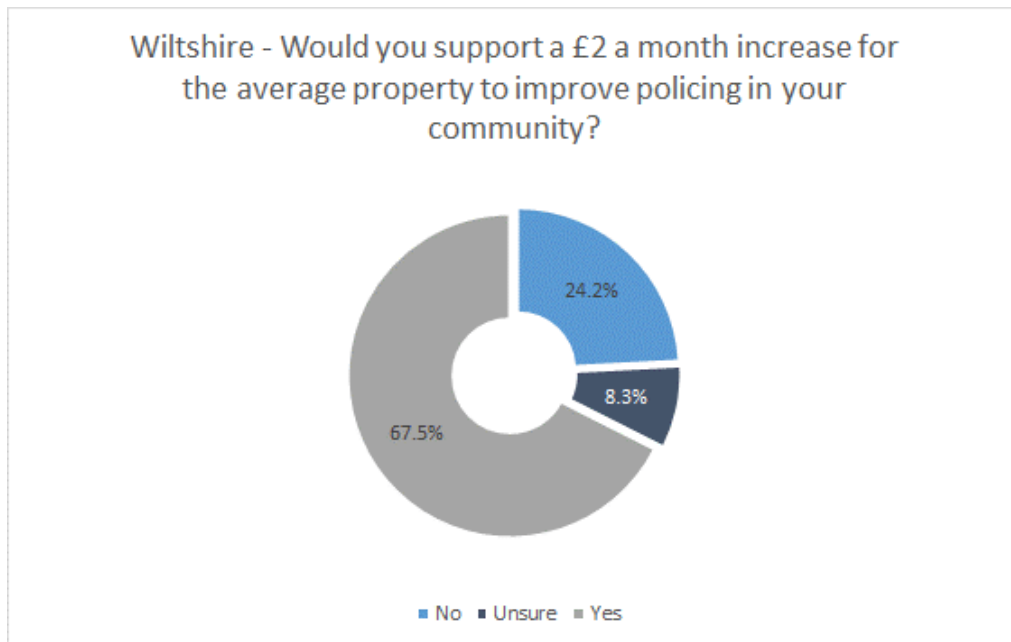
1.2. Sample size: 2320, Confidence Level: 99%, Confidence Interval: 2.67

2. Geographical breakdown of support for £2 increase in policing precept

2.1. As outlined within the Wiltshire PCP Precept Consultation Report in February 2019. 67.84% of respondents were supportive of the proposed increase in the policing precept. When broken into local authority areas there is no significant outlier,

2.2. 69.0% of Swindon respondents and 67.5% of Wiltshire respondents were supportive.





2.3. When examining at sector level there are no significant outliers deviating from the overall 67.84%. Within Salisbury 63.83% of respondents supported the increase, although lower than the Wiltshire average it is not significant and still falls within the confidence interval of +/- 2.67.

3. Insight from free text responses

3.1. The survey asked two free text questions which allows greater insight in to the reason respondents are supportive or not of the proposed increase. These were:

3.2. "Would you support a £2 a month increase for the average property to improve policing in your community?" Any further comments?

3.3. "Is there anything else you would like to add about policing in Wiltshire and Swindon?"

3.4. Key theme within these comments, regardless of respondent supporting or rejecting increase, was the request that police officer numbers and visibility be increased (299 respondents, 31.8%).

3.5. Of those respondents rejecting the proposal the strongest running themes within the comments were the same in both Swindon and Wiltshire. A total of 563 (136 in Swindon, 427 in Wiltshire) respondents stated they would not support a rise. Of those, 340 (81 in Swindon, 259 in Wiltshire) provided additional comments which fell in to the following themes:

3.6. Distrust as to where money will be/is currently spent (151 respondents). Responses include perception that money would not be spent on additional officers on the ground and that cost savings could be identified elsewhere.

Some respondents make specific mention of high profile policing operations and the PCCs office.

3.7. Already struggling to pay current amount (83 responses) people make mention to already struggling to pay current bills and concern that there will also be increases in other living costs.

3.8. Request for increased visibility and officer numbers (447 respondents) – with the perception that this would mean local issues would be addressed for example speeding, drugs and rural crime.

3.9. Support Overall Policing (88 respondents) – appreciation that Wiltshire Police is doing the best it can under perceived difficult circumstances.

4. Summary

4.1. Responses are consistent across Wiltshire and Swindon with no significant geographical outliers

4.2. Respondents state distrust as to where money will be spent and already struggling with current living costs as predominant themes for not supporting increase

4.3. Respondents expect/request Police Officer numbers to increase and an increase in visibility.

5. Recommendation

5.1. The Panel is asked to note the additional information in addition to the precept report at the February 2019 meeting.