



Precept Consultation Survey Report 2020/21

Consultation process and responses

The Precept Consultation Survey was open between 2nd December 2019 and the 17th January 2020. There were a total of 486 responses to the survey with 44 in Welsh and 445 in English. The total number of responses is considerably lower than the number received in previous years. The General Election in December prevented extensive promotion of survey because of the restrictions within the pre-election guidance.

Following feedback from last year's survey this year the Commissioner ensured that the survey was accessible in a number of formats. The survey was available online, in paper format and in an Easy Read format. There were 15 paper copies received and five Easy Read surveys received. In addition the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner attended a number of groups for Older People to ensure that they were aware of the consultation and had the opportunity to complete it either online or in paper format.

Question 1 – Do you agree with my current priorities?

This question asked respondents whether they felt the current priorities continue to be relevant. All priorities received a positive response with all apart from Modern Slavery receiving over 90% agreement. The table below summarises the responses.

	Agree %	Disagree %	Don't Know %
Reducing Criminal Exploitation	92	5	3
Domestic Abuse	91	5	4
Sexual Abuse	93	3	4
Modern Slavery	80	9	11
Organised Crime	95	2	3
Safer Neighbourhoods	95	2	3

Question 2 – Do you think that the Organised Crime priority should be amended to Organised Crime and Serious Violence?

The suggestion to include Serious Violence within this priority is due to the increased violence associated with Organised Crime. This was identified within the UK Government Serious Violence Strategy in 2018.

Overall the respondents agreed that Serious Violence should be included within the Organised Crime Priority. The table below shows the responses as a whole.

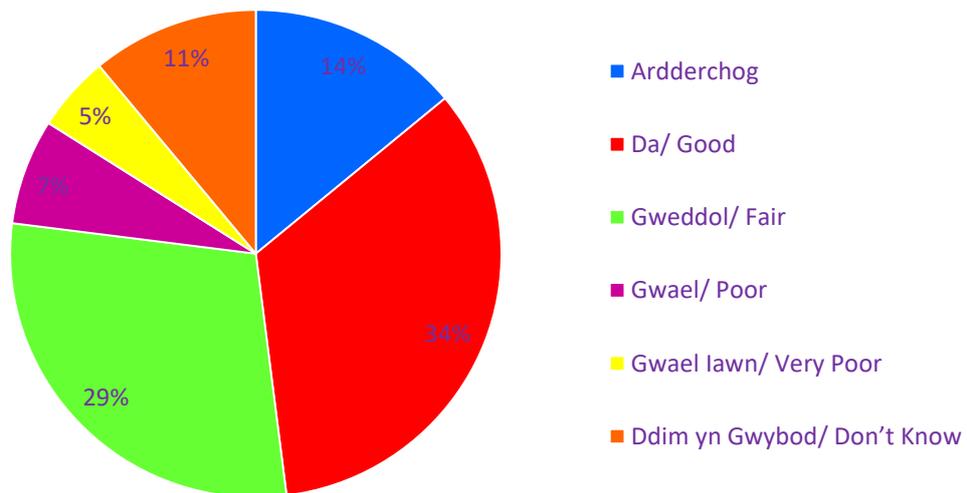
Agree	77%
Disagree	12%
Don't Know	11%

Question 3 – How good are the police in your area?

Overall the response to this question was positive with 48% of respondents stating that they consider the force to be Excellent or Good. The open text question allowed respondents to explain their reasons for the grading given with a high proportion requesting for an increase in police visibility and officers. I understand that visible policing can provide reassurance to our communities however, crime continues to change and a patrolling officer will not prevent the hidden crimes such as child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and domestic violence from occurring. The evolution of crime has forced police forces to adapt their policing methods to ensure that they continue to be efficient and effective.

In relation to an increase in officers the Prime Minister announced Operation Uplift in September 2019 which promised an increase in 2000 officers across England and Wales. In North Wales this includes 66 additional officers over the next two years.

How good are the police in your area?



Question 4- Are you happy with the way I am consulting with you?

The respondents to the survey were satisfied with the way that the consultation was conducted. The table below shows a summary of the responses. Within the open text question a number of respondents raised their concerns surrounding the accessibility of an online survey. This survey was accessible to all due to the availability of paper and Easy Read surveys.

	%
Yes	78
No	9
Don't Know	13

Question 5- Do you pay Council Tax or Business Rates?

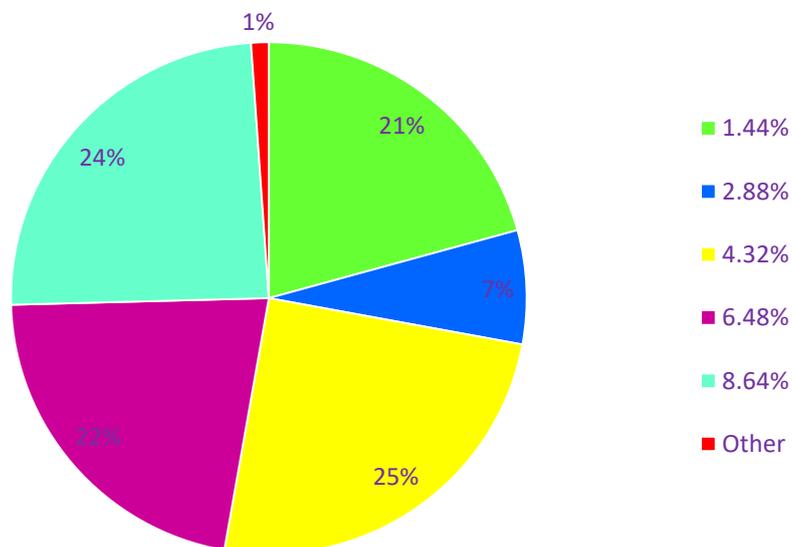
This question was included to identify the number of both Council Tax and Business Rate payers answering the survey. There was a higher proportion of Council Tax payers and to Business Rate Payers as demonstrated in the below table.

	%
Council Tax	92
Business Rates	4
None of the Above	4

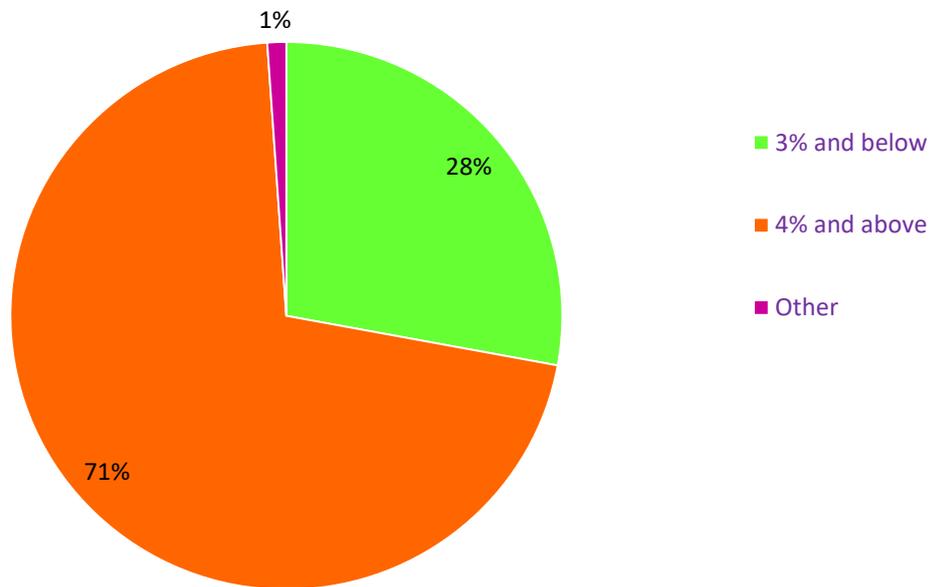
Question 6 – Please could you indicate your preferred level of Council Tax increase from the following options?

This question provided six different options for an increase in Council Tax which resulted in over 71% of respondents requesting an increase of over 4%. The pie chart below shows the percentage of responses for each category.

Please could you indicate your preferred level of Council Tax increase from the following options?



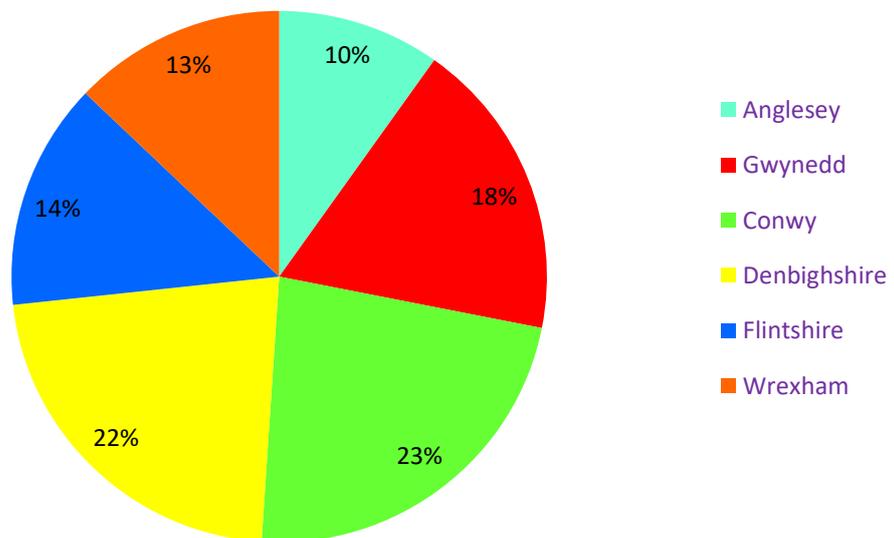
Please could you indicate your preferred level of Council Tax increase from the following options?



Question 7 – Which County do you live in?

The respondents based on their county of residence have changed considerably since last year's consultation where the responses for each county were fairly equal. This year almost half of the respondents resided in Denbighshire and Conwy.

Which County do you live in?



Question 8 – How did you hear about the survey?

As shown in the graph below the majority of our respondents heard about the survey via text and emails.

