



Police and Crime Plan Consultation Survey Report 2019/2020

The Survey ran between the 3rd December 2018 and 14th January 2019 receiving a total of 1877 responses. Of those responses 70 were in Welsh and 1807 in English. Compared to last year’s survey there has been a 44% (573) increase in responses however a significant 64% decrease in the number responding to the Welsh survey.

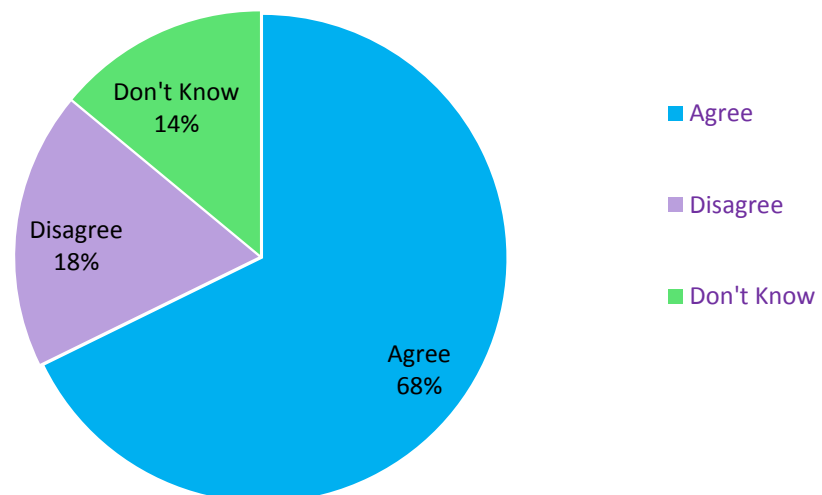
The Police and Crime Commissioner has a duty to consult with members of the public for any proposed changes to the Police and Crime Plan and any increases in the precept. The first five questions in the survey requested the public’s view on the Police and Crime Plan priorities and the suggested change in the overarching priority from threat, risk and harm to Criminal Exploitation.

1. Should Criminal Exploitation become an overarching priority?

Just over two thirds of respondents to the online survey agreed that Criminal Exploitation should become the overarching Police and Crime Plan priority. There were over 300 responses to the open text question which allowed respondents to explain why they didn’t agree or didn’t understand. Over 60% of the respondents stated that they thought that criminal exploitation was important but not an issue in North Wales, felt that other crime types should be considered a higher priority and that local policing should be the overarching priority of the plan. Several respondents expressed the need for further information on Criminal Exploitation as they felt they didn’t have a full understanding on the issue to provide an opinion. The response to this question will encourage further awareness raising around Criminal Exploitation across North Wales.

	Total	%
Agree	1424	68
Disagree	384	18
Don't Know	294	14

Do you agree that the overarching priority should be Criminal Exploitation

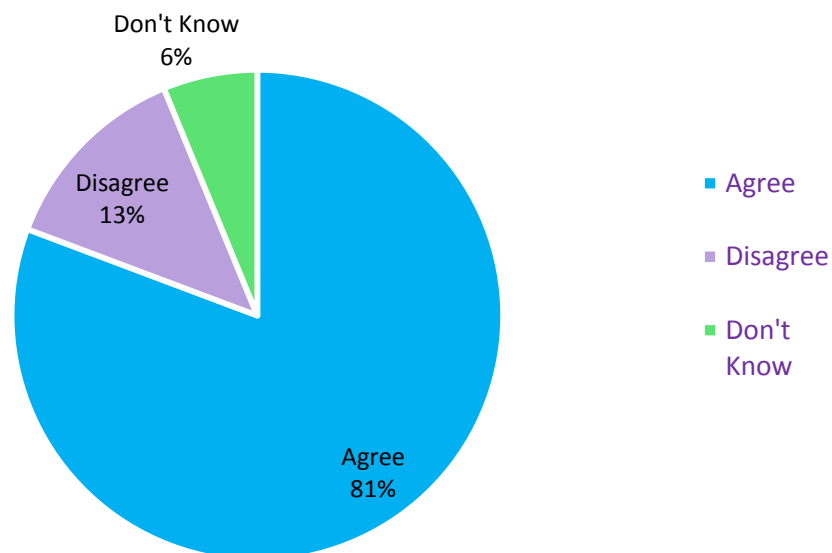


2. Should Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence merge as priorities?

A large proportion (81%) of the online survey respondents agreed that Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence should be merged as priorities. Although a high percentage support the merger following consultation with the third sector and the comments received within the open text option of the online survey there are clear concerns that merging the two priorities would have a detrimental effect on their importance. The offences are considered to be too different to be merged into the same priority. Services also expressed their concerns that merging the priorities would blur the boundaries and reduce the number of support services. It has therefore been decided that the priorities will remain as separate entities within the Police and Crime Plan. Responders also shared their concerns that these priorities in line with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence agenda only considered female offenders. This is not the case, under the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence priority both male and female victims are included.

	Total	%
Agree	1630	81
Disagree	265	13
Don't Know	125	6

Should Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse be merged as one priority?

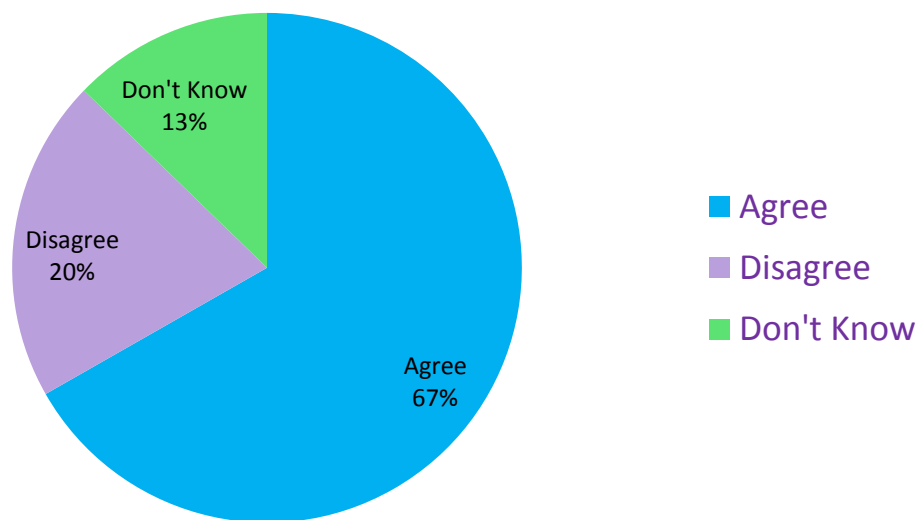


3. Should Modern Slavery remain as a priority?

The table below shows that 67% of the respondents to the survey agreed that Modern Slavery should remain as a priority. The comments received within the open text area of the question showed that similarly to Criminal Exploitation 22% of respondents felt that they needed more information about Modern Slavery. In addition 28% of respondents thought that other crimes should take priority over Modern Slavery. There is a clear need for further information sharing and awareness raising around the impact of Modern Slavery within our communities.

	Total	%
Agree	1325	67
Disagree	406	20
Don't Know	252	13

Should Modern Slavery remain a priority?

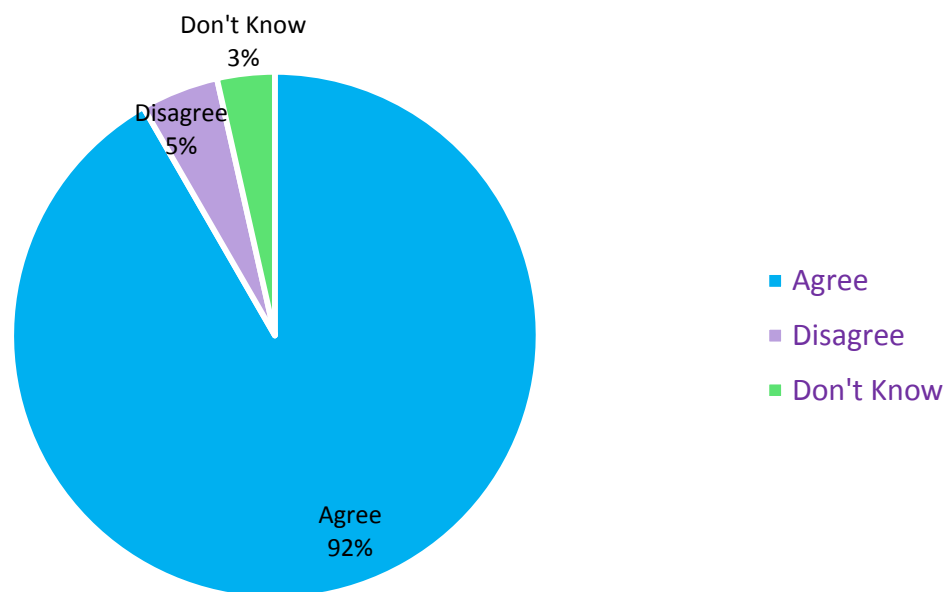


4. Should Organised Crime remain as a priority?

Almost all of the respondents (92%) agreed that Organised Crime should remain a priority within the Police and Crime Plan. Of the 8% of comments received stating that they disagreed or chose that they didn't know the majority felt that other crimes should take priority over Organised Crime. It is clear that the public in North Wales understand the impact that Organised Crime is having on our local communities and they appreciate that this area must be prioritised.

	Total	%
Agree	1809	92
Disagree	95	5
Don't Know	69	3

Should Organised Crime remain a priority?

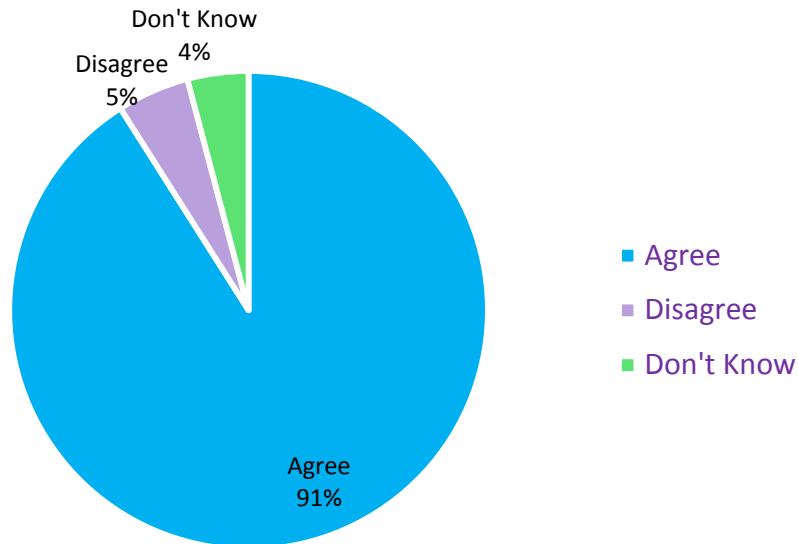


5. Should Safer Neighbourhoods remain as a priority?

Overall the public agreed that Safer Neighbourhoods should remain as a Police and Crime Plan priority with 91% of respondents agreeing to this question. The comments received stated that diversion away from the criminal justice system should be dealt with via other agencies. Diversionary programmes however are only successful if they provide a multi-agency approach. In the majority of cases individuals offending are suffering from a number of underlying issues which can only be resolved with multiagency interventions such as housing, substance misuse services and financial support. Ensuring that the most problematic within our communities receive the right support will result in a reduction in crime and make our neighbourhoods safer.

	Total	%
Agree	1782	91
Disagree	96	5
Don't Know	80	4

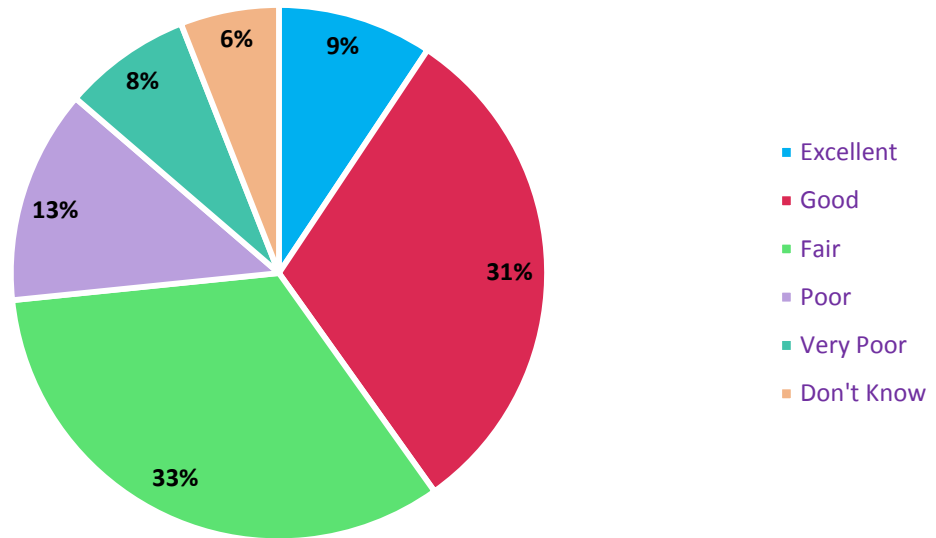
Should Safer Neighbourhoods remain a priority?



6. How good a job do you think the police in your local area are doing?

The pie chart below shows that 40% of the responders to the survey felt that the police are doing an excellent or good job in their local area. A third of respondents stated that the service they received from the force was “Fair” due to the lack of police presence within their area. There were 1017 open text comments with 55% of responders stating that more officers and more patrols were required for a higher rating to be given. Just over a fifth (21%) of respondents praised the force on their accomplishments and hard work despite the financial constraints that they currently face. It is clear that the public appreciate that the cuts received by the force have impacted day to day policing and has caused the introduction of priority policing. They do however, feel that communities would benefit from larger police presence.

How good a job do you think the police are doing in your area?

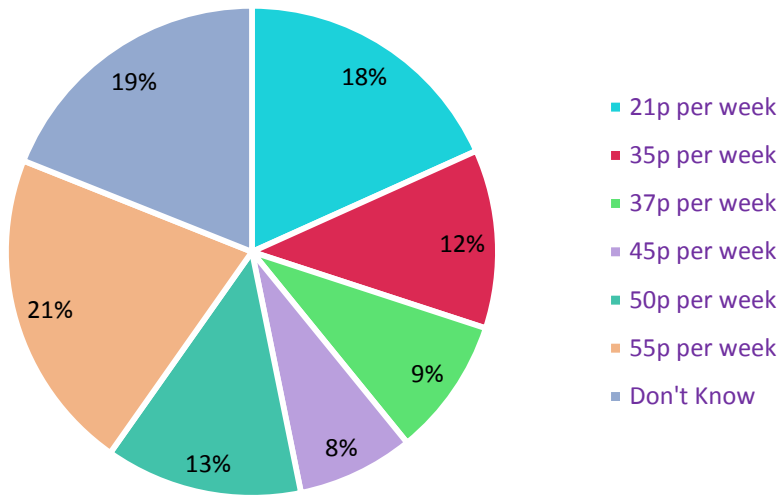


7. How much do you think the precept should increase by?

The responses to the precept question demonstrated mixed opinions across North Wales with the most popular responses being increase precept by 55p per week (21%), increase the precept by 21p per week (18%) and Don't Know (19%). The open text question was available to those choosing the Don't Know option with 79% stating that there should be no increase in the precept. A number of the responders stated that the funds should not be taken from the tax payers and that the UK Government should be providing more funding. In addition, responders would be happy to pay more if it resulted in more officers on the streets.

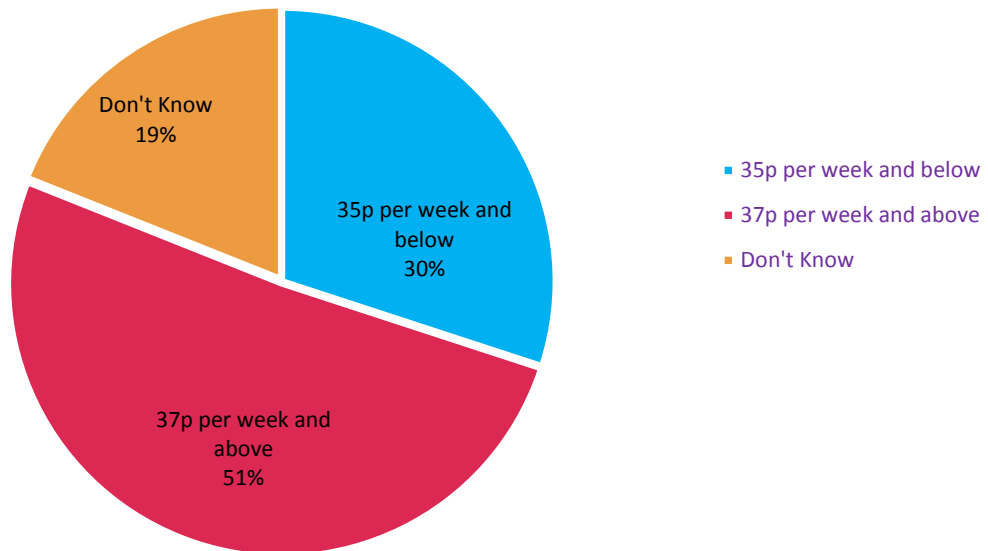
Value	Total	%
21p per week	311	18
35p per week	201	12
37p per week	155	9
45p per week	132	8
50p per week	224	13
55p per week	366	21
Don't Know	327	19
Total	1716	

Precept responses



The pie chart below shows an amalgamation of the responses received by the survey demonstrating that 51% of the respondents agreed that the precept should increase by 37p per week or more.

How much should the police precept increase by?



8. Are you happy with the way I am consulting with you?

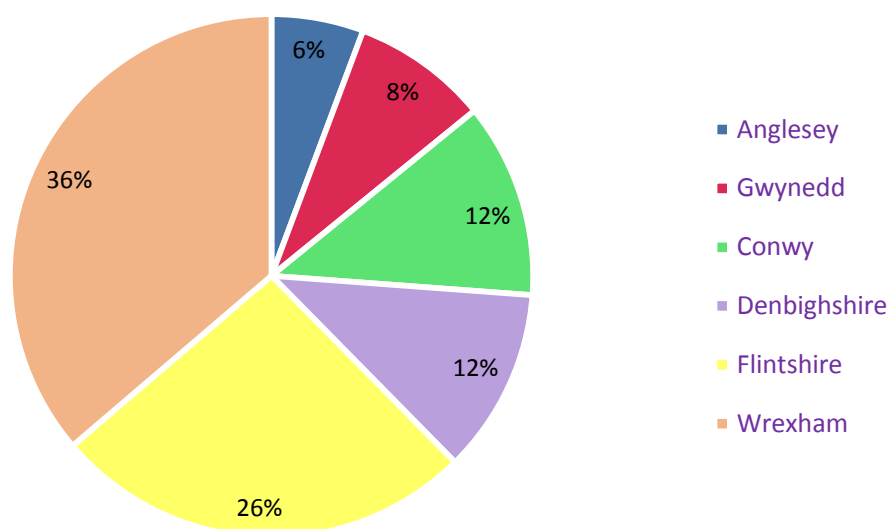
The majority of the comments which disagreed that an online survey is the best way forward in consulting with the public stated that public forums would be a better way to communicate with the public. The Commissioner carried out a number of public forums to consult with members of the public across North Wales in 2016/17. In each of these meetings the attendance was extremely low despite a force wide promotional campaign to encourage attendance. Due to the low level of attendance at these events it was decided that it was not cost effective to hold public consultation events.

	Total
Yes	1509
No	323

9. What county do you live in?

The pie chart below shows that 62% of the responders of the survey live in the counties of Flintshire and Wrexham. When asked where respondents had heard of the survey OWL which is based in the eastern part of the force area was one of the most popular answers as well as Wrexham.com and Deeside.com. The support received by OWL and local media outlets across the force area has been invaluable in increasing the number of respondents to the survey.

What county do you live in?



10. How did you hear about the survey?

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