

POLICE COUNCIL TAX QUESTION RESULTS 2016/17

Do you or a member of your household pay council tax to a Local Authority within West Yorkshire?

Responses combined %

	West Yorkshire	Bradford	Calderdale	Kirklees	Leeds	Wakefield
Yes	97.8	97.2	98.6	98.0	97.6	99.0
No	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.5	0.7
Don't know	0.8	1.5	0.0	0.4	0.9	0.2
Base:	2,744	798	215	540	787	404

If you do pay council tax, what band is your property classed as?

NB only responses where the respondent says they pay council tax and live in West Yorkshire have been included.

Responses combined %

Band	West Yorkshire	Bradford	Calderdale	Kirklees	Leeds	Wakefield
A	15.7	15.2	14.2	14.9	16.2	17.3
B	15.3	16.0	17.5	11.5	16.3	16.0
C	15.8	15.9	15.1	18.7	13.5	16.5
D	24.5	24.9	27.4	25.5	22.1	25.8
E	9.2	8.1	8.0	13.2	8.0	9.0
F	3.8	4.2	0.5	3.6	5.3	2.3
G	3.1	1.6	4.2	4.3	3.5	3.0
H	0.9	0.9	2.8	0.9	0.4	1.0
Don't know	11.6	13.3	10.4	7.2	14.7	9.3
Base:	2,670	768	212	529	761	400

Would you be prepared to pay the proposed increase on the police element of your council tax?

NB only responses where the respondent says they pay council tax and live in West Yorkshire have been included.

Responses combined %

	West Yorkshire	Bradford	Calderdale	Kirklees	Leeds	Wakefield
Yes	76.1	78.2	72.2	74.9	77.7	72.9
No	16.8	14.5	19.8	19.3	14.6	20.3
Don't know	7.1	7.4	8.0	5.9	7.7	6.8
Base:	2,680	774	212	529	766	399

If you wouldn't be prepared to support the increase, why not?

A thematic analysis of these responses was undertaken, rather than coding individual answers. The key themes from this are set out below:

- The money should come from other sources, such as central government, local government, criminal assets, higher tax for high earners, cutting foreign aid and chasing council tax debtors.
- Reductions should be made in other areas first e.g. becoming more effective and efficient, removing internal waste, providing value for money, mergers/reorganisation, reductions in pensions, cuts at the top, reducing pay.
- Everyone is making cuts, so should the police.
- The police are already sufficiently funded.
- Can't afford the increase.
- Already pay too much.
- Would support a lower increase e.g. rate of inflation.

Appendix H

- The budget should be better managed.
- Don't believe it will benefit the local area, increase police officers on the beat or lead to improvements.
- Lack of perceived current action to tackle crime or local issues.
- Don't feel receiving a service at present or aren't seeing the benefit of investment.
- No police officers in local area.
- Not sure what the future holds.
- Haven't seen changes despite supporting previous increases.
- Police should stop blaming anyone else.
- Want more information on how the money would be spent.
- Misled belief that the money will be used on council issues rather than given to the police.
- How charges are worked out is not fair.

A few people did not differentiate between the general council tax and the police element when they responded.

There were other people who commented despite saying they would support the increase or didn't know if they supported it or not. Again a thematic analysis of these responses was undertaken and key themes are set out below:

Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would only agree to a pay increase if the money was spent on frontline staff • Would only agree to a pay increase if the money was spent on police in their local area. • But would want open and transparent assurances that the money is spent wisely. • However too much money is wasted on top/high level staff salaries, this would have to change.
Don't know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Yorkshire Police should be more efficient and innovative in their ways of working to use their current budgets and any increase more effectively. • Would only agree to a pay increase if the money was spent on police in their local area. • Too much money is wasted on top/high level staff salaries. • Can't afford to pay any more. • Don't believe the increase would result in a better service. • Will not pay more for less.

Demographic breakdown

District	Numbers	%
Bradford	799	29.1
Calderdale	216	7.9
Kirklees	543	19.7
Leeds	787	28.6
Wakefield	405	14.7
West Yorkshire	2,750	-

NB table excludes 'not stated'

Ethnicity	%
White	93.5
Asian or Asian British	4.3
Black or Black British	0.4
Chinese	0.1
Mixed Heritage	0.9
Other Ethnic Group	0.7

Gender	%
Male	59.6
Female	40.4

NB table excludes 'not stated'

	%
Disabled	16.9
Not disabled	83.1

Age	%
Under 16	0.0
16-24	1.1
25-34	8.0
35-44	15.4
45-54	17.5
55-64	25.4
65-74	25.4
Over 75	7.2

NB table excludes 'not stated'

	%
Resident	95.2
Business owner	6.0
Works in West Yorkshire	13.8