

York and North Yorkshire Precept Survey 2026/2027 (Policing and Fire & Rescue)

David Skaith, the Mayor for York and North Yorkshire, is asking for your views before setting the amount that goes to North Yorkshire Police and, separately, to North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service from your council tax bill. This is known as a Precept.

Principles on which the Mayor will make his final decision are:

1. The minimum possible burden on local taxpayers
2. Having effective, well managed public services that keep people safe & deliver value for money
3. Delivering on local public priorities for both services, including improving the safety of our region's roads

Around 80% of police and fire and rescue budgets are spent on staff who need and deserve a pay rise. The Mayor also has to balance inflation pressure with increasing demand for both emergency services. Unlike most areas, York and North Yorkshire are able to fund the fire and rescue service beyond the national cap of £5 because of devolution arrangements.

Separately, changes to the formula that sets these budgets are anticipated soon which may affect the core funding for these services in our region. The options presented here therefore include the range of options we need to consider because of that uncertainty.

Before setting the levels of precept for the two services, the Mayor would like to know your views on the possible options. When an option might impact on service to the public that is made clear.

- The survey will take no longer than 7 minutes to complete.
- The survey will close at 10am on Monday 5th January 2026.

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Policing, Fire and Crime Team at info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk or call us on 01423 569 562 to request a copy.

Our privacy notice about how we use and protect your data can be found at the end of this survey.

Q1. Do you pay council tax in York or North Yorkshire?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No – sorry, you need to pay council tax in York or North Yorkshire to take part in this survey.

Q2. Do you support the Mayor's core principles in making this decision?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Minimum burden on local taxpayers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public services that keep people safe and give value for money	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivering on local public priorities for both services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

POLICE

North Yorkshire Police currently has a budget of £232 million. Around £104 million of this (45 per cent) comes from your council tax and the other 55 percent mainly comes from the Government.

North Yorkshire Police has worked hard to increase the efficiency of how it delivers its services to ensure the public get value for money. To maintain the current level of service, the Police need an extra £12 million to cover inflation and other ongoing costs. About £4.5 million of this would need to be raised through the council tax, with the remainder delivered from savings and increases in Government funding.

The Government is likely to set a national limit allowing a council tax increase of up to £14 towards policing for an average Band D property. Each £1 raises approximately £325k. The £14 increase would raise about £4.5 million for policing.

The following options are based on the amount of council tax an average Band D property would pay for policing. This is currently £306.86 per year.

Q3. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for policing in York and North Yorkshire?

- ☐ **Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**
 - *Raises around £3.9 million*
 - *Below the organisation's inflationary pressures*
 - *Would likely lead to reductions in current levels of service delivery unless significant further savings could be delivered*
- ☐ **Up to £14 a year (£1.17 per month)**
 - *Raises around £4.5 million*
 - *Matches the organisation's inflationary pressures.*
 - *Maintains current levels of service delivery*
- ☐ **Up to £16 a year (£1.33 per month)**
 - *Raises around £5.2 million*
 - *Likely to be higher than the organisation's inflationary pressures*
 - *Allows some investment. For example, in neighbourhood policing, early intervention and prevention activities and tackling violence against women and girls.*
- ☐ **Up to £18 a year (£1.50 per month)**
 - *Raises around £5.9 million*
 - *Higher than the organisation's inflationary pressures*
 - *Allows more significant investment. For example, in neighbourhood policing, early intervention and prevention activities and tackling violence against women and girls.*

Q4. Do you have any comments about the policing council tax that may help us understand your response?

FIRE & RESCUE

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has an annual budget of £51.6 million. Around £35 million of this (67 per cent), comes from your council tax and the remaining 33 percent is funded mainly by the Government and Business Rates.

Last year's council tax increase provided much needed financial stability and allowed for important investment in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. The Mayor would like to see this work continue and to invest in road safety in line with agreed public priorities.

In 2026-27 it is estimated £3-4.5 million more is needed to maintain current service levels and deliver planned improvements, depending on the final funding formula which determines the level of Government funding we receive. £2-3 million of this would need to come from council tax, with the rest from savings and increased Government funding.

Each £1 raises approximately £325k . An increase of £6 for a Band D property would raise about £2 million.

The following options are based on the amount of council tax an average Band D property would pay for fire and rescue services. This is currently £107.02 per year.

The options show the maximum increase you might pay. The Mayor will reduce these amounts in line with the level of funding received from Government.

Q5. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?

- ☐ **Up to £6 a year (50 pence per month)**
 - *Raises around £2 million*
 - *Any changes to the current funding formula will risk current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
 - *No scope for additional service investment*
- ☐ **Up to £8 a year (67 pence per month)**
 - *Raises around £2.6 million*
 - *May allow limited investment in road safety if no changes to the funding formula*
 - *Any changes to the current funding formula will result in increases in debt and reduce future capital investments*
- ☐ **Up to £10 a year (83 pence per month)**
 - *Raises around £3.3 million*
 - *Allows for investment in road safety*
 - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
 - *Maintain current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
- ☐ **Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**
 - *Raises around £3.9 million*
 - *Allows for investment in road safety*
 - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
 - *Allows limited investment in other areas of service delivery. For example, in operational training and equipment*

Q6. Do you have any comments about the fire and rescue council tax that may help us understand your response?

ABOUT YOU

We have a duty to promote equality and ensure all parts of the Community are included in this consultation, but the following questions are optional.

Which area do you live in?

- ☐ Craven
- ☐ Hambleton
- ☐ Harrogate
- ☐ Richmondshire
- ☐ Ryedale
- ☐ Scarborough
- ☐ Selby
- ☐ York

How would you describe your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer to self-describe
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your age?

- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-35
- ☐ 36-45
- ☐ 46-55
- ☐ 56-65
- ☐ 66-75
- ☐ 76-85
- ☐ Over 85
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term health issue?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your ethnic group?

White:

- ☐ English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ☐ Roma
- ☐ Any other White background

Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups:

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean
- ☐ White and Black African
- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ Any other mixed or multiple ethnic background

Asian or Asian British:

- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Any other Asian or Asian British background

Black or Black British, Caribbean or African:

- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ African
- ☐ Any other Black, Black British, Caribbean or African background

Other ethnic group:

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Any other ethnic group

- ☐ Prefer not to say

Which of these best reflects your total household income?

- ☐ Less than £10,000
- ☐ £10,001 - £20,000
- ☐ £20,001 - £40,000
- ☐ £40,001 - £60,000
- ☐ £60,001 - £80,000
- ☐ £80,001 - £100,000
- ☐ More than £100,000
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Finally, how did you hear about this survey? *Please select all that apply.*

- ☐ Community Messenger
- ☐ Nextdoor
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Through staff of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
- ☐ Through the Mayor (David Skaith) or Deputy Mayor (Jo Coles)
- ☐ Word of mouth
- ☐ Advert/Poster
- ☐ Local newspaper
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

Responses to this consultation will inform the budget-setting process for 2026/27 and will be reported to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on 21 January (Fire and Rescue) and 5 February (Policing). Once published, you can access the reports on the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's website:

<https://edemocracy.northyorks.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=1159>

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART

Please return your completed survey via this FREEPOST address:

FREEPOST RTCL-AGAE-TRTS
Policing, Fire and Crime
York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
Harrogate Police Station
Beckwith Head Rd
Harrogate
HG3 1FR

No stamp required

Survey Privacy Notice

This privacy notice has been written to inform individuals about how and why the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA), processes personal data during consultations or surveys.

Who are we?

The Mayor of York and North Yorkshire is a data controller as defined by the UK GDPR. This means that we determine the purposes for which your personal data is processed and the manner of the processing. We will only collect and use your personal data in ways that are compliant with data protection legislation.

The role of our Data Protection Officer (DPO) is to monitor our compliance with the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 and advise on data protection issues. If you would like to discuss this privacy notice or our use of your data, please contact:

Data Protection Officer
Policing, Fire and Crime
York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
Harrogate Police Station
Beckwith Head Road
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG3 1FR

info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk // 01423 569562

What personal information do we collect?

The personal data we collect about you varies depending on the consultation or survey.

In all cases, we limit information to the following:

- What we need to know;
- Information for monitoring purposes

We publish summaries of consultation responses. Summaries do not contain personal data.

Why do we collect your personal information?

The role of the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate of the YNYCA is designed to be the link between the public and North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, which are delivered on its behalf.

The public elect an individual (the Mayor) to hold Chief Constable and the Police Force and the Chief Fire Officer and Service to account. Therefore, this makes the police and fire and rescue service answerable to the communities, which they serve.

Therefore, a key role of the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate is to represent and engage with local communities. This is to help establish and deliver policing and fire priorities.

The Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate has a duty to consult with local communities. This is set out in several pieces of legislation

Who do we obtain your information from?

We receive this information directly from you.

Who do we share your personal data with?

We use Smart Survey to carry out online consultations. By completing an online consultation, you agree that your information will be transferred to Smart Survey. This is for processing in accordance with the Privacy Policy and Data Processing Agreement (standard contractual terms).

Sometimes, third parties consult on our behalf. We may also work jointly with partner organisations. When this happens, we will make it clear from the outset. We will state who that third party is and tell you about any related privacy notices, terms or conditions.

We have contracts in place with Smart Survey and any other company we contract with to conduct surveys on our behalf. This is to make sure that your data is protected in accordance with the law.

How long do we keep your personal data for?

We will retain your information in accordance with Records Management Policy and Retention Schedule. The retention period for most of the information we process about you is determined by statutory obligations. Any personal information which we are not required by law to retain will only be kept for as long as is reasonably necessary to fulfil its purpose.

The Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate keeps personal information until we complete statistical analysis. It is then deleted.

However, we may publish summaries of responses. They may be available indefinitely or in line with statutory requirements. However, summaries do not contain personal information.

What is our lawful basis for processing your information?

Under the UK GDPR, it is essential to have a lawful basis when processing personal information. We normally rely on the following lawful bases:

Article 6(1)(e) – public interest

Where we process special categories of personal data, we will do so for one or more of the following reasons;

Under GDPR Article 9 (2) is necessary for substantial public interest.

Changes to this notice

We reserve the right to change this privacy notice at any time.

This privacy notice was last reviewed 25 February 2025.