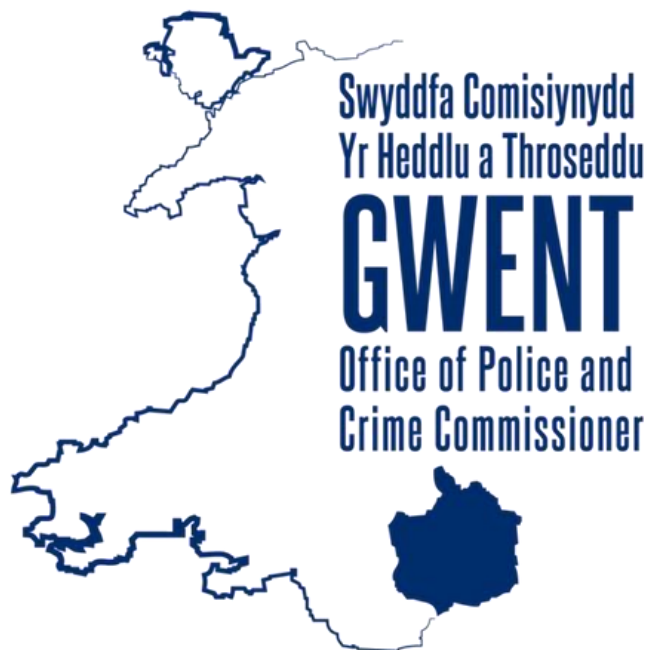


PCC Precept Engagement 2019-2020

FINAL REPORT



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PART A – OVERVIEW

The current Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent was elected in May 2016 and is required under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to engage with ratepayers on budget and precept proposals.

The precept is the part of the council tax that is allocated to the PCC. It is the responsibility of every local PCC to set the level of the precept for their area annually.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) ran a nine-week engagement exercise from Monday 12 November to Sunday 13 January 2019. A full copy of the online survey can be found in Annex A.

Residents of Gwent were asked for their views on the proposed level of increase for the precept in 2019/20. The online question asked “Would you support a £1 a month increase (based on a Band D property) in order to maintain your policing provision?”

Conducted bilingually in both electronic and paper format, six questions (excluding demographic questions) were asked. Easy read versions were also available on request from the OPCC.

The survey was proactively publicised via social media, local press and the PCC’s website, as well as shared with Gwent Now, community groups, partner organisations, key local influencers, the third sector and local authorities.

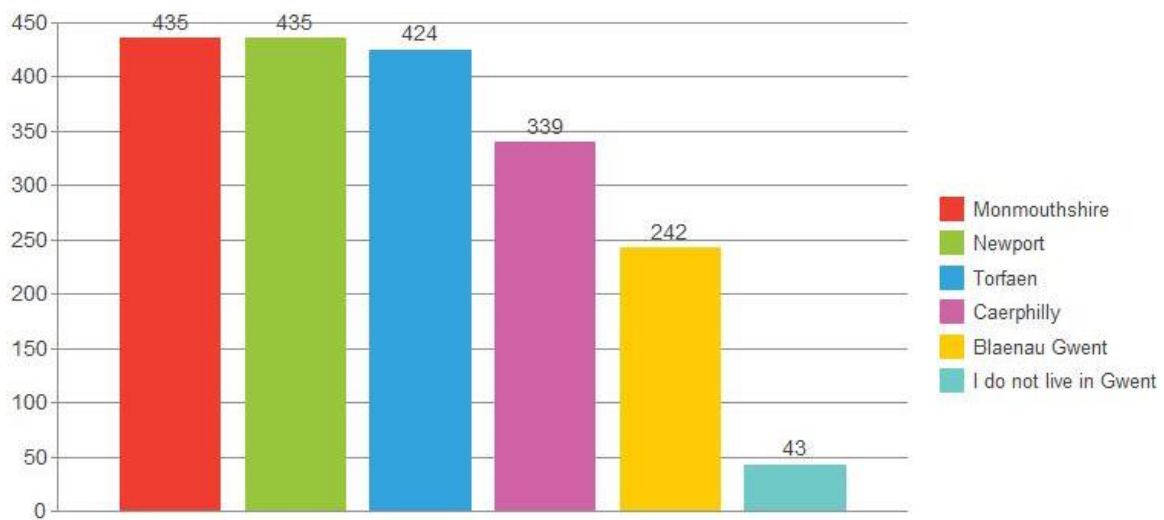
The OPCC proactively conducted 19 face-to-face engagement across Gwent, totalling 81 hours of community engagement. This saw the office engage with 1,085 people and allowed greater conversations about the issues and challenges facing policing.

Newport City Council included the above question in its bus Wi-Fi survey (a survey which must be completed in order to access Newport Bus public Wi-Fi) as a pilot. However, it was agreed that as this survey did not give respondents the opportunity to review enough background information to make an informed decision, the findings would be discounted from the final survey result. The survey also only represented one of the five local authority areas and, as such, the OPCC could not confidently take this as the opinion of Gwent as a whole.

The findings from this survey can be found in part C for reference.

PART B – OPCC SURVEY

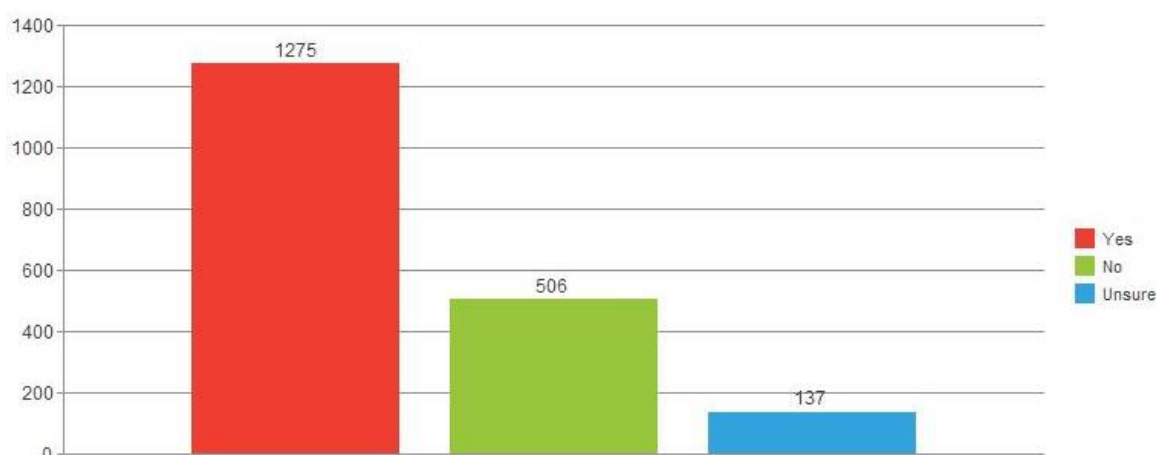
Q1. Which Gwent local authority do you live in?



Each participant was asked to select which Gwent local authority they lived in. This will allow us to dissect the findings and ascertain whether a fair representation of each area is being collected.

There has been a fairly representative response with an **average of 23%** residing in either Monmouthshire, Newport or Torfaen.

Q2. Would you support a £1 a month increase (based on a Band D property) in order to maintain your policing provision?

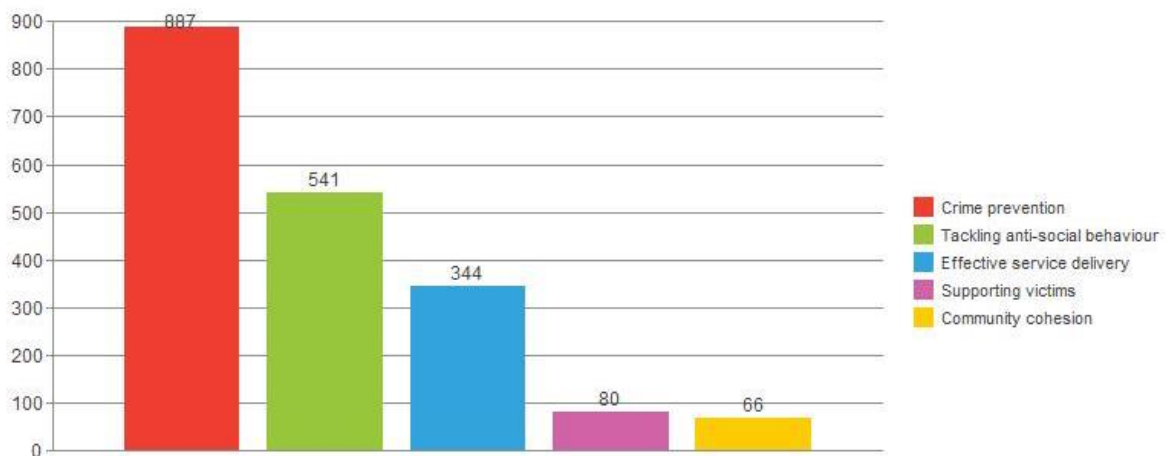


67% of those who responded said they would be happy to pay an increase of £1 on their local precept level. This equates to roughly a 4.99% increase.

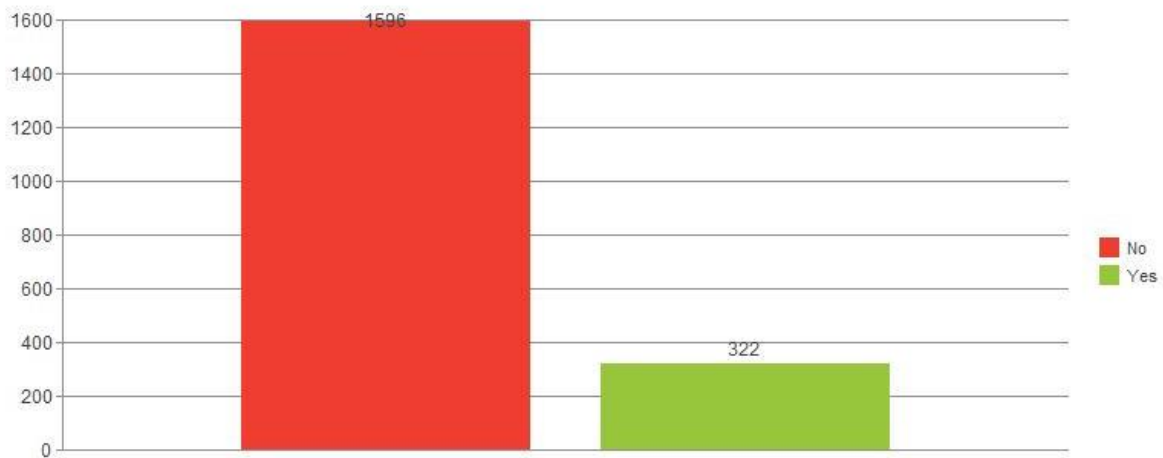
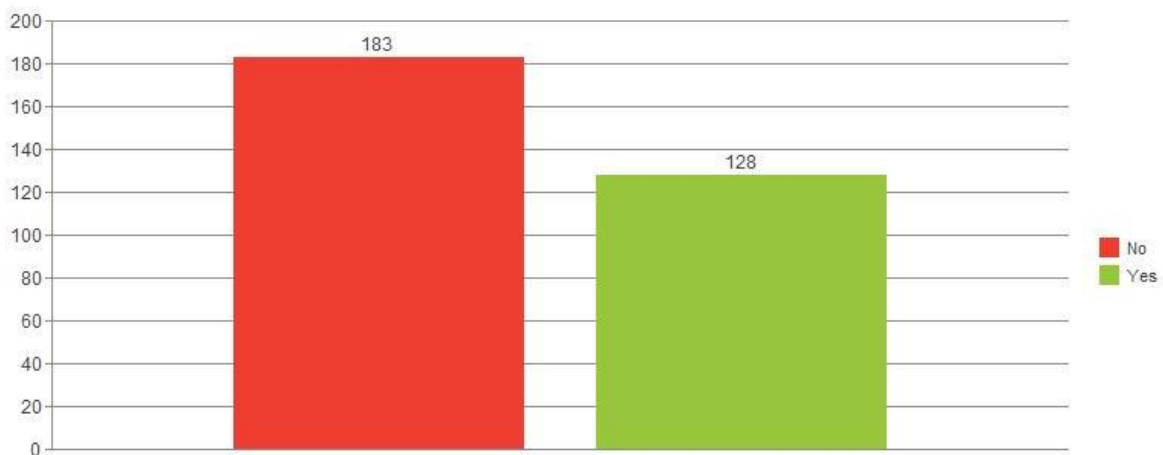
Participants were also given the opportunity under this question to provide a written comment. Below is an overview of the most popular comments received.

- Local policing is already below expectations, would want to see an improvement, not just maintain the service;
- Would be willing to pay more than £1 per month;
- Already pay enough in tax to the Government;
- Remove the PCC role and that of his office;
- Petition the Government, don't turn to local people;
- The answer would depend upon on what % increase the LAs were proposing as it could be a question of affordability;
- Should save money by merging the four constabularies in Wales into one unit;
- So long as Police Stations are retained and not closed down; and
- Central Government should be funding the shortfall.

Q3. Which one of these policing priorities is the most important to you?



Participants were given the opportunity to select which of the PCC's priorities from within his Police and Crime Plan were most important to them. Almost half (**46%**) selected Crime Prevention.

Q4. Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?**Q5. Were you satisfied with the service you received?**

Of those completing the consultation, **17%** had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months.

Of those who recognised themselves as a victim of crime, we asked whether they were satisfied with the service they had received from Gwent Police. **Over half (59%)** stated that they were not.

Although this is a relatively small sample size, the OPCC will feed this information to Gwent Police in order for them to address the feedback received.

Q6. Is there anything else you would like to add about policing in Gwent?

The final question asked within this section of the consultation gave participants the opportunity to provide any other comments relating to policing in Gwent. The most popular comments are summarised below:

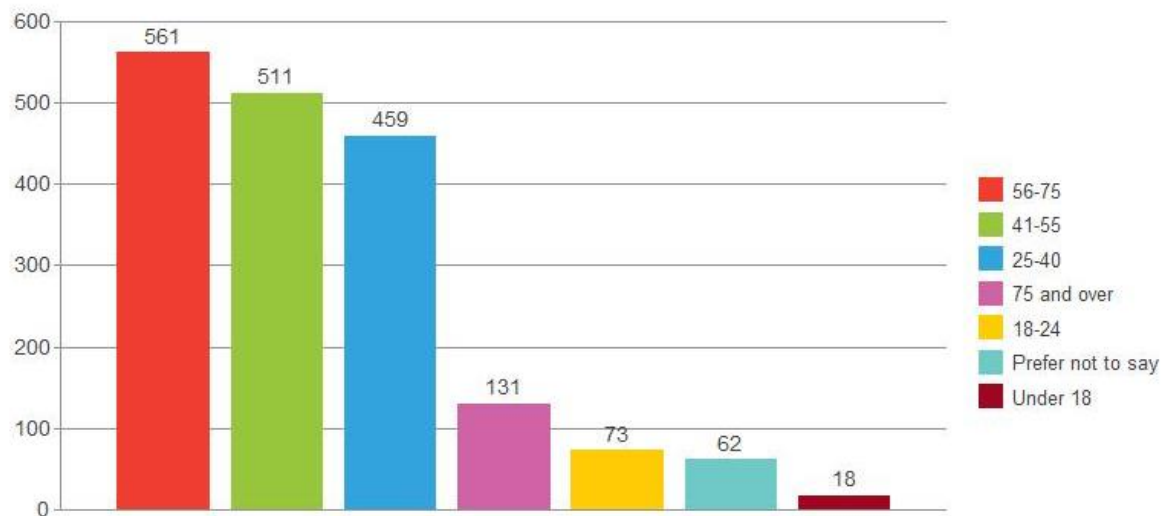
- **Don't see a police presence;**

- **Response to any incidents reported is very slow;**
- **Local Gwent Police officers do a great job, it's criminal that the government has been allowed to get away with cutting the funding;**
- **There needs to be better engagement with the community;**
- **Merge with South Wales. The savings from having just one Chief Constable and Commissioner would pay for this;**
- **Want to see police dealing with grassroots issues rather than concentrating on slave labour and cybercrime;**
- **Cuts in other services are putting a strain on the police service;**
- **Would like to see more presence in rural areas;**
- **I don't mind paying an extra £1 or two for policing if the closure of police stations and withdrawal of officer from the community stops. I do not want to be visiting my local police in a Fire Station or Library.**
- **Greater emphasis needed on cyber-crime and scams**
- **Parking is not enforced, why pay to maintain a service which is not delivering;**
- **Want more police on the beat;**
- **Would like to see a greater police presence;**
- **When a police force stops investigating domestic burglary they have got their priorities wrong; and**
- **Difficulty contacting 101.**

Alongside the comments made via the electronic/paper surveys, feedback was also received via the OPCC social media accounts. This largely reflected those comments made within the consultation (listed above).

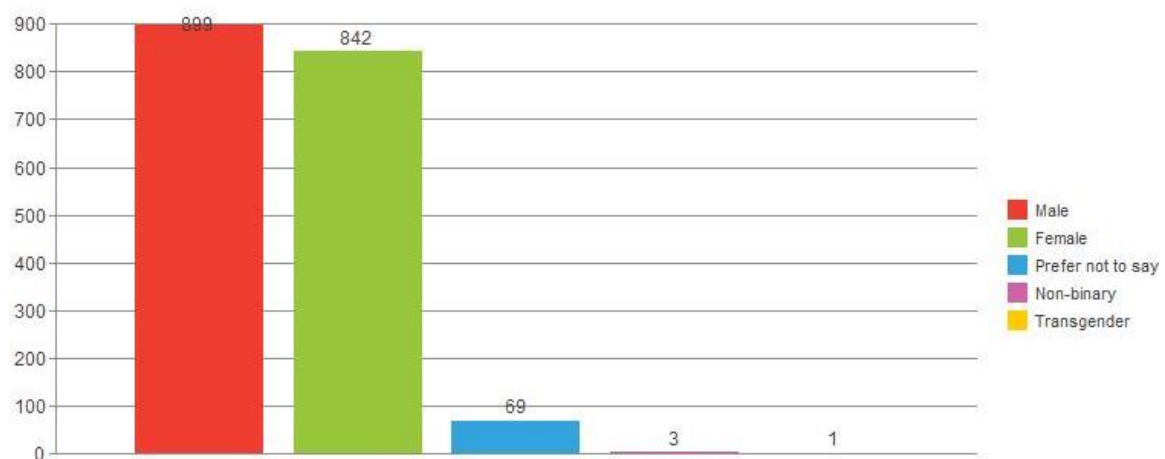
The remaining questions were quality questions in order to assist the OPCC in gathering a representative sample of Gwent's residents.

Q7. What is your age?

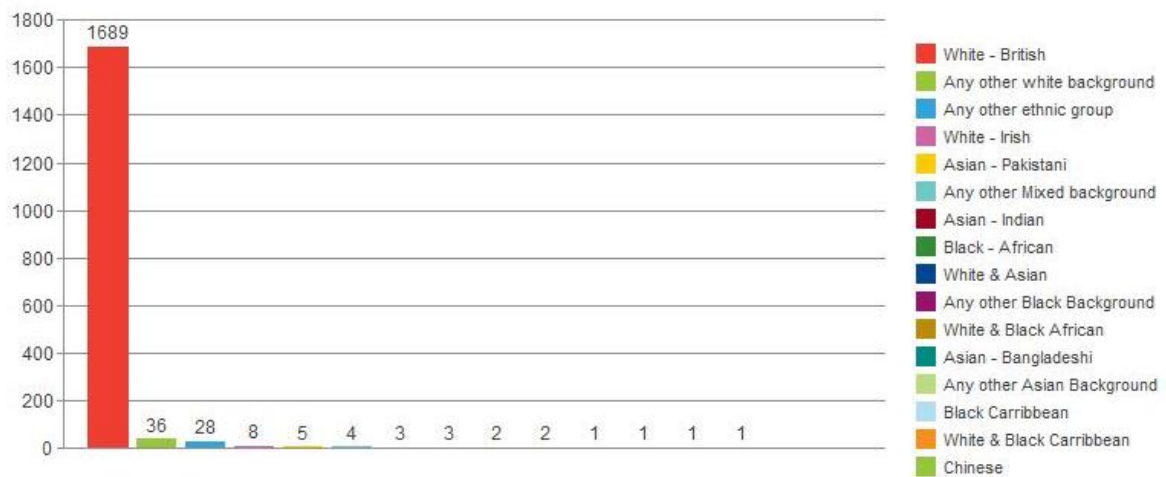


Just under 60% of those who completed the survey were between the ages of 55 and 75.

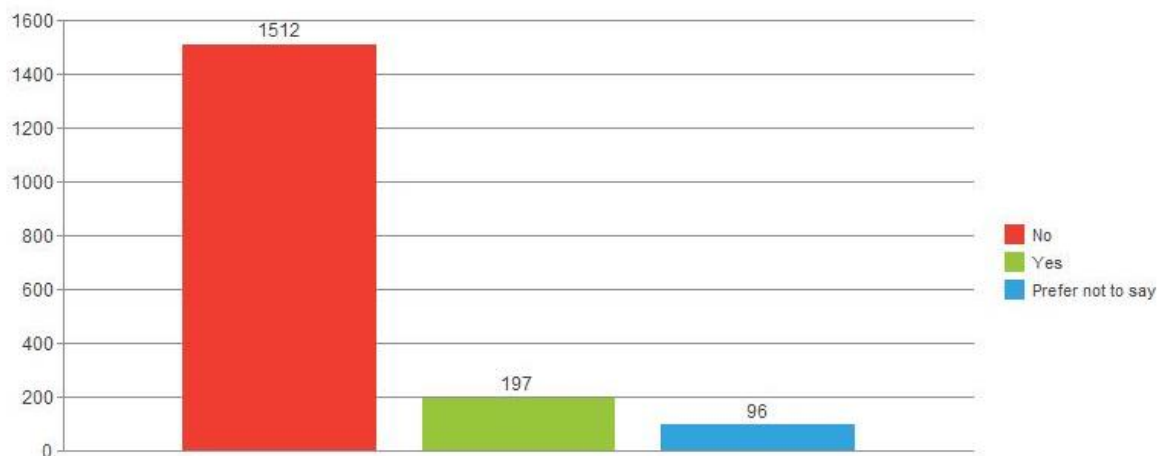
Q8. What is your gender identity?



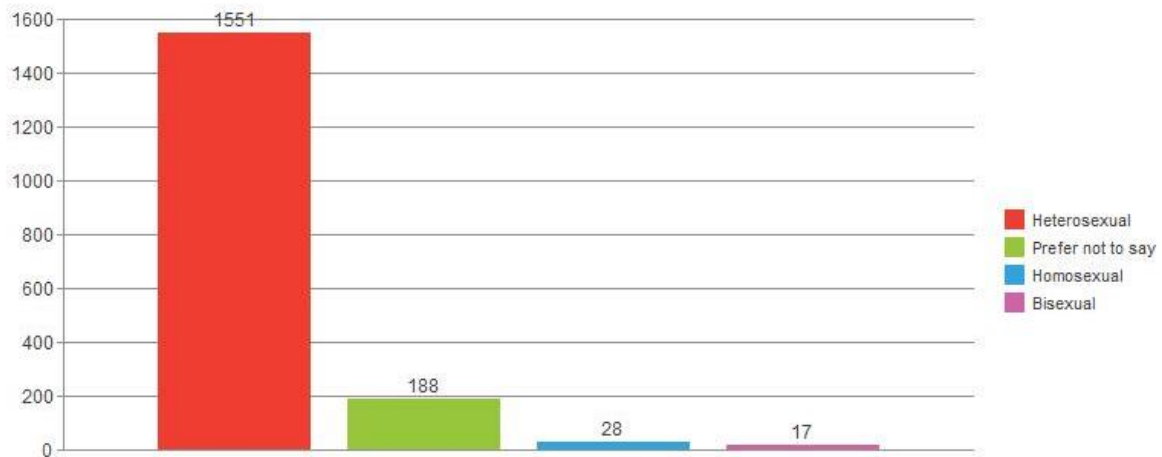
Exactly **half (50%)** of those who responded were male, with **46%** being female.

Q9. What is your ethnicity?

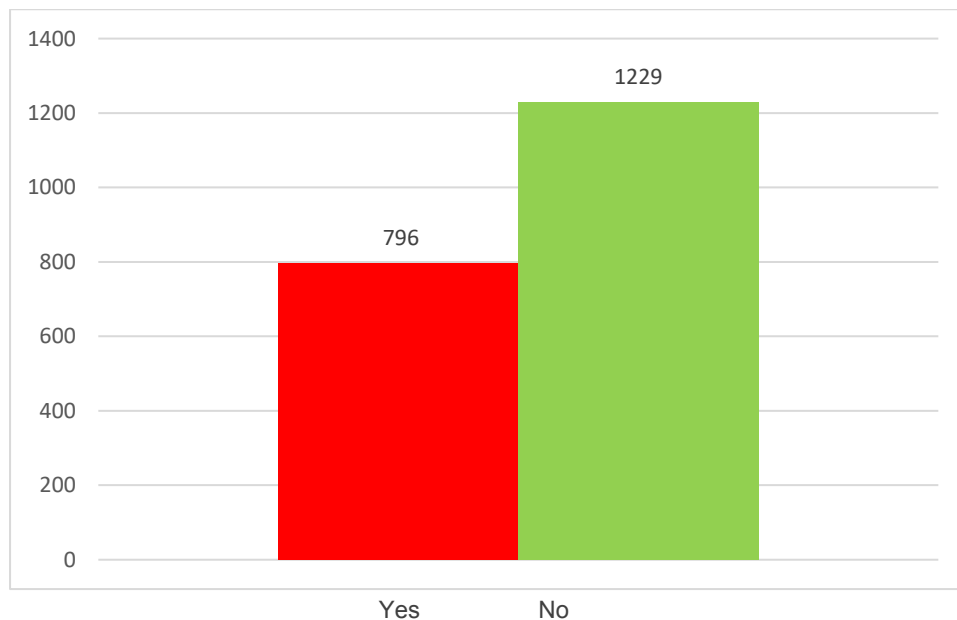
95% of those who completed the survey were from a 'white – British' background. This is fairly representative of the Gwent community.

Q10. Are you disabled?

84% of those who completed the survey identified themselves as not having a disability.

Q11. What is your sexual orientation?

87% of those completing the consultation identified themselves as being heterosexual.

PART C – NEWPORT BUS WI-FI SURVEY**Q1. Would you support a £1 a month increase (based on a Band D property) in order to maintain your policing provision?**

ANNEX A – PRECEPT CONSULTATION 2019-20 (ENGLISH)

Have Your Say
Precept 2019-20

Dweud Eich
Dweud
Praesept 2019-20



WOULD YOU PAY AN
EXTRA **£1 A MONTH**
TO SUPPORT LOCAL
POLICING?

*Based on a Band D property

A FYDDECH CHI'N
TALU **£1**
YCHWANEGOL Y
MIS I GEFNOGI
PLISMONA LLEOL?

*Yn seiliedig ar eiddo band D

Would you pay an extra
£1 a month to support
local policing?

YES

Your **£1 a month** would go towards:

POLICE OFFICERS
RECRUITED, TRAINED AND NUMBERS
MAINTAINED UNTIL AT LEAST
2020 THEREBY KEEPING A VISIBLE
PRESENCE ON OUR STREETS

SUPPORT VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS
IN OUR COMMUNITIES
SUCH AS VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE,
MODERN DAY SLAVERY AND THOSE WITH
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

TACKLE VIOLENT CRIME, ASSAULT AND BURGLARIES

RESPOND TO INCREASE IN CYBERCRIME
MAINTAIN OUR
DEDICATED 'CYBER CSO' AND POLICE
ONLINE INVESTIGATION TEAM
'POLIT' TO TACKLE CRIME
ONLINE

DISRUPT AND DISMANTLE
SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME
GROUPS INCLUDING
ILLEGAL DRUG DEALING

*based on a Band D property

Would you pay an extra
£1 a month to support
local policing?

NO

WITHOUT THE £1 A MONTH INCREASE

GWENT POLICE WILL FACE SUBSTANTIALLY
LARGER BUDGET DEFICITS AND BE REQUIRED
TO MAKE EVEN MORE SAVINGS.

Funding deficit of **£5.3million**
(to be met by savings)

2019/20 WITHOUT
£1 A MONTH PRECEPT INCREASE

Funding deficit of **£2.7 million**
(to be met by savings)

2019/20 WITH **£1 A MONTH PRECEPT INCREASE**

THIS IS AS A RESULT OF EVER
INCREASING EXPENDITURE
REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING
INFLATION, ICT INVESTMENT,
BODY ARMOUR REPLACEMENT,
STAFF COSTS AND MUCH MORE.

*based on a Band D property

For more background information, please visit
www.gwentpcp.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018.01.26.pdf

Q1 Which Gwent local authority do you live in?

- ☐ Blaenau Gwent
- ☐ Caerphilly
- ☐ Monmouthshire
- ☐ Newport
- ☐ Torfaen
- ☐ I do not live in Gwent

Q2 Would you support a £1 a month increase (based on a Band D property) in order to maintain your policing provision?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Comments

Q3 Which of these policing priorities is the most important to you?

- ☐ Crime prevention
- ☐ Supporting victims
- ☐ Community cohesion
- ☐ Tackling anti-social behaviour
- ☐ Effective service delivery

Q4 Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q5 Were you satisfied with the service you received?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q6 Is there anything else you would like to add about policing in Gwent?

Equality Questions

I am committed to making equal opportunities a reality in the provision of all of our services. Information provided in this section will be treated confidentially and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and only used to ensure that everyone is treated fairly.

All of the following questions are voluntary and it will not make any difference to the service you receive if you do not answer them, however, by answering the questions you will help us to ensure that our services are fair and accessible to all.

Q7 What is your age?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Under 18 | <input type="radio"/> 56-75 |
| <input type="radio"/> 18-24 | <input type="radio"/> 75 and over |
| <input type="radio"/> 25-40 | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> 41-55 | |

Q8 What is your gender identity?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Male | <input type="radio"/> Non-binary |
| <input type="radio"/> Female | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Transgender | |

Q9 What is your ethnicity?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> White - British | <input type="radio"/> Asian - Pakistani |
| <input type="radio"/> White - Irish | <input type="radio"/> Asian - Bangladeshi |
| <input type="radio"/> Any other white background | <input type="radio"/> Any other Asian Background |
| <input type="radio"/> White & Black Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Black Caribbean |
| <input type="radio"/> White & Black African | <input type="radio"/> Black - African |
| <input type="radio"/> White & Asian | <input type="radio"/> Any other Black Background |
| <input type="radio"/> Any other Mixed background | <input type="radio"/> Chinese |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian - Indian | <input type="radio"/> Any other ethnic group |

Q10 Are you disabled?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Prefer not to say

Q11 What is your sexual orientation?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Heterosexual | <input type="radio"/> Bisexual |
| <input type="radio"/> Homosexual | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

