

Norfolk Police & Crime Panel report – Cllr Sue Catchpole

The Norfolk Police and Crime Panel has been established to maintain a 'check and balance' on the performance of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel scrutinises the actions and decisions of the Commissioner and supports and challenges the Commissioner in the exercise of his functions. The AGM took place on Friday 1st September. Sue Catchpole was present representing BDC. Discussions took place around various types of crime levels, police response and crime prevention.

For District Councillor's information: A Police Budget Consultation 2024/5 is currently taking place. To meet increased demands and costs, the law currently allows the P&CC to raise the policing element of council tax by just short of £10 a year (£9.99) for a Band D property. However, an increase of £10 would still leave the constabulary with a shortfall of £3.9 million for 2024/25 against current spending plans.

Norfolk's Chief Constable, Paul Sanford, summarizes: The inflationary costs that have bitten all communities and organisations have had a similar effect on the constabulary. Our approach of making every pound count never stops. Right now, we are having to assess how we provide additional resource to answer the calls for service, both in the Contact and Control Room and in the officers responding to emergency calls. The reality is this resource will have to come from reducing capability elsewhere in the force. Additional funding is required to maintain the quality of service being delivered.

The P&CC has opened a Police Budget Consultation. Have your say by completing the survey at: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OPCCNBudget24-25/> or attend an event on Friday 6th October 10am – 12am at The Forum Norwich. The consultation will close at 5pm on Friday 24 November 2023.

The next Norfolk Police and Crime Panel is scheduled to take place on Monday, 30 October at 11am in the Council Chamber at County Hall and can be watched on Norfolk County Council's YouTube channel.

(Source: [Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk \(norfolk-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk/))