

York and North Yorkshire Precept Survey 2025/2026

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.

The Mayor has to balance council tax increases against the growing demands for both emergency services.

Addressing years of underinvestment in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is a high priority for the Mayor.

Any increase in funding must be thought through carefully. Before setting the levels of precept for the two services, the Mayor would like to know your views on the possible options.

- The survey will take no longer than 7 minutes to complete.
- The survey will close at 10am on Monday 20th January 2025.

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning 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 here: [Survey Privacy Notice](#)

First of all, 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.

POLICE

North Yorkshire Police currently has a budget of £221 million. Around £97 million of this (44 per cent) comes from a precept on your council tax.

To maintain the current level of service, North Yorkshire Police will need an extra £15 million to cover inflation and other ongoing costs. About £5m of this would need to be raised through the precept.

The Government has set a national limit allowing an increase of up to £14 in policing precepts for an average Band D property. If this was applied in York and North Yorkshire it would raise £4.4 million.

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.

How much more are you willing to pay each year for policing in York and North Yorkshire?

Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)

This would raise around £3.8 million but is below the organisation's inflationary pressures and would likely lead to reductions in current levels of service delivery unless savings could be delivered.

Up to £14 a year (£1.17 per month)

This would raise around £4.4 million, matching the organisation's inflationary pressures. Current levels of service delivery would be maintained and it would hopefully allow 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)

This would raise around £5.7 million and is likely to be higher than the organisation's inflationary pressures, allowing more significant investment. For example, in neighbourhood policing, early intervention and prevention activities and tackling violence against women and girls.

Do you have any comments about the police precept that may help us understand your response?

FIRE & RESCUE

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has a budget of £45 million. Around £27 million of this (60 per cent), comes from a precept on your council tax.

In the past, there has been significant underinvestment in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. The Service needs at least £5 million more than last year to maintain current service levels and to provide investment and essential improvements to fire stations, training and equipment. Most of this would need to be raised through the precept.

The Mayor is committed to addressing this underinvestment by increasing the amount of precept for North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

****Important Update on Fire and Rescue Funding (added on 30th December)***

On December 18th, the Government announced its new funding package for fire and rescue services. From 1 April 2025, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service will receive around £2 million less than expected due to the removal and reduction of grants and higher national insurance contributions.

To maintain the current delivery of services AND provide investment, council tax for a typical Band D property would now need to increase by up to £24. The £15 option would no longer allow for investment.

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 £83.02 per year.

How much more are you willing to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?

- Up to £6 a year (50 pence per month)**
This would raise around £1.9 million but could result in a reduction in the delivery of services and resources which may put firefighter and public safety at risk.
- Up to £15 a year (£1.25 per month)**
This would raise around £4.7 million, allowing the Service to maintain the current delivery of services and make some improvements. For example, it would help fund crucial upgrades to fire stations, enhance firefighter safety and welfare with better equipment and training, and reduce debt, making your fire service more stable and financially secure.
- Up to £24 a year (£2 per month)**
This would raise around £7.5 million, allowing enhanced investments in fire stations and other buildings, vehicles, training, equipment, and firefighter safety and welfare. It would reduce debt and create a financially secure Service for the future. It would also enhance other areas of service delivery from prevention and protection to emergency response which would help improve public safety.

Do you have any comments about the fire and rescue precept 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 (in person) of the Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC)
- Through the Mayor (David Skaith) or Deputy Mayor (Jo Coles)
- Word of mouth
- Advert/Poster
- Local newspaper
- Other (please specify below)

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART

Please return your completed survey via this FREEPOST address:

FREEPOST RTCL-AGAE-TRTS
Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning
Harrogate Police Station
Beckwith Head Rd
Harrogate
HG3 1FR

No stamp required.