

**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND POLICE AND
CRIME PANEL – THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2024**

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following question has been put to the Police and Crime Commissioner:

Question by Mr. Tim Ottevanger:

The Police and Crime Commissioner is responsible for setting the police budget, including the local tax precept. I am sure the Police and Crime Commissioner would agree with me that the prudent management of taxpayers' money is important, as is transparency and accountability when it comes to public funds. As a local taxpayer, I would like to ask the Police and Crime Commissioner the following questions:

Since the start of your term of office in May 2021, what is the total amount of money from your budget spent on terminating employment contracts for those people working in or for your office? Please cover all forms of employment, including permanent contracts, temporary or interim contracts, or positions such as those held by members of the Ethics Committee. Please include all the costs incurred, such as contract termination, redundancy costs, pension strain costs, notice period costs, compensation and third party consultancy costs. I am seeking the total figure for the above, covering your term of office as PCC to date, not broken down by financial year or in any other way that could allow for any single individual to be identified.

Can you tell me the total number of people in any form of employment relationship with your office who have left that employment relationship since you became PCC including the number who received any form of paid settlement?

Reply by the Police and Crime Commissioner:

Thank you for your question. Since the start of my tenure as the PCC in 2021, I have always stressed the importance of being transparent and accountable for the decisions made by me and my office. This is especially true when it comes to the use of public funds and I have maintained this stance throughout my time in office.

All expenditure which has been incurred as a result of the termination of employees or other persons within my office, is readily available for all to view on the PCC website and is detailed within the PCC Statement of Accounts.

The statements contain a detailed breakdown of salary, payments, benefits in kind and compensation for the loss of office.

[Annual Accounts \(pcc.police.uk\)](http://pcc.police.uk)

In addition to this, there are a number of Freedom of Information requests in relation to the same question which is available on the PCC's website. In all cases my office has responded to these fully in compliance with our statutory obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

[Freedom Of Information \(pcc.police.uk\)](http://pcc.police.uk)

I realise that this information can be difficult to interpret and isn't yet available for the financial year that we are currently in. As such, to ensure complete transparency and to be helpful, I can confirm that the total amount of funds related to the exit of staff and committee during the term of the current PCC is £300,323.77. This figure covers 12 individuals, including members of committees.

Outside of this, 13 individuals have left the OPCC's office to pursue employment and opportunities elsewhere.