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## Nottinghamshire Police horses 'will not be reinstated'

**There are no plans to reinstate a recently-disbanded mounted police unit in Nottinghamshire, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has said.**

The unit was disbanded last September but the county's PCC, Paddy Tipping invited feedback about bringing it back, after he was elected.

However, he said it had been a choice between having "more police patrolling the streets or a handful on horseback".

He also confirmed the force needed to save £42m over the next four years.

The decision not to reinstate the mounted unit in 2013-14 had been made following a "long consultation" and the cost of re-hiring officers and buying new horses would have cost about £420,000.

### 'Fresh, young blood'

He made his comments as he revealed his budget plans for the year ahead, including an increase in council tax of nearly four pence a month, which he said would pay for 150 more police officers over the next 15 months.

He also said the increase would pay for 150 more PCSOs at a time when the PCC was preparing for continuing reductions in funding.

Mr Tipping said more collaboration with other regional police forces and trying to raise revenue through commercial ventures would enable them to make savings.

On average, each person in the county is to pay an extra £3.24 in council tax, from April.

Mr Tipping described an "injection of fresh, young blood" into the county's force as being "like a shot in the arm".

He said the force had already lost 400 officers because of the cuts and at best was going to get 225 back.

The budget report is due to be discussed with Nottinghamshire County Council on 5 February.

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