

PFEW Pay and Morale Survey 2018 Kent Police

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 730 responses were received from Kent Police, representing a response rate of around 23% (based on July 2017 Home Office figures of officer headcount).
- 77.1% of respondents from Kent Police said that they are dissatisfied with their overall remuneration (including basic pay and allowances).
- 46.8% of respondents from Kent Police reported worrying about the state of their personal finances every day or almost every day.
- 74.6% of respondents from Kent Police felt that they were worse off financially than they were five years ago.
- 11.1% of respondents from Kent Police reported never or almost never having enough money to cover all their essentials.
- 55.7% of respondents from Kent Police told us that their morale is currently low.
- 85.9% of respondents from Kent Police felt that morale within the force is currently low.
- 66.7% of respondents from Kent Police said that they would not recommend joining the police to others.
- 10.2% of respondents from Kent Police told us that they had an intention to leave the police service either within the next 2 years or as soon as possible.

INTRODUCTION

This note provides a summary of responses to the PFEW Pay and Morale Survey received from respondents from Kent Police in 2018.

Where appropriate, details of average responses for the police service as a whole are also presented, as well as a ranking of Kent Police compared to other forces.

Where rankings are provided, a ranking of 1 represents the force with the highest percentage of respondents expressing a particular attitude or intention, and a ranking of 43 represents the force with the lowest percentage of respondents expressing a particular attitude or intention¹.

RESPONSE RATE AND RESPONDENTS

730 responses were received from Kent Police, representing a response rate of around 23% (based on July 2017 Home Office figures of officer headcount). The national response rate for the 2018 survey was 22%. Last year's response rate for Kent Police was 19%. Please bear this in mind when making comparisons with last year's findings.

The margin of error for this report has been calculated using the number of responses received from officers in Kent Police compared to the number of officers in the force as a whole. The findings presented in this report have a margin of error of 3%².

Overall 790 respondents to the survey declined to state which force they belonged to. The responses from these officers have been included within the national data but are excluded from force-level analysis.

74.0% of responses from Kent Police were received from male officers and 26.0% of responses were from female officers. 76.9% of respondents were Constables, 15.6% were Sergeants, 6.5% were Inspectors and 1.0% were Chief Inspectors.

¹ Rankings have been determined at one decimal place.

² A margin of error of 5% or less is generally considered to be within the normal bounds of academic rigor. If this threshold has not been met, the results from this report must be interpreted more cautiously.

PAY AND REMUNERATION

SATISFACTION WITH PAY

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

91.8% of respondents from Kent Police told us that they do not feel that they are paid fairly for the stresses and strains they have within their job.

Across England and Wales, the proportion of respondents who felt that they were not paid fairly for the stresses and strains of their job ranged from 92.8% at the top ranking force to 81.6% at the bottom ranking force. Kent Police ranks 2 out of 43 forces; there are 41 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who say that they are not fairly paid for the responsibilities within their job.

77.1% of respondents from Kent Police said that they are dissatisfied with their overall remuneration (including basic pay and allowances) and 60.5% said that they are dissatisfied with their pensions.

Nationally, the proportion of respondents who are dissatisfied with their overall remuneration ranges from 82.2% at the top ranking force to 62.4% at the bottom ranking force. In terms of respondents reporting dissatisfaction with their remuneration, Kent Police ranks 10 out of 43 forces, meaning that there are 33 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who are dissatisfied with their remuneration.

Pension dissatisfaction ranges from 69.3% at the top ranking force to 46.6% at the bottom ranking force. Kent Police ranks 20 out of 43 forces for this indicator; therefore there are 23 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who are dissatisfied with their pension.

Comparison of 2018 and 2017 figures for pay and remuneration in Kent Police is provided in the table below.

	2018	2017
Do not feel fairly paid for the stresses and strains their job	91.8%	88.1%
Dissatisfied with total remuneration	77.1%	71.1%
Dissatisfied with pension	60.5%	60.4%

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Nationally, 87.9% of respondents said that they were not paid fairly for the stresses and strains of their job; this proportion was 86.5% in 2017. A significantly larger proportion of respondents said that they were not paid fairly for the stresses and strains of their job this year compared to last year³.

The proportion of respondents across the police service as a whole who were dissatisfied with their remuneration was 75.3%; this compares to 72.0% in 2017. The difference between the proportion of respondents who were dissatisfied with their overall remuneration in 2017 and 2018 was statistically significant⁴.

Across England and Wales, the proportion of respondents who were dissatisfied with their pension in 2018 was 62.0%; this proportion was 62.6% in 2017. The difference between the proportion of respondents reporting to be dissatisfied with their pension this year compared to last year was not statistically significant⁵.

COST OF LIVING

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

46.8% of respondents from Kent Police reported worrying about the state of their personal finances every day or almost every day, compared to 44.8% nationally. Further, 74.6% of respondents from Kent Police felt that they were worse off financially than they were five years ago.

11.1% of respondents from Kent Police reported never or almost never having enough money to cover their monthly essentials. Compared to the other forces in England and Wales, Kent Police ranks 12 out of 43; there are therefore 31 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents reporting that they never or almost never have enough money to cover all their essentials.

Nationally, the proportion of respondents who said that they were worse off financially than five years ago ranged from 83.0% in the top ranking force to 62.2% in the bottom ranking force. Compared to the other forces in England and Wales, Kent Police ranks 19 out of 43; there are therefore 24 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who feel worse off financially than five years ago.

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Within the service as a whole, 75.7% of respondents felt financially worse off than they did five years ago. This was compared to 72.5% for the 2017 survey, which was statistically

³ Z = 4.8778, p < 0.001

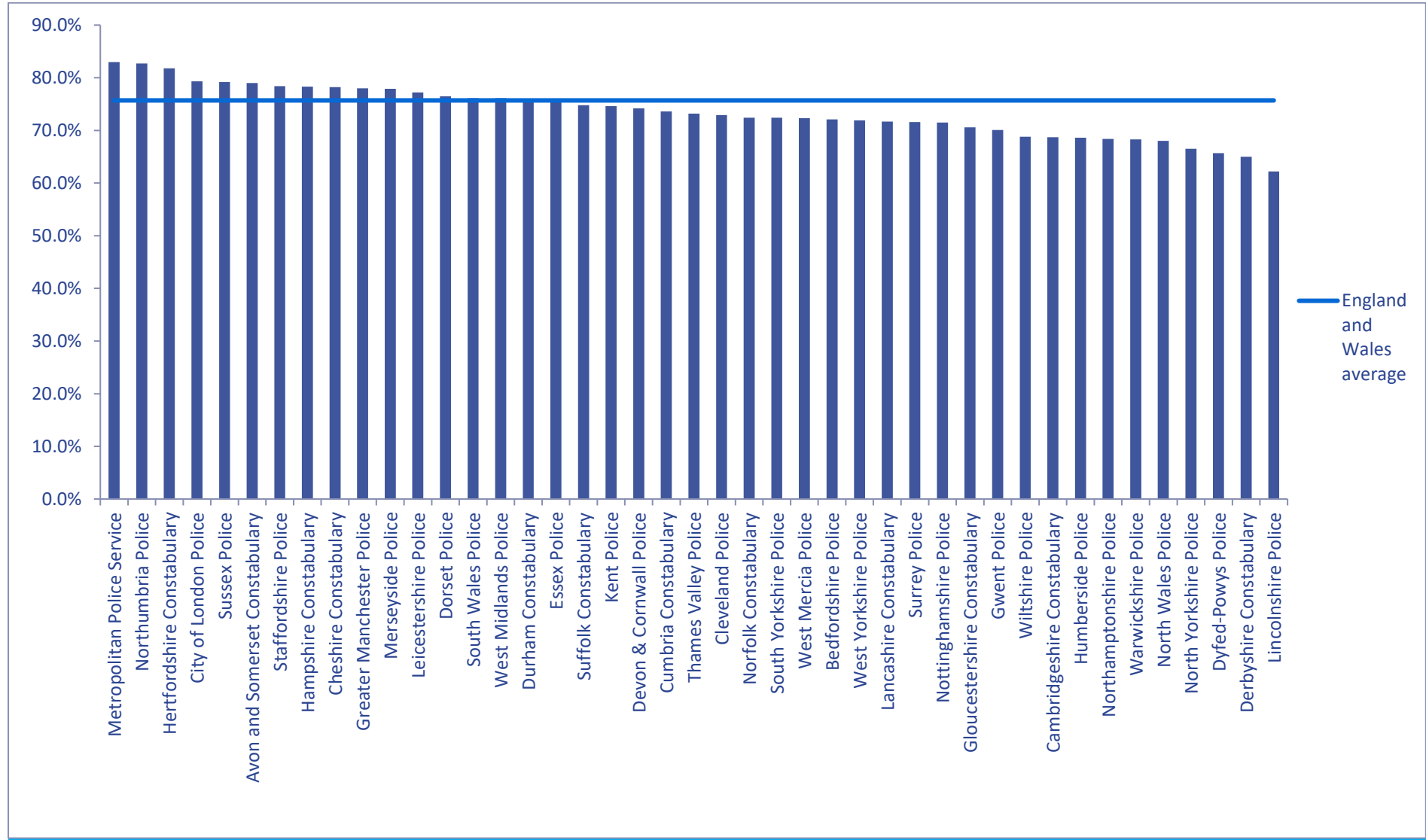
⁴ Z = 8.507, p < 0.001

⁵ Z = -1.2301, p = 0.219

significantly different⁶. Further at a national level, 11.8% of respondents reported never or almost never having enough money to cover all their essentials.

⁶ $Z = 8.5997, p < 0.001$

Proportion of respondents who felt worse off financially compared to five years ago



MORALE

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

55.7% of respondents from Kent Police told us that their morale is currently low.

Nationally, the proportion of respondents reporting low personal morale ranges from 71.5% at the top ranking force to 36.3% at the bottom ranking force. In terms of the proportion of respondents with low morale, Kent Police ranks 26 out of 43, meaning that, compared to Kent Police, there are 17 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents reporting low morale.

85.9% of respondents from Kent Police felt that morale within the force is currently low.

Across England and Wales as a whole, the proportion of respondents reporting low force morale ranges from 97.6% at the top ranking force to 59.7% at the bottom ranking force. In terms of the proportion of respondents reporting low force morale, Kent Police ranks 28 out of 43 forces, meaning that there are 15 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who feel that morale within their force is low.

Comparison of 2018 and 2017 figures for morale in Kent Police are provided in the table below.

	2018	2017
Low personal morale	55.7%	55.8%
Low force morale	85.9%	83.2%

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

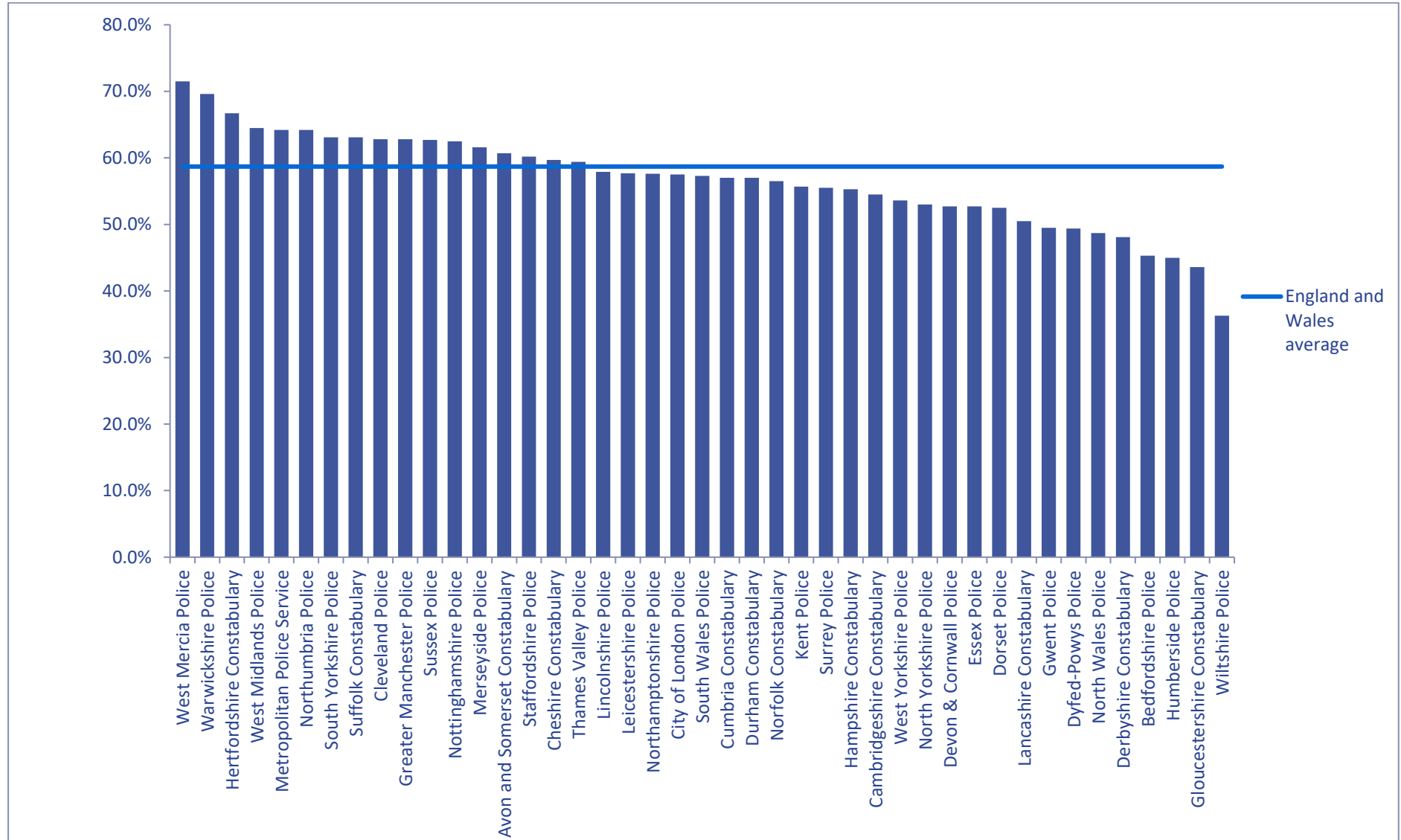
The proportion of respondents in the police service as a whole who said that their morale is low was 58.7%, this compares to 60.2% of respondents to the PFEW Pay and Morale survey in 2017; the proportion of respondents reporting low morale in 2018 was significantly smaller than in 2017⁷.

The proportion of respondents in the service as a whole who said that morale in their force was low this year was 89.1%; this proportion was 89.6% in 2017 showing a small but statistically significant decrease from last year⁸.

⁷ Z= -3.5082, p < 0.001

⁸ Z= -1.9818, p = 0.048

Proportion of respondents reporting low personal morale



REASONS FOR LOW MORALE

The survey asked respondents about the factors that had a positive or negative effect on their morale, the table below shows the proportion of respondents in Kent Police who said a particular factor has had a negative effect upon their morale compared to the national average.

Factor	Negative effect on morale (Kent Police)	Negative effect on morale (England and Wales)
Pay and benefits (including pension)	81.5%	76.5%
Day-to-day job role	48.9%	47.9%
Workload and responsibilities	66.2%	61.7%
Work-life balance	65.4%	65.0%
Opportunities for development and promotion	40.5%	49.6%
Health and wellbeing	59.3%	61.5%
How the police as a whole are treated	83.8%	85.6%
Treatment by senior managers	33.9%	44.7%
Management of change within the police	67.7%	78.3%

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE POLICE

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

66.7% of respondents from Kent Police said that they would not recommend joining the police to others.

Nationally, the proportion of respondents who said that they would not recommend joining the police to others ranges from 76.6% in the top ranking force to 46.7% in the bottom ranking force. Compared to the other forces in England and Wales, Kent Police ranks 25 out of 43; there are therefore 18 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who say that they would not recommend joining the police to others.

62.7% of respondents from Kent Police said that they did not feel valued within the police.

The proportion of respondents who did not feel valued ranges from 78.2% in the top ranking force to 46.4% in the bottom ranking force. In terms of the proportion of respondents who did not feel valued within the police, Kent Police ranks 32 out of 43; there are 11 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who did not feel valued.

Comparison of 2018 and 2017 figures for attitudes towards the police in Kent Police are provided in the table below.

	2018	2017
I would not recommend joining the police to others	66.7%	67.7%
I do not feel valued in the police	62.7%	61.6%

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

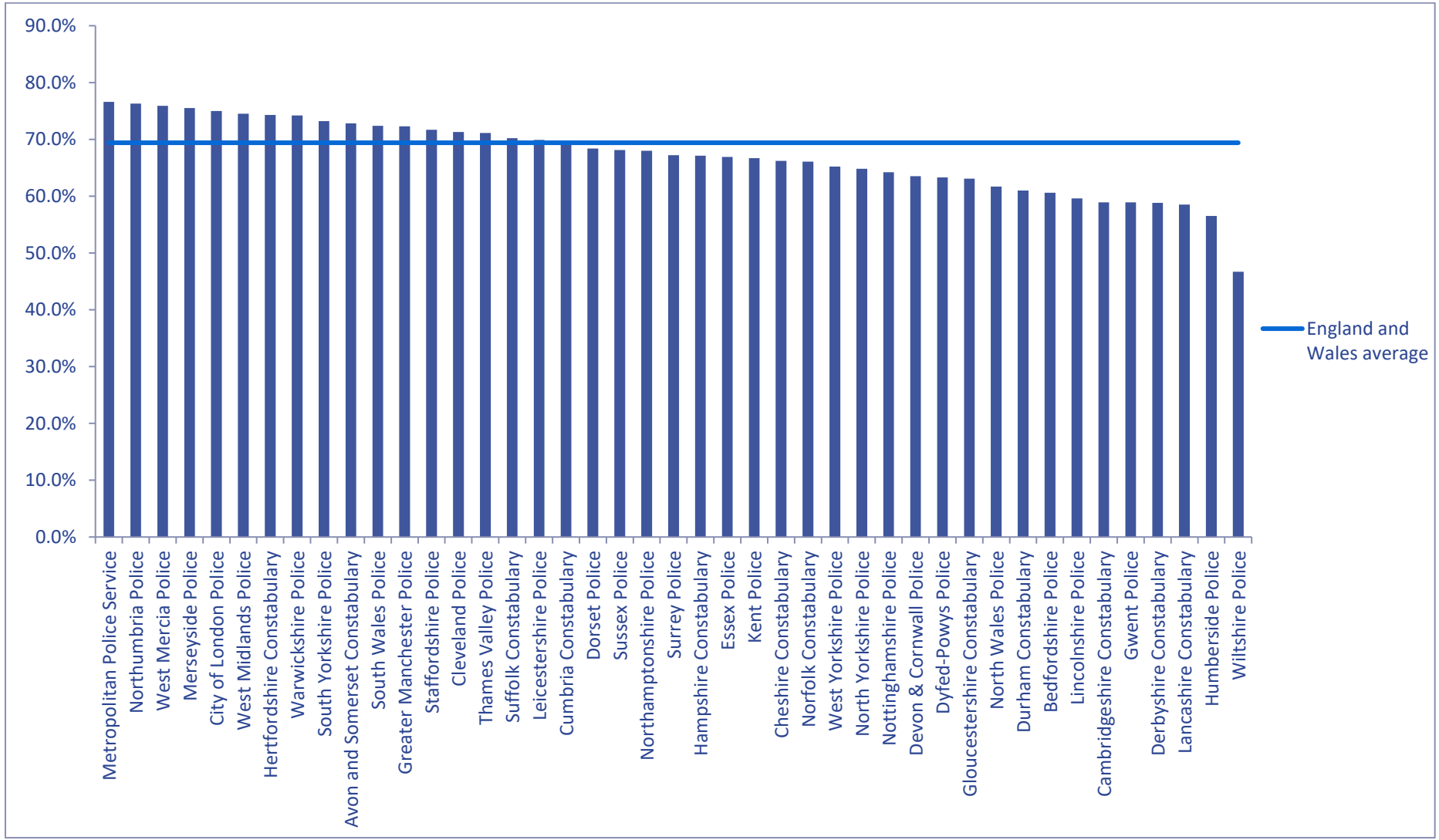
For the service as a whole, the proportion of respondents in 2018 who said that they would not recommend joining the police to others was 69.4%. In 2017, 70.4% of respondents said that they would not recommend joining the police. The difference between 2017 and 2018 was small but statistically significant⁹.

Across the police service as a whole, 67.8% of respondents said that they did not feel valued; compared to 68.0% of respondents in last year's survey. The proportion of respondents feeling valued this year compared to 2017 was not statistically significant¹⁰.

⁹ Z = -2.3393, p = 0.019

¹⁰ Z = -0.6681, p = 0.503

Proportion of respondents who would not recommend the police to others



FAIRNESS

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

41.5% of respondents from Kent Police agreed that they were treated fairly. 24.8% of respondents from Kent Police said that they were not treated fairly.

The proportion of respondents who did not feel fairly treated ranged from 39.7% at the top ranking force to 18.3% at the bottom ranking force. Kent Police ranks 37 out of 43 forces for this indicator; there are 6 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who do not feel fairly treated.

30.4% of respondents from Kent Police said that decisions that affected them were usually made in a fair way; whereas 34.5% said that decisions that affected them were not usually made in a fair way.

The proportion of respondents reporting that decisions that affected them were not usually made in a fair way ranged from 55.8% at the top ranking force to 30.8% at the bottom ranking force. Kent Police ranks 40 out of 43 forces; there are therefore 3 forces where a smaller proportion of respondents said that decisions that affected them were not usually made in a fair way.

37.3% of respondents from Kent Police told us that overall, the people they worked with were fairly treated; in contrast to 26.9% who said that the people they worked with were not fairly treated.

Across England and Wales, the proportion of respondents who felt that the people they worked with were not fairly treated ranged from 45.9% at the top ranking force to 20.7% at the bottom ranking force. Kent Police ranks 38 out of 43 forces; there are 5 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents who felt that the people they worked with were not treated fairly.

Comparison of 2018 and 2017 figures for fairness in Kent Police are provided below.

	2018	2018	2017	2017
	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree
I am treated fairly	24.8%	41.5%	25.4%	44.7%
Decisions that affect me are usually made in a fair way	34.5%	30.4%	36.2%	30.9%
Overall, the people I work with are treated fairly	26.9%	37.3%	29.5%	38.8%

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

This year, the proportion of respondents across the police service as a whole who felt fairly treated was 37.3%, whereas 31.2% did not feel fairly treated. The proportion of respondents in 2018 who felt fairly treated was significantly higher than in 2017¹¹ when 36.4% felt fairly treated. Further, the proportion of respondents who did not feel fairly treated was not significantly different from last year, when 31.6% of respondents said that they were not treated fairly¹².

Across England and Wales, the proportion of respondents in 2018 who agreed that decisions that affected them were made in a fair way was 24.7%; again this was not significantly different from last year, when 24.1% of respondents agreed that decisions were made in a fair way.¹³ The proportion of respondents in this year's survey who disagreed that decisions were made fairly was also not significantly different to 2017; 44.9% of respondents disagreed this year, 45.4% disagreed last year.¹⁴

Nationally, 32.7% of respondents said that the people they worked with were treated fairly, this contrasts with 35.2% of respondents who did not believe that the people they worked with were treated fairly. These proportions in 2017 were 31.8% and 36.0% respectively. Accordingly, the proportion of respondents who believed that the people they worked with were treated fairly was significantly higher this year than last year¹⁵, and the proportion of respondents who believe that the people they worked with were not treated fairly was not significantly different this year compared to last year¹⁶.

¹¹ Z = 2.2402, p = 0.025

¹² Z = -0.9306, p = 0.352

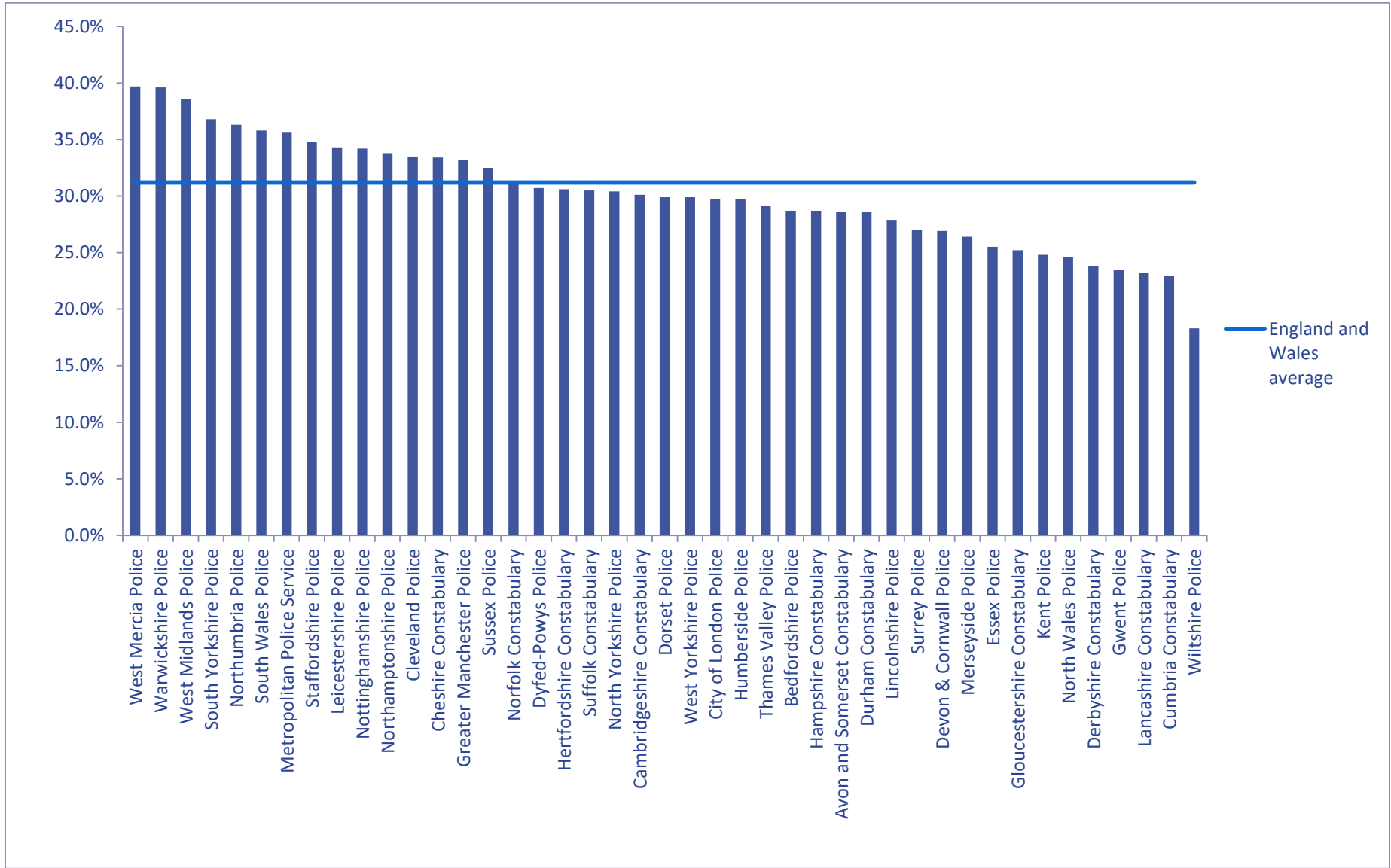
¹³ Z = 1.7566, p = 0.078

¹⁴ Z = -0.9461, p = 0.342

¹⁵ Z = 2.1774, p = 0.029

¹⁶ Z = -1.8119; p = 0.070

Proportion of respondents who did not feel fairly treated



INTENTION TO LEAVE

FORCE LEVEL STATISTICS

10.2% of respondents from Kent Police told us that they had an intention to leave the police service either within the next 2 years or as soon as possible. A further 20.0% of respondents said that they currently do not know what their intentions are with regards to staying in or leaving the police.

The proportion of respondents in England and Wales who overall planned to leave the police within the next 2 years or as soon as possible ranged from 18.3% at the top ranking force to 6.6% at the bottom ranking force. In terms of the proportion of respondents intending to leave, Kent Police ranks 16 out of 43 forces, meaning that there are 27 forces with a smaller proportion of respondents intending to leave.

Comparison of 2018 and 2017 figures for intention to leave within the next 2 years or as soon as possible in Kent Police are provided in the table below.

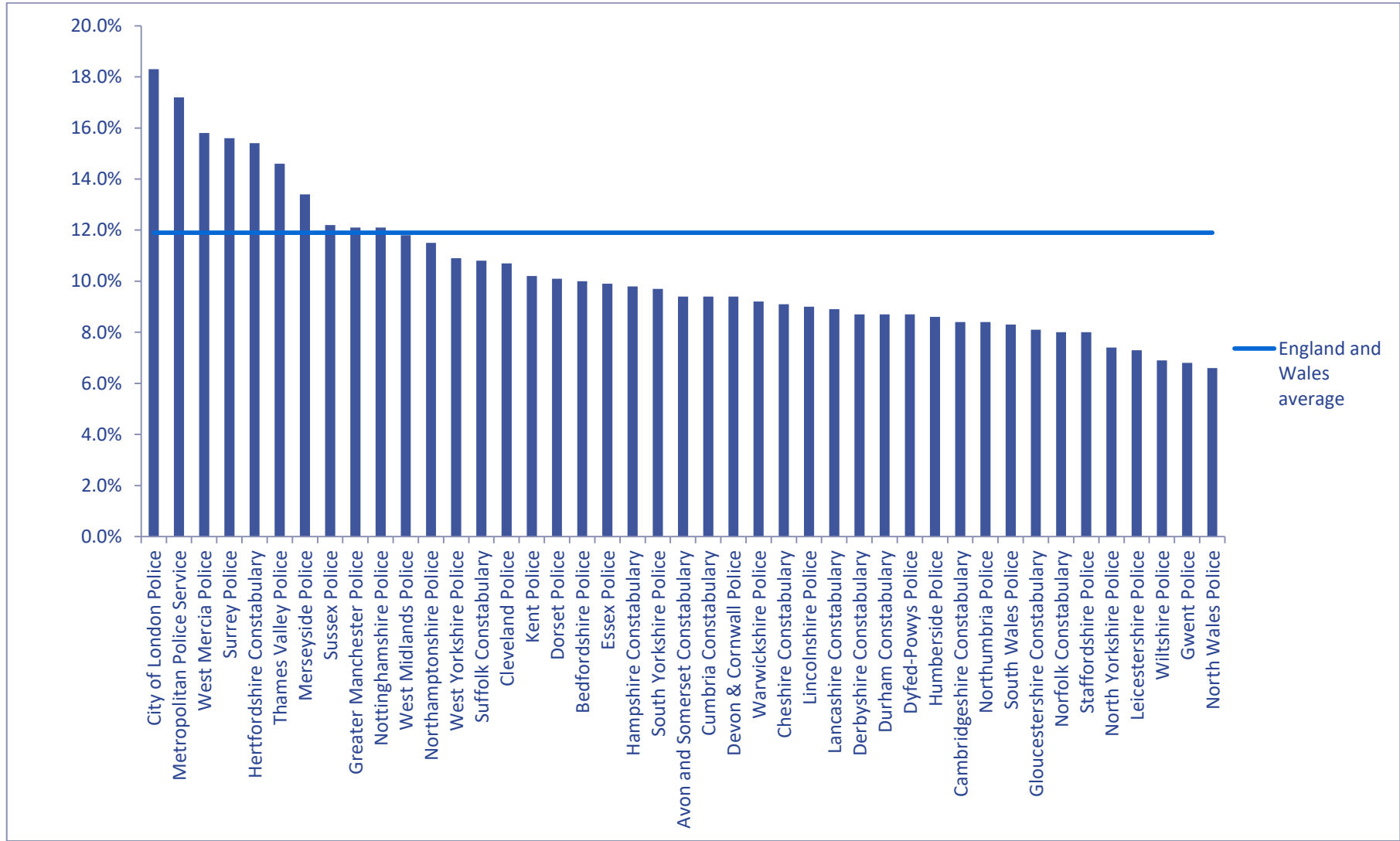
	2018	2017
Intention to leave the police service within the next 2 years or as soon as possible	10.2%	12.6%

OVERALL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

For the service as a whole, 11.9% of respondents planned to leave the police service within two years or as soon as possible; in 2017, 12.3% of respondents said that they intended to leave within two years or as soon as possible. There was no statistically significant difference in the proportion of respondents intending to leave within the next 2 years or as soon as possible in 2018 compared to 2017¹⁷.

¹⁷ Z = -1.6364, p = 0.101

Proportion of respondents intending to leave the police within two years



REASONS FOR INTENDING TO LEAVE THE POLICE SERVICE

Respondents who had said they intended to leave were asked to indicate the reasons behind this intention. The table below shows the proportion of respondents in Kent Police who said that a particular factor has had a major effect on their intention to leave, compared to the national average.

Please be aware that respondents were able to choose more than one option therefore the figures provide below will not add up to 100%.

Factor	Major effect on intention to leave (Kent Police)	Major effect on intention to leave (England and Wales)
The impact of your job on your family/personal life	64.2%	61.5%
Your morale	82.1%	79.0%
Your opportunities for development and promotion	26.9%	44.0%
Your pay and benefits	56.7%	66.5%
Better job opportunities outside of the Police	44.8%	52.9%
The impact of the job on your health and wellbeing	67.2%	72.4%
Dissatisfaction with your day-to-day job role	35.8%	43.6%
Your workload and responsibilities	46.3%	48.5%
How the police as a whole are treated	64.2%	71.2%
Your treatment by senior managers	31.3%	40.4%

NOTE FOR JBBS

Additional findings from the 2018 Pay and Morale survey are available on request from the Research and Policy department. Additional topics include, but are not limited to:

- Reasons for not applying for promotion
- Satisfaction with training and development, shift patterns and working hours
- Engagement (including pride in the police)
- Perceptions of fair pay (e.g. in relation to the hazards or stresses on the job)

The findings of the survey can also be broken down in more detail in terms of different demographic groups, such as rank, role or length of service. However please be aware that we can only go into a certain level of detail with this demographic data in order to preserve respondents' confidentiality.

JBBS wishing to obtain further information in a certain area can contact ResearchandDataCollection@polfed.org to discuss their requirements. The Research and Policy Department only has one member of staff responsible for these data requests therefore please bear this in mind in terms of turnaround times and the amount of data you request.

All other interested parties should speak to their local JBB in the first instance.