



Issue Brief on Public Perceptions of Living with Police Officers as next Door Neighbours, 2019

The Centre conducted a **National Crime Mapping Survey** in September-October, 2018. The general objective of this survey was to study spatial analysis of crime problems and other policing-related issues trending in the country. Specifically, the survey sought to answer some of the following research questions: *Will you feel much safer if police officers lived as your next door neighbour? What are the reasons for your response? and lastly, how do you think living with police officers in the midst of communities would influence their service delivery?*

Results from the crime mapping survey indicates that, Kenya still relies on conceptual framework that police live in government-supplied housing quarters. The Presidential directive identifies the current police housing scheme as less than adequate to meet police and police family needs. In terms of **Public Perceptions** on living with police as next door neighbour, the survey found out that **65.7%** of the respondents were in favour, while **34.3%** were not in favour. Although officers living in the midst of communities will pay market rate in terms of house rent and house-to-office transport fares, the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) approved a harmonized House and Commuter Allowances, thereby presenting a challenge to the Police Service.

Key recommendation

The National Police Service (NPS) needs to take advantage of this opportunity and public goodwill to integrate police officers with communities and neighborhoods they serve.

Our response

We disseminate research findings and recommendations to government agencies concerned with the administration of criminal justice for purposes of policy planning and formulation.

What you can do to help

You can help police integrate with communities and neighbourhoods in Kenya by welcoming them and/or providing suggestions and feedback to the Police, NCRC website (<http://crimeresearch.go.ke/report-crimes/>) and NCRC Mobile Phone Crime Reporting/Monitoring tool from mobile phones operating systems: Google Play Store, App Store and Windows Store (Free Service).