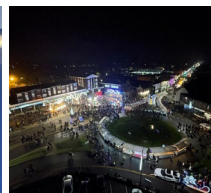


Your Council | Your Money | Your Guide to Council Tax 2023/24



www.warwickdc.gov.uk

A message from **Councillor Andrew Day,** Leader of Warwick District Council



Dear Resident

The community facilities and local services that we all enjoy are funded by Council Tax, Business Rates, government grants and income generating activities. The amount of Council Tax that we pay varies depending on the 'band' given to our homes, assessed on the value of the property.

Warwick District collects all the Council Tax on behalf of Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and our Town or Parish Councils. Yet, less than 9% of the Council Tax we collect is actually used to fund Warwick District Council services, with the balance distributed to the other authorities.

I am proud that once again this year Warwick District has frozen its share of our Council Tax, without cutting services. In 2023/24, a band D household will continue to pay £176.86 in Council Tax, the same amount as last year, and the year before. This equates to £3.40 per week for Warwick District Council services, such as waste and recycling collections, street cleaning, maintenance of parks and public spaces, environmental health, licensing, planning and community protection.

Freezing our Council Tax is just one of a number of measures we're taking to address the financial squeeze many of us are experiencing. Thanks to positive cross-partying working, Warwick District has also been able to:

- Introduce a Council Tax Reduction scheme, supporting residents on means-tested benefits who will now pay no Council Tax.
- Adopt a Council Tax support scheme.
- Freeze car parking charges and offer free out of town parking.
- Commit £250,000 in grant funding to local charities, in addition to providing £1,000 a week, every week, to our local Foodbank.

Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and many town / parish councils are increasing their tax again this year, so while Warwick District Council's share is frozen, we will still see an increase in our total bill.

At this time, when our community most needs support, I'm especially pleased that Warwick District Council has been able to step-up, while continuing to provide for an excellent level of service and maintain an ambitious Covid recovery programme.

Cllr Andrew Day
Leader, Warwick District Council

What is the Council Tax?

Each year the Government expects local authorities to raise money to help pay for the cost of providing local services. Some of this money comes from residents of the District and is collected by the Council in the form of Council Tax. Your Council Tax bill is based upon your Council Tax banding figure (which relates to the capital value of your property in 1991).

The District Council also collects Council Tax on behalf of the County Council, Police, Town and Parish Councils. Your Council Tax bill includes the charges from these authorities as well as that from Warwick District Council.

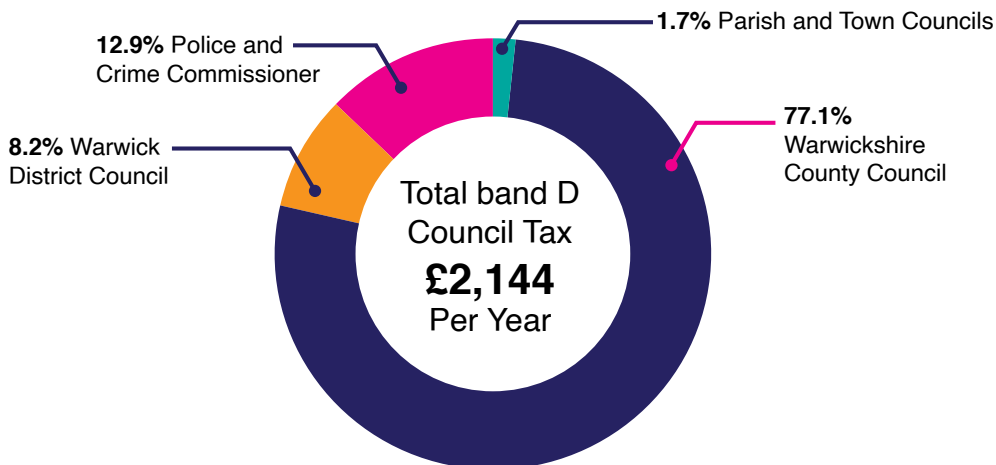
Why do you have to pay it?

By law we have to ask you for money and, by law, you are expected to pay. Failing to pay on time costs the council thousands of pounds each year, which can have an adverse effect on the following year's bills. In addition, failing to pay on time may result in additional costs being charged to you. We try to make paying the bill as easy as possible. We offer a number of ways in which you can pay. These are outlined on your Council Tax bill. There may also be help available (Council Tax Support) if you are on a low or fixed income.

Where does the money go to?

The money we collect from you is not all for Warwick District Council. In fact we keep just under 9p in every pound.

The rest of the money is collected on behalf of Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner and the local Parish and Town Councils. This part of the booklet tries to explain how the District Council's element of the Council Tax has been arrived at. If you require further information regarding the level of tax set by each organisation please refer to their relevant links below.



How do we work out the Warwick District Council share of the Council Tax?

To work out the District Council element of the Council Tax we estimate what we will spend on delivering local services; we then reduce this for any income that we receive specifically for those services by way of fees and charges. This produces the Council's budget requirement. We then take away the money we will receive from the Government and from the Business Rates Pool. The balance is what is due to be raised from the Council Tax.

Calculating the Total Council Tax

£10m is the amount we need to collect in Council Tax to provide Warwick District Council services. We add on to this the amounts that the County Council, Police & Crime Commissioner and Parish/Town Councils require to provide their services, which we then collect on their behalf. In order to work out the specific level of Council Tax, these figures are divided by the number of properties in the area that are equivalent to a Band 'D'. For Warwick District in 2023/24 the total 'Band D equivalent' properties is 57,670.

The Band D 'average' for the District Council's share is just £14.74 per month when spread over 12 months.

	2023/24 £'000
Budget Requirement for Warwick District Council	19,995
Non Domestic Rates / General Grants	-9,777
Collection Fund Balance Adjustment	-19
Amount to be raised from Council Tax	10,199

	Total amount to be raised from Council Tax £'000	Council Tax for Band D property £	Proportion of Council Tax %
Warwick District Council	10,199	176.86	8.2%
Warwickshire County Council	95,361	1,653.57	77.1%
Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner	15,958	276.71	12.9%
Parish and Town Councils	2,144	37.17	1.7%
Total/Average Band D Council Tax	123,662	2,144.31	100.0%

How do we spend the money?

2022/23				2023/24		
Gross Expend £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expen. £'000		Gross Expend £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expen. £'000
25,120	(24,511)	609	Customer & Digital Services	20,000	(19,277)	723
1,858	(286)	1,572	Finance	3,401	(227)	3,173
4,443	(1,748)	2,695	Housing Services - GF	5,638	(2,425)	3,213
16,488	(8,776)	7,712	Neighbourhood & Assets	20,972	(11,786)	9,186
477	(89)	388	People and Communication	65	(65)	0
10,667	(6,688)	3,979	Place, Arts & Economy	18,021	(6,328)	11,693
7,101	(635)	6,466	Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	7,242	(504)	6,738
3,435	(55)	3,380	Strategic Leadership	1,295	(3)	1,292
69,589	(42,788)	26,802	Total Expenditure on Services	76,633	(40,615)	36,018
		(6,150)	Less Capital and Reserves Adjustment			(16,023)
		20,652	Budget Requirement			19,995
		(10,700)	Less Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates & General Grants			(9,777)
		23	Collection Fund Balance Adjustment			(19)
		9,975	Amount to be raised from Council Tax			10,199

Why has the budget changed from last year?

Budget Requirement 2022/23	£'000 20,652
Effect of Inflation: The effect of inflation on the Council's major contracts and commitments	1,966
Committed Expenditure: An increase in expenditure driven by a greater number of one-off service developments in-year	5,967
Savings: A number of savings proposals have been agreed	(1,096)
Use of Reserves: Greater use is being made of the Council's reserves to pay for expenditure in 2023/24	(6,371)
Financing Charges: Interest will be generated on the Council's investments	(1,122)
Budget Requirement 2023/24	19,995

Town Council Precepts in Excess of £140,000

	Net Expenditure	
	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Royal Leamington Spa Town Council:		
Recreation & Tourism	26	23
Community	141	151
Other	255	269
Total Net Expenditure	422	443
Warwick Town Council:		
Planning & Economic Development	81	81
Recreation & Tourism	190	200
Community	200	211
Other	90	90
Total Net Expenditure	561	582
Kenilworth Town Council:		
Planning & Economic Development	25	25
Recreation & Tourism	33	33
Community	50	54
Other	96	116
Total Net Expenditure	204	228
Whitnash Town Council:		
Finance & General Purposes	131	156
Hall & Playing Fields	73	77
Civic Centre	80	94
Total Net Expenditure	284	327

Parish and Town Council Precepts

The table below gives the additional precept requested by each Parish and Town Council in the Warwick District area and the corresponding amounts of Council Tax applicable to dwellings in valuation Band D.

Parish and Town Council	Precept 2022/23 £	Precept 2023/24 £	Band D Equiv. £
Baddesley Clinton	3,500	3,500	30.74
Baginton	17,178	17,002	54.26
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	56,948	62,758	64.94
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	7,500	9,500	28.12
Bishops Tachbrook	134,840	142,000	54.39
Bubbenhall	18,000	18,000	57.32
Budbrooke	36,700	39,484	42.48
Burton Green	19,350	20,505	28.13
Bushwood	0	0	0.00
Cubbington	54,960	62,050	38.85
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	15,116	16,785	50.49
Hatton	14,384	14,550	15.21
Kenilworth	204,280	227,500	22.78
Lapworth	22,900	24,593	24.62
Leek Wootton	20,137	21,000	39.44
Norton Lindsey	10,000	10,500	46.60
Old Milverton & Blackdown	7,500	7,500	42.83
Radford Semele	35,574	36,442	34.08
Rowington	20,430	21,430	37.49
Royal Leamington Spa	421,770	442,519	25.69
Shrewley	5,904	7,172	16.91
Stoneleigh & Ashow	18,352	18,932	41.19
Warwick	561,187	582,366	44.79
Weston-under-Wetherley	11,000	10,852	57.09
Whitnash	284,394	326,768	90.90
Total Warwick District Council Area	2,001,905	2,143,708	989.34
Average			37.17

Need to contact us?

Contact details can be found on the [Warwick District Council website](#).

Useful Links

Are you on a low income and struggling to pay your Council Tax?

Find out about other benefit entitlements

Who has to pay Council Tax?

For more information about Adult Social Care Precept

Important Information

In May 2022, the Government published the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill, which included proposals, aimed at addressing the negative impact of second homes on the supply of homes available to meet local housing need.

Warwick District Council has resolved at the full council meeting on Tuesday 27th February 2023 that second homeowners will be charged an additional 100% council tax premium. In addition to this, empty properties will be charged an additional 100% council tax empty property premium after 1 year of becoming empty instead of 2 years.

These charges will only come into effect once the Governments Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill becomes law, which will be 1 April 2024 at the earliest.

Warwick District Council and Fraud

We are committed to do everything we reasonably can to protect public money from fraud and, to this end, we may share information provided to us with other bodies responsible for auditing and administering public funds.

The National Fraud Initiative requires us by law to pass individuals' personal details, which have been supplied to us for council tax charging and other lawful purposes, onto the Cabinet Office.

Further information on the National Fraud Initiative can be found on the [Warwick District Council website](#) or Tel: 01926 456818

You can find out more about your personal data rights by reading our main Privacy Notice available on our [website](#).