

Your Council | Your Money | Your Guide to Council Tax 2024/25



www.warwickdc.gov.uk

Dear Resident

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

Warwick District Council collects the Council Tax on behalf of Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and our Town or Parish Councils. Just over 8% of the Council Tax we collect is used to fund Warwick District Council services, with over 91% going to the other organisations.

Warwick District Council has not increased its portion of the Council Tax bill for the past 2 years; however, this year will see it increase by 2.99%. This is equal to a £5.29 increase per year, or 11p per week, for a household in Band D.

Setting the budget this year has been challenging due to the difficult financial environment. With so many Councils struggling and so much uncertainty about the money central Government will provide, the Council Tax increase will help to ensure our valued services continue, including waste collections, the provision of sports and leisure facilities, our parks and open spaces, and services for homeless people.

In addition, we are planning sensible investments that will benefit residents, including:

- £200,000 over 3 years for additional cost-of-living support.
- £130,000 additional investment to tackle fly-tipping.
- Funding for improvements to Victoria Park's paddling pool.
- Investment in solar panels on some of our buildings to save money and reduce carbon emissions.
- An Energy Planning Officer to monitor the high standard of new builds.

Supporting our residents who need us more than ever during the cost-of-living crisis is so important to the Council. Our commitment lies in delivering services that are not only there for residents when they need them, but also ensuring long-term sustainability. This is the reason for the average £5.29 a year Council Tax increase for each household. Our focus remains on improving the quality, efficiency, and accessibility of all our services.

Cllr Jonathan Chilvers

Resources portfolio



Cllr Jessica Harrison

Transformation portfolio



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.

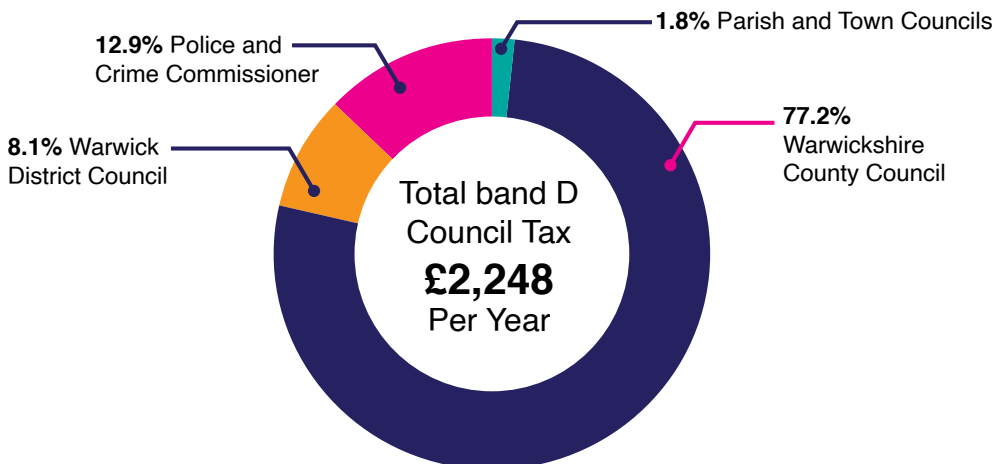
Why do you have to pay it?

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 over 8p 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

£10.6m 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 2024/25 the total 'Band D equivalent' properties is 58,281.

The Band D 'average' for the District Council's share is just £15.18 per month when spread over 12 months.

	2024/25 £'000
Budget Requirement for Warwick District Council	21,265
Non Domestic Rates / General Grants	-10,749
Collection Fund Balance Adjustment	100
Amount to be raised from Council Tax	10,616

	Total amount to be raised from Council Tax	Council Tax for Band D property	Proportion of Council Tax
	£'000	£	%
Warwick District Council	10,616	182.15	8.1%
Warwickshire County Council	101,186	1,736.19	77.2%
Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner	16,885	289.71	12.9%
Parish and Town Councils	2,308	39.61	1.8%
Total/Average Band D Council Tax	130,995	2,247.66	100.0%

How do we spend the money?

2023/24				2024/25		
Gross Expend £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expen. £'000		Gross Expend £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expen. £'000
20,000	(19,277)	723	Customer & Digital Services	24,535	(23,220)	1,315
3,401	(227)	3,173	Finance	6,836	(3,890)	2,946
5,638	(2,425)	3,213	Housing Services - GF	9,033	(5,344)	3,689
20,972	(11,786)	9,186	Neighbourhood & Assets	23,966	(17,094)	6,872
65	(65)	0	People and Communication	2,143	(2,162)	(20)
18,021	(6,328)	11,693	Place, Arts & Economy	15,669	(4,723)	10,946
7,242	(504)	6,738	Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	8,281	(1,669)	6,612
1,295	(3)	1,292	Strategic Leadership	5,504	(3,382)	2,122
76,633	(40,615)	36,018	Total Expenditure on Services	95,964	(61,483)	34,481
		(16,023)	Less Capital and Reserves Adjustment			(13,216)
		19,995	Budget Requirement			21,265
		(9,777)	Less Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates & General Grants			(10,749)
		(19)	Collection Fund Balance Adjustment			100
		10,199	Amount to be raised from Council Tax			10,616

Why has the budget changed from last year?

Budget Requirement 2023/24	£'000
	19,995
Effect of Inflation: The effect of inflation on the Council's major contracts and commitments	1,137
Committed Expenditure: An increase in expenditure driven by a greater number of one-off service developments in-year	(597)
Savings: A number of savings proposals have been agreed	(300)
Use of Reserves: Greater use is being made of the Council's reserves to pay for expenditure in 2024/25	1,494
Financing Charges: Interest will be generated on the Council's investments	(464)
Budget Requirement 2024/25	21,265

Town Council Precepts in Excess of £140,000

	Net Expenditure	
	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Royal Leamington Spa Town Council:		
Recreation & Tourism	23	28
Community	151	147
Other	269	289
Total Net Expenditure	443	464
Warwick Town Council:		
Planning & Economic Development	81	81
Recreation & Tourism	200	220
Community	211	299
Other	90	41
Total Net Expenditure	582	641
Kenilworth Town Council:		
Planning & Economic Development	25	25
Recreation & Tourism	33	31
Community	54	73
Other	116	121
Total Net Expenditure	228	250
Whitnash Town Council:		
Finance & General Purposes	156	153
Hall & Playing Fields	77	77
Civic Centre	94	96
Total Net Expenditure	327	326
Bishops Tachbrook:		
Community	n/a	140
Other	n/a	11
Total Net Expenditure	n/a	151

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 2023/24 £	Precept 2024/25 £	Band D Equiv. £
Baddesley Clinton	3,500	4,000	34.92
Baginton	17,002	18,277	57.52
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	62,758	66,964	69.87
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	9,500	18,845	54.98
Bishops Tachbrook	142,000	151,000	57.01
Bubbenhall	18,000	19,000	60.02
Budbrooke	39,484	41,910	42.48
Burton Green	20,505	30,034	39.10
Bushwood	0	0	0.00
Cubbington	62,050	63,936	39.98
Eathorpe Hunningham Offchurch Wappenbury	16,785	17,729	53.63
Hatton	14,550	14,550	14.65
Kenilworth	227,500	249,555	24.73
Lapworth	24,593	28,095	27.51
Royal Leamington Spa	442,519	464,479	26.82
Leek Wootton and Guy's Cliffe	21,000	31,000	58.04
Norton Lindsey	10,500	10,750	46.70
Old Milverton & Blackdown	7,500	7,500	39.34
Radford Semele	36,442	37,751	35.61
Rowington	21,430	22,000	37.78
Shrewley	7,172	9,475	21.98
Stoneleigh & Ashow	18,932	20,017	43.84
Warwick	582,366	640,793	48.60
Weston-under-Wetherley	10,852	14,073	73.71
Whitnash	326,768	326,552	90.90
Total Warwick District Council Area	2,143,708	2,308,286	1,099.72
Average			39.61

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 changes will come into effect from 1st April 2025.

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](#)

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