

Your Council | Your Money | Your Guide to Council Tax 2025/26



www.warwickdc.gov.uk

Dear Resident

Essential local services and community facilities 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. Less than 8% of the Council Tax we collect is used to fund Warwick District Council services, with over 92% going to the other organisations.

Last year, Warwick District Council increased its portion of the Council Tax bill by 2.99% after maintaining a freeze for two years. This year, we continue to ensure sensible financial management while striving to deliver essential services efficiently by another increase of 2.99%. This is equal to a £5.45 increase per year, or 11p per week for a household on 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, businesses and our communities including:

- £135,000 additional investment to tackle fly-tipping.
- £78,900 for Community Wardens to keep our streets and public spaces safe and address anti-social behaviour.
- £95,000 for street events in Warwick, Kenilworth, Leamington and Whitnash town centres will help bring extra joy and footfall and support our many excellent town-centre businesses.
- Additional funds for solar panels and energy saving measures on Council buildings which save money **and** reduce carbon.

Supporting our residents and businesses who need us more than ever 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 £5.45 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 Melrose

People & Organisational Development portfolio



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.

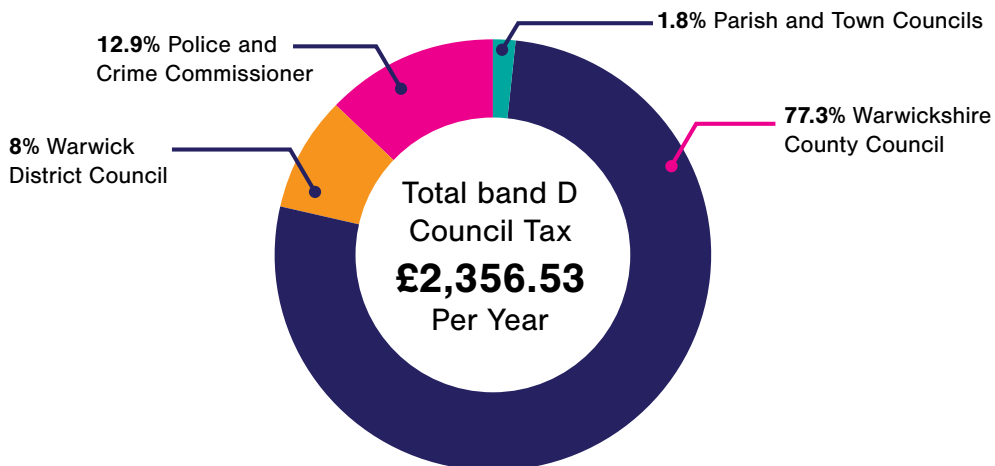
Why do you have to pay it?

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 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

£11.2m 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 2025/26 the total 'Band D equivalent' properties is 59,720.

The Band D 'average' for the District Council's share is just £15.63 per month when spread over 12 months.

| | 2025/26 £'000 |
|--|--------------------------|
| Budget Requirement for Warwick District Council | 22,063 |
| Non Domestic Rates / General Grants | -10,789 |
| Collection Fund Balance Adjustment | -70 |
| Amount to be raised from Council Tax | 11,203 |

| | Total amount to be raised from Council Tax | Council Tax for Band D property | Proportion of Council Tax |
|---|---|--|--|
| | £'000 | £ | % |
| Warwick District Council | 11,203 | 187.60 | 8% |
| Warwickshire County Council | 108,866 | 1,822.95 | 77.3% |
| Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner | 18,137 | 303.71 | 12.9% |
| Parish and Town Councils | 2,525 | 42.27 | 1.8% |
| Total / Average Band D Council Tax | 140,731 | 2,356.53 | 100.0% |

How do we spend the money?

| 2024/25 | | | | 2025/26 | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Gross Expend £'000 | Gross Income £'000 | Net Expen. £'000 | | Gross Expend £'000 | Gross Income £'000 | Net Expen. £'000 |
| 25,204 | (23,246) | 1,958 | Customer & Digital Services | 24,374 | (22,570) | 1,804 |
| 6,836 | (3,890) | 2,946 | Finance | 6,419 | (3,798) | 2,620 |
| 15,669 | (4,723) | 10,946 | Place, Arts & Economy | 15,371 | (5,071) | 10,300 |
| 3,576 | (1,933) | 1,643 | Strategic Leadership | 2,715 | (2,021) | 694 |
| 9,532 | (6,493) | 3,039 | Housing - GF | 7,965 | (6,657) | 1,308 |
| 7,198 | (3,235) | 3,963 | Community Protection | 6,844 | (2,873) | 3,971 |
| 22,964 | (13,629) | 9,335 | Neighbourhood | 23,111 | (13,864) | 9,247 |
| 2,143 | (2,162) | (20) | People and Communications | 2,005 | (2,147) | (142) |
| 2,843 | (2,172) | 672 | Governance | 3,448 | (2,546) | 903 |
| 95,964 | (61,483) | 34,481 | Total Expenditure on Services | 92,254 | (61,547) | 30,706 |
| | | (13,216) | Less Capital and Reserves Adjustment | | | (8,644) |
| | | 21,265 | Budget Requirement | | | 22,063 |
| | | (10,749) | Less Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates & General Grants | | | (10,789) |
| | | 100 | Collection Fund Balance Adjustment | | | (70) |
| | | 10,616 | Amount to be raised from Council Tax | | | 11,203 |

Why has the budget changed from last year?

| Budget Requirement 2024/25 | £'000 21,265 |
|---|-----------------|
| Effect of Inflation: The effect of inflation on the Council's major contracts and commitments | 672 |
| Committed Expenditure: An increase in expenditure driven by a greater number of one-off service developments in-year | 357 |
| Savings: A number of savings proposals have been agreed | (700) |
| Use of Reserves: Greater use is being made of the Council's reserves to pay for expenditure in 2024/25 | 468 |
| Financing Charges: Interest will be generated on the Council's investments | 0 |
| Budget Requirement 2025/26 | 22,063 |

Town Council Precepts in Excess of £140,000

| | Net Expenditure | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 |
| Royal Leamington Spa | | |
| Recreation & Tourism | 28 | 28 |
| Community | 147 | 149 |
| Other | 289 | 320 |
| Total Net Expenditure | 464 | 497 |
| Warwick Town Council | | |
| Planning & Economic Development | 81 | 80 |
| Recreation & Tourism | 220 | 300 |
| Community | 299 | 300 |
| Other | 41 | 10 |
| Total Net Expenditure | 641 | 690 |
| Kenilworth Town Council | | |
| Planning & Economic Development | 25 | 30 |
| Recreation & Tourism | 31 | 40 |
| Community | 73 | 75 |
| Other | 121 | 147 |
| Total Net Expenditure | 250 | 292 |
| Whitnash Town Council | | |
| Finance & General Purposes | 153 | 159 |
| Hall & Playing Fields | 77 | 89 |
| Civic centre | 96 | 95 |
| Total Net Expenditure | 326 | 343 |
| Bishops Tachbrook | | |
| Community | 140 | 155 |
| Other | 11 | 15 |
| Total Net Expenditure | 151 | 170 |

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 2024/25 £ | Precept 2025/26 £ | Band D Equiv. £ |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Baddesley Clinton | 4,000 | 4,043 | 34.92 |
| Baginton | 18,277 | 19,438 | 60.38 |
| Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton | 66,964 | 71,500 | 73.42 |
| Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall | 18,845 | 19,295 | 55.78 |
| Bishops Tachbrook | 151,000 | 170,000 | 58.25 |
| Bubbenhall | 19,000 | 20,000 | 63.66 |
| Budbrooke | 41,910 | 45,000 | 45.48 |
| Burton Green | 30,034 | 39,949 | 48.72 |
| Bushwood | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Cubbington | 63,936 | 73,736 | 45.59 |
| Eathorpe Hunningham Offchurch Wappenbury | 17,729 | 18,170 | 54.99 |
| Hatton | 14,550 | 16,950 | 16.26 |
| Kenilworth | 249,555 | 291,815 | 27.86 |
| Lapworth | 28,095 | 30,100 | 29.10 |
| Royal Leamington Spa | 464,479 | 497,094 | 28.17 |
| Leek Wootton and Guy's Cliffe | 31,000 | 45,000 | 84.44 |
| Norton Lindsey | 10,750 | 10,750 | 47.51 |
| Old Milverton & Blackdown | 7,500 | 8,200 | 40.10 |
| Radford Semele | 37,751 | 38,974 | 36.24 |
| Rowington | 22,000 | 23,000 | 38.75 |
| Shrewley | 9,475 | 10,046 | 22.80 |
| Stoneleigh & Ashow | 20,017 | 23,886 | 51.72 |
| Warwick | 640,793 | 690,140 | 51.52 |
| Weston-under-Wetherley | 14,073 | 14,051 | 73.06 |
| Whitnash | 326,552 | 342,925 | 94.44 |
| Total | 2,308,286 | 2,524,061 | 1,183.16 |
| Average | | | 42.27 |

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?](#)

[Eligibility, discounts and exemptions](#)

[For more information about Adult Social Care Precept](#)

Important Information

As part of the Government's Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023, which included proposals aimed at addressing the negative impact of second homes on the supply of homes available to meet local housing need, Local Authorities can amend how they charge Empty Property Premium charges (agreed and implemented in April 2024) and introduce a premium for furnished second homes from April 2025. With effect from 1st April 2025 Warwick District Council will charge second homeowners an additional 100% council tax premium.

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](#).