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**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**

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# **Your Local Council Tax Guide 2020 - 2021**



**Improving People's Lives**

## Message from the Leader

Welcome to this year's guide to your local authorities spending. This explains how we work out your Council Tax and how your money is spent.

It outlines Bath & North East Somerset Council's spending plans together with the charges for town and parish councils, the police and fire services and includes the Environment Agency's levy for flood protection.

This is the first budget to be produced by the administration formed after the election in May 2019. Before deciding where to spend your money we looked very carefully at our finances and listened to what you told us matters to you most.

Our purpose is to improve people's lives and, although we continue to face financial and demand pressures, over the next twelve months we'll invest in our commitments to prepare for the future, deliver for residents and focus on prevention.

Your Council Tax will enable us to invest in key priority areas such as tackling the Climate and Nature Emergency, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing congestion, encouraging sustainable transport and supporting vulnerable people.

Our focus is on long-term sustainable investment, but through careful budgeting we've been able to retain one of the lowest Council Tax rates in the region. The increase in Council Tax and the adult social care portion of your bill have both risen by 1.99%. This represents a total increase of £55.76 for a Band D property.

We've pledged to give you a bigger say. What you've told us has helped shape our spending plans. I look forward to the conversation continuing as we work to improve the lives of everyone in Bath & North East Somerset.



Councillor Dine Romero, Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council



## Investing in Improving People's Lives

Additional funding for this year includes:

**£27m**

Preparing for the future -

including preparation for Bath's Clean Air Zone, low traffic neighbourhoods and investment in cycleways and footpaths.



**£13m**

Delivering for residents -

including roads maintenance, bringing empty homes back into use, additional street cleaning and fly tipping enforcement.



**£6m**

Focusing on prevention -

including increased SEND provision, support for children in care and additional funding for mental health, domestic violence and abuse services.



with

**£800k+**

to help tackle the Climate Emergency



## What is Council Tax?

Council Tax is a property tax levy by local councils. It pays for local services provided by the council including education, highways, social care, public health, libraries, schools, recycling and waste collections, street lights and much more.

The money you pay also funds the police and fire and rescue service and supports the work of parish and town councils

## Who pays Council Tax?

You'll usually have to pay Council Tax if you're 18 or over and own or rent a home. A full Council Tax bill is based on at least two adults living in a home. Spouses and partners who live together are jointly responsible for paying the bill.

## How much will I pay?

Council Tax is charged on the household. The amount of Council Tax you pay depends on which property band your house is in and whether you are entitled to an exemption or discount

## Long-term empty properties

To encourage the owners of long-term empty properties to bring them back into use the council is increasing the amount of Council Tax it charges for these properties.

The council currently charges an extra 50% Council Tax for properties that have been empty and unfurnished for more than two years.

As of Wednesday 1 April 2020, the owner of a property that has been empty and unfurnished for between two and five years, will have to pay a 100% premium charge on top of their normal 100% Council Tax charge.

Owners of homes that have been empty and unfurnished for five years or more, will pay an additional 200% on top of their normal 100% Council Tax charge.

## Council Tax discounts

Your Council Tax bill is based on two or more adults living in a property. If you are the only adult living in your home, your bill may be reduced by 25%.

A discount may also apply if someone who lives with you is:

- a full-time student
- in prison
- a person who is severely mentally impaired
- a care leaver aged between 18 and 25
- a care worker, depending on certain conditions
- an 18-19 year old school leaver
- a religious community member
- a member of visiting armed forces

## Foster carers & care leavers

If you are a foster carer, resident in B&NES and employed by Bath & North East Somerset Council, you may be entitled to a reduction. If you are a care leaver aged 18-25 you may be entitled to a reduction.

## Family annexes

If you have an annexe which is lived in by a family member, you may be entitled to 50% discount for that annexe. The discount does not apply if a non-family member occupies the annexe.

## Exemptions

Some properties are classed as exempt which means you will not have to pay any Council Tax. For example, properties occupied wholly by students or a property left empty following the death of a resident.

## Reductions for people with disabilities

If you, or someone who lives with you needs extra space in your property to meet the special needs arising from a disability you might qualify for a reduction.

## On a low income?

If you're on a low income, you might be entitled to some help towards paying your Council Tax. To apply, you'll need to give us information about your income and any savings, and details about who lives with you. If you're in receipt of Universal Credit, we'll use the information held on your Universal Credit claim to calculate the amount of Council Tax Support you are entitled to. Further information visit:

**[www.bathnes.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/benefits)**

## What if my circumstances change?

If you receive a discount, exemption or Council Tax Support, any change in your circumstances, including moving out of the property, could affect your entitlement. You have a legal duty to tell us within 21 days or you may incur a penalty charge. The council is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers and may use the information you provide for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.

For further information on all reductions available visit:

**[www.bathnes.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/counciltax)**



# Your Council Tax bill explained

Please Note: This is a fictitious Council Tax bill made up for explanatory purposes

This is the number you need to quote when making a payment or contacting us about your Council Tax account

Name of liable person(s)

Contact address

Address this bill relates to

Charge for the year

Details of any exemptions or discounts you are receiving

Dates of instalments

Notes to inform you of any credits or debit from previous financial years

The general charge by the council - this is the amount which the council needs to raise from the council tax in order to provide its main services

Charge set by the council to assist it in meeting expenditure on adult social care

Charge set by a parish or town council - if you live in a parish or town area, your parish or town council may issue an amount to finance its expenditure

Charge set by Avon & Somerset Police

Charge set by Avon Fire Authority

**Bath & North East Somerset Council**

**Council Tax Account Number: 1234567**

MR A SAMPLE  
1 ANY STREET  
ANY DISTRICT  
ANY TOWN  
BA1 XXX

## Council Tax Bill 2020-2021

Access your account 24/7  
[www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaccount](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaccount)

Online Key: XXXXXXXXXX

Council Tax Band: H

Date: 10-MAR-2020

**Bill Address:** 1 ANY STREET, ANY DISTRICT, ANY TOWN, BA1 XXX

Your Bill	Reason for bill: Annual
Charge For Period	01-APR-2020 to 31-MAR-2021 BAND H 3,626.04
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE £ 3,626.04</b>	

Your Payments	Instalments to be paid by: Direct Debit payments 15th Monthly
Instalments due £:	
15-APR-2020 359.04	15-AUG-2020 363.00
15-MAY-2020 363.00	15-SEP-2020 363.00
15-JUN-2020 363.00	15-OCT-2020 363.00
15-JUL-2020 363.00	15-NOV-2020 363.00

Memorandum Note  
Your instalments for 2020/21 do not include your 2019/20 account balance  
As at 26/01/2020 your 2019/20 Council Tax account balance is 348.00

How we calculate your bill	Amount	% Change
Bath & North East Somerset D.C.	2,656.32	2.0
Social Care Charge*	257.44	2.0
Town/Parish of Southstoke	106.78	11.2
Avon & Somerset Police	455.62	4.6
Avon Fire Authority	149.88	2.0
<b>Total Council Tax for band</b>	<b>3,626.04</b>	<b>4.2</b>

\* The Council Tax attributable to Bath & North East Somerset includes a precept to fund adult social care. For more information please visit [www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaxguide](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaxguide)

Access code to set up your online Council Tax account

The Council Tax Band for your property which is set by the Valuation Office Agency

Date your Council Tax bill was issued

Address of property if different from billing address

The adjustments made as a result of any exemptions or discounts

Total amount payable

Method of payment

Dates of instalments and amounts due

For adult social care authorities, council tax bills show two percentage changes: one for the part of the overall change attributable to the adult social care precept, and one for the part attributable to general expenditure.

Total due for the year before any reductions for discounts or exemptions

# Paying your Council Tax

## Direct Debit

This is the quickest and safest way to pay your Council Tax - over 75% of B&NES Somerset residents have already made the switch. Please visit our website at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay)

## Online

Pay by debit or credit card 24 hours a day, seven days a week either online at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay) or by telephone on 0845 372 3501. We don't accept American Express.

## In person

Take your Council Tax Account Number with you to one of our One Stop Shops in Bath, Keynsham or Midsomer Norton. You can pay by cash, debit or credit card at the self-service kiosks.

## Online banking - Faster Payments or BACS

You must quote your Council Tax Account Number as the payment reference. If you don't, your payment may not reach your account.

Sort Code: 56 00 34

Account Number: 57134510

Account Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council

For all other methods of payments please visit [www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/pay)

## Pay over 12 months

If you haven't already asked us to spread your instalments over 12 months, your annual bill (issued in March) will show 10 instalments (April to January). If you would like to spread your instalments over 12 months, please contact us. We'll recalculate your bill to spread out the future instalments as much as possible, up to next March.

## Problems paying?

If you're struggling to pay please contact us to discuss your options visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus)

## Council Tax liability appeals

By law you must continue to pay your council tax as normal until your appeal has been resolved. You can appeal your Council Tax if you think that:

- we have made a mistake in the calculation of your bill
- you think that you are not liable to pay the bill.

To appeal please contact revenues by visiting: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus)

## Council Tax banding appeals

If you think your house is in an incorrect Council Tax band you can appeal by visiting: [www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals](http://www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals) or calling: 03000501501

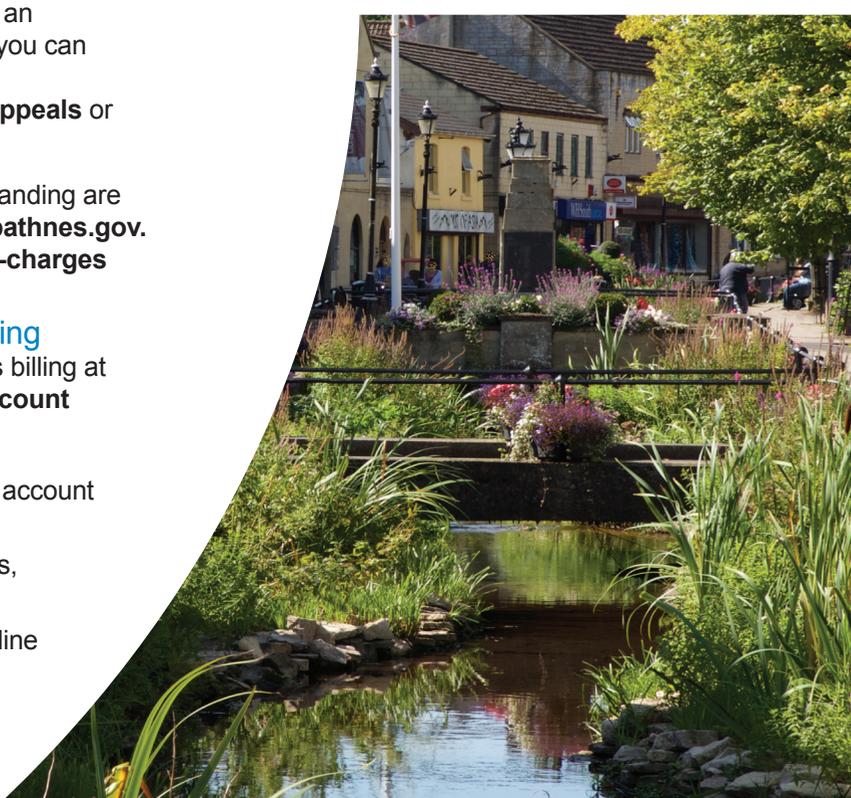
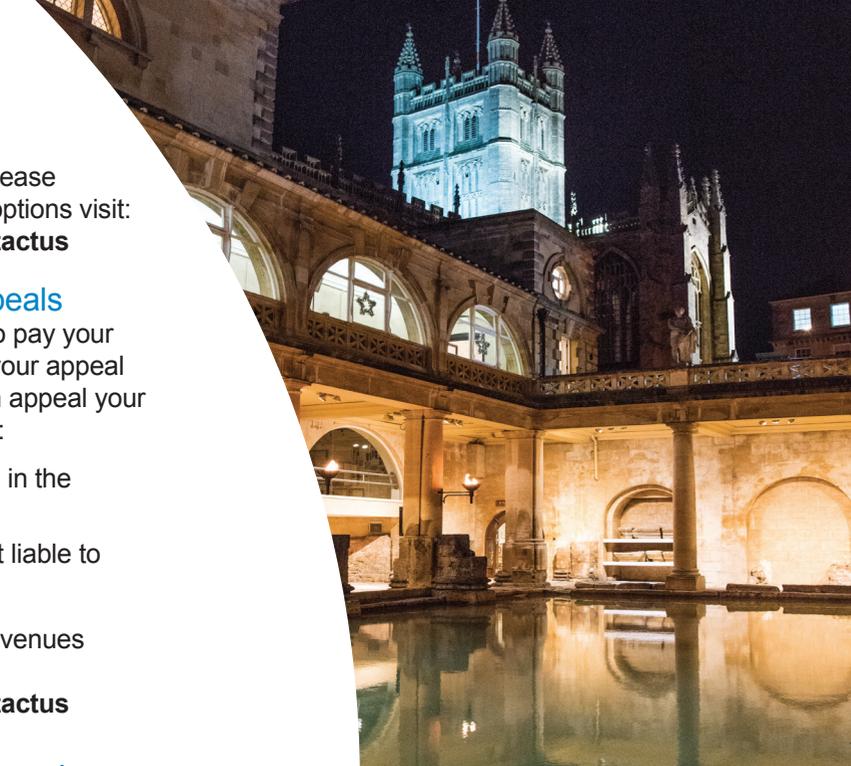
Full details of Council Tax banding are available by visiting: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/council-tax-bands-and-charges](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/council-tax-bands-and-charges)

## Switch to paperless billing

You can switch to paperless billing at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaccount](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaccount)

You'll be able to:

- Access your Council Tax account anytime, anywhere
- View and make payments, including Direct Debit
- Change your address online
- Apply for discounts and exemptions



# How we spend your money

The following information shows where every £1 of Bath & North East Somerset's Council Tax is spent. This is based on net spend after deducting income generated by services and grants including the Dedicated School Grant.

## Adult Social Care 52.7p

Each year adult social services supports approximately 2,600 individuals with care packages in their own homes and in care home placements. 1,400 people are enabled to access a personal budget to give them choice over their care package and how this is provided. We also provide home improvement services, including adaptations (for example, a downstairs toilet and level access shower) and aids (for example, handrails) to enable people to continue to live as independently as possible in their own homes.

## Refuse Collection & Disposal 12.0p

We provide one of the most comprehensive weekly kerbside recycling collections in the UK, collecting a wide range of recyclable materials including food, glass, paper, cardboard, plastics, and small electricals from households.

We collect rubbish every other week from the majority of households and provide a fortnightly collection of garden waste (for a charge). We operate three recycling centres and over 170 communal mini recycling centres for flats. We also provide a trade waste collection, recycling and disposal service. In 2019/20 we sent for re-use, recycling or composting 58% of all the household waste we dealt with.

## Housing & Public Protection 6.1p

Responsible for undertaking the council's strategic housing role including: each year assisting around 2,400 households; allocating around 650 social housing lettings; improving over 500 properties and preventing over 600 cases of homelessness; in addition to licensing 2300 HMOs paid for by landlords and delivering 1582 affordable homes since 2011.

## Children's Services 27.2p

The council ensures school places for around 25,000 pupils in 81 schools and academies locally and funds home to school transport and support services for schools.

We assess, fund and commission a range of services to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities). We also fund and provide children's centre services plus the full range of social care services for more than 1,000 of our most vulnerable young people and care leavers.

We commission support services across the third and voluntary sector to support the council in meeting the needs of our most vulnerable children, young people and families. We've developed the care leaver exemption and foster carer discount.

## Highways, Transport, Planning & Economic Development 8.9p

More than 1,100 kilometres of highway maintenance, surfacing, gullies, street lighting, winter gritting and traffic signals. We also improve highway safety, manage public rights of way and investigate drainage and flooding issues.

We fund 33 non-commercial bus services, 11 community transport schemes and 2 shared-taxi schemes on behalf of the West of England Combined Authority, around 6,500 parking spaces and 3 Park & Ride sites.

We deal with around 1,200 building regulations applications and 3,500 planning and listed building applications each year. We develop the sub-regional spatial plan and new local plans for the district.

The balance of **-6.9p** includes significant income relating to the council's commercial estate and heritage services together with funding for services including libraries, cemeteries, recreation, tourism, cleansing and funding capital projects and charges



## Spending

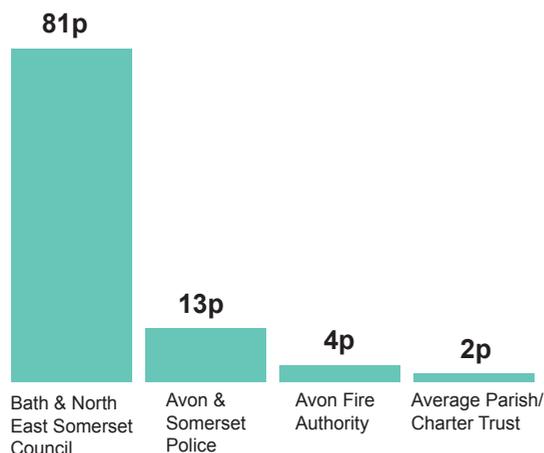
Bath & North East Somerset Council is required to set an annual balanced budget showing how its financial resources will be allocated and used over the coming year with regard to statutory services as well as key local priorities and objectives.

### Why spending has increased / decreased

The Council has set its net revenue budget for 2020/21 at £118.251m. This represents an increase of £5.863m. The build up is shown below.

	£m
<b>Net Revenue Base Budget rolled forward 2020/21</b>	<b>112.388</b>
One-off Allocations	0.644
Budget Pressures & Rebasing	4.545
Contractual and Unavoidable Inflation	2.754
Priorities	2.245
Demographic Growth & Increases in Service Volumes	2.291
Other (including capital financing)	1.311
<b>Total including Growth</b>	<b>126.178</b>
Efficiency Savings	-1.399
Increases in Income from fees, charges and other grants	-4.670
Service Redesign	-1.858
<b>Council's Net Revenue Budget 2020/21</b>	<b>118.251</b>

### Where each £1 raised of your Council Tax goes in 2020 - 2021



## Summary of average band D charge

	Band D	% increase
Bath & North East Somerset	£1,328.16	1.99%
- Adult Social Care*	£128.72	1.99%
Avon & Somerset Police Authority	£227.81	4.59%
Avon Fire Authority	£74.94	1.99%
Average Parish	£43.20	4.05%
<b>Overall Average Band D</b>	<b>£1,802.83</b>	<b>3.97%</b>

(Figures shown are for at least a **two person** household)

The council's Council Tax requirement (excluding Police, Fire and Parishes) for 2020/21 is £97.436m and including Parishes is £100.325m

\* "The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities<sup>1</sup>.

The offer was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its Council Tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

This offer has been renewed for 2020/21 and the adult social care precept in Bath & North East Somerset has risen by 1.99%

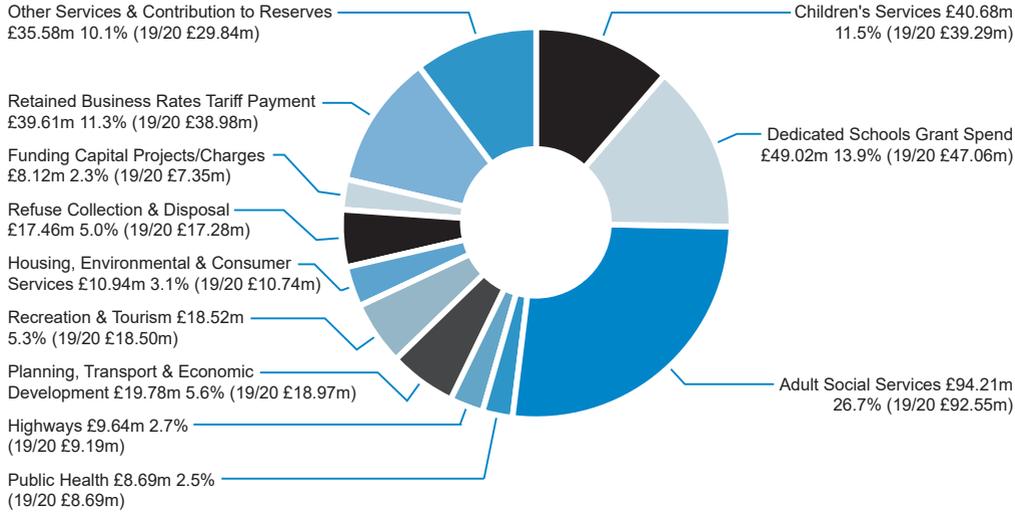
Further information on Council Tax charges, including the calculation of the Adult Social Care Precept percentage increase, is available on our website at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/council-tax-benefits-and-grants/council-tax](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/council-tax-benefits-and-grants/council-tax)

<sup>1</sup>"Adult social care authorities" are local authorities which have functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014, namely county councils in England, district councils for an area in England for which there is no county council, London borough councils, the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly.)



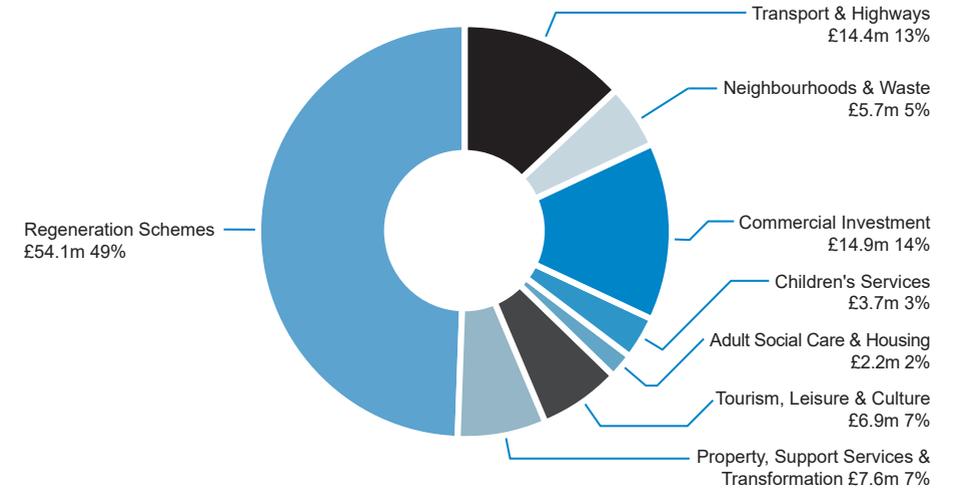
## Revenue budget 2020-21

£352m gross spend before taking into account income



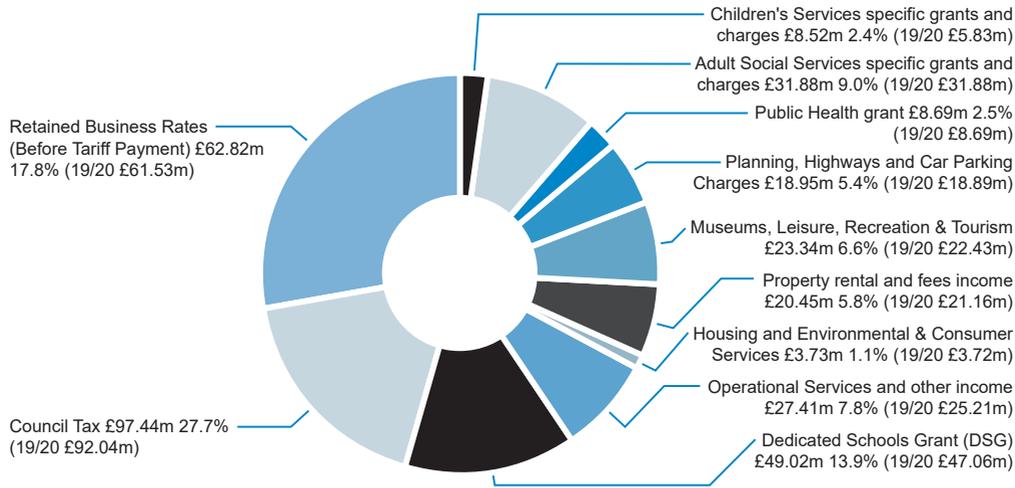
## Capital budget 2020-21

Total fully approved spend £109.5m



## Where does the money come from?

£352m



## Further information

If you have questions on the 2020/21 budget for Bath & North East Somerset Council please write to: Director of Finance, Bath & North East Somerset Council, Guildhall, High Street, Bath, BA1 5AW or email [finance@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:finance@bathnes.gov.uk) or visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk)

## Parish & town council – precepts

The Council Tax charges shown relate to the charge for the parish council, town council or charter trustee element only.

2019/20 Precept £	2020/21 Precept £	Parish	Band D £
157,802	160,741	Bath	5.00
23,000	23,000	Bathampton	30.63
45,000	50,400	Batheaston	44.56
17,553	22,485	Bathford	27.34
16,736	18,410	Camerton	72.36
4,700	4,600	Charlcombe	20.66
500	1,100	Chelwood	17.83
29,500	34,500	Chew Magna	53.63
16,000	20,000	Chew Stoke	43.13
2,970	2,500	Claverton	35.51
47,935	49,908	Clutton	85.00
9,040	9,220	Combe Hay	100.92
12,233	12,641	Compton Dando	43.63
18,000	18,000	Compton Martin	74.17
8,704	9,923	Corston	49.34
8,261	8,674	Dunkerton & Tunley	36.42
12,150	14,000	East Harptree	44.31
6,566	7,879	Englishcombe	58.38
19,500	21,000	Farmborough	41.04
12,700	12,700	Farrington Gurney	38.99
28,860	31,746	Freshford	107.76
31,000	35,500	High Littleton	43.07
8,900	8,900	Hinton Blewett	65.14
13,866	13,866	Hinton Charterhouse	58.31
1,600	2,500	Kelston	29.59
581,478	607,778	Keynsham	93.12
6,700	6,875	Marksbury	36.87
367,467	388,156	Midsomer Norton	97.19
7,968	8,668	Monkton Combe	49.21

## Parish & town council – precepts (continued)

2019/20 Precept £	2020/21 Precept £	Parish	Band D £
3,800	4,100	Nempnett Thrubwell	42.12
6,500	7,000	Newton St. Loe	99.01
0	0	North Stoke	0.00
4,000	4,000	Norton Malreward	35.76
219,808	246,632	Paulton	120.70
247,736	251,452	Peasedown St. John	117.33
6,400	6,700	Priston	53.41
14,200	15,777	Publow with Pensford	31.98
262,697	265,294	Radstock	154.31
33,840	34,838	Saltford	19.34
10,316	10,522	Shoscombe	61.25
11,358	12,858	South Stoke	53.39
750	750	St. Catherine	18.15
17,500	18,025	Stanton Drew	54.40
21,000	23,625	Stowey Sutton	34.97
3,000	3,000	Swainswick	23.10
24,000	27,140	Temple Cloud with Cameley	50.41
56,000	69,000	Timsbury	74.62
13,200	13,860	Ubley	78.54
14,579	16,037	Wellow	63.49
8,250	8,500	West Harptree	37.28
198,650	207,100	Westfield	109.53
33,000	37,000	Whitchurch	56.56
<b>2,727,274</b>	<b>2,888,880</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	

For information on calculating the charge for different property bands visit:  
[www.bathnes.gov.uk/council-tax-bands-and-charges](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/council-tax-bands-and-charges)

If your parish precept is £140,000 or above in 2020/21, a leaflet which includes details about how the parish money is spent in your area is also available online at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaxguide](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/ctaxguide)

# It's your council - ways to get involved

## How to tackle the Climate Emergency

- Avoid food waste; buy local and seasonal food when you can
  - Avoid palm oil in ultra-processed food and some cleaning products and toiletries
  - Buy less stuff, make it last; eliminate single use plastics
  - Get home energy advice via the council's Energy at Home helpline and see if you can make your home more energy efficient; switch to a green energy supplier
  - Walk, cycle and use public transport as much as you can; use your car less and take fewer flights
  - Talk to friends, neighbours and share ideas on what to do; engage with your local school, employer and become active in your community through a local community group, or through your Area Forum or Parish Council helping to work out what your local community could do
- For more information about what the council is doing to tackle the climate emergency visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/climate-emergency](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/climate-emergency)

## How to have your say

Have a bigger say and help us shape local services. Get involved in consultations or take part in Area Forums. For more information visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/have-your-say](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/have-your-say)

## How to help a child in care

Think you could provide a stable, loving home for a child in care? Or could you offer a short break for children, including those with a disability to enable them to remain within their families? We need more foster carers. If you are interested or would like to find out more visit: <https://fostering.bathnes.gov.uk/> or call our Family Placement Team on 01225 394949

## How to sign up for a Discovery Card

For free entry to the Roman Baths, Fashion Museum, exhibitions at the Victoria Art Gallery and offers at other attractions and outlets sign up for a Discovery card. Visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/tourism-and-heritage/discovery-card](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/tourism-and-heritage/discovery-card)

# Contacting the council

## Council Tax and Benefits

For Council Tax enquiries including exemptions and discounts, visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/counciltax)

For any Council Tax Support or Housing Benefit queries please visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/benefits)

## Reporting suspicions of benefit fraud

All reports are treated confidentially. Call the National Benefit Fraud hotline on 0800 854 440 (or textphone 0800 328 0512). You may also make a report it online at [www.gov.uk/report-benefit-fraud](http://www.gov.uk/report-benefit-fraud)

## Council Connect

Report it online – use our web forms, including our Fix My Street service, to report issues about litter, graffiti, potholes, missed waste collections and more. Go to: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/reportit)

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# How to keep in touch

## Subscribe to our e-newsletter

Be amongst the first to hear all the latest news in your community, from local events to important council information by signing up to our weekly electronic newsletter, e-connect. To subscribe visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/econnect](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/econnect)

## Follow us on social media

Find us on Twitter @bathnes, Facebook (search for Bath and North East Somerset Council), Instagram @bathnescouncil and YouTube



This Council Tax guide can be made available in a range of languages and accessible formats (e.g. large print, Braille). If you would like to request an alternative format visit: [www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/contactus)

Bath & North East Somerset Council will not use or disclose your Council Tax information for a purpose that falls outside the limits of its statutory responsibility, unless you give consent. The only exception to this is where the disclosure of Council Tax information is required or permitted by law.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

**The Council Tax (Demand Notices) (England) Regulations 2011.**

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Functions under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Environment Agency (Levies) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Environment Agency has powers in respect of flood and coastal erosion risk management for 2813 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. Money is spent on the construction of new flood defence schemes, the maintenance of the river system and existing flood defences together with the operation of a flood warning system and management of the risk of coastal erosion. The financial details are:

Gross Expenditure  
Levies Raised  
**Total Council Tax Base**

Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	
2019/2020 '000s	2020/2021 '000s
£29,048	£34,776
£3,671	£3,782
1,029	1,038

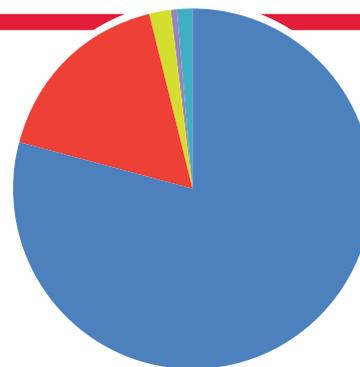
The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). However, under the new Partnership Funding rule not all schemes will attract full central funding. To provide local funding for local priorities and contributions for partnership funding the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees recommend through the Environment Agency a local levy.

A change in the gross budgeted expenditure between years reflects the programme of works for both capital and revenue needed by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to which you contribute. The total Local Levy raised by this committee has increased by 3.0%

The total Local Levy raised has increased from £3,671,455 in 2019/2020 to £3,781,599 for 2020/2021.

# HOW WE SPEND THE BUDGET 2020/21

THE CHART BELOW SHOWS WHERE THE MONEY GOES



- Officers, staff & PCSOs - £260.5m. This includes the additional money from central government for Operation Uplift
- Running expenses - £56m
- Capital funding - £7m
- Office of PCC - £1.5m
- PCC victim and crime commissioned services - £3.5m

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

	2019/20	2020/21
Funding from central government	£182m	£198m
Council tax	£124m	£130.5m
Total	£306m	£328.5m

## CHANGES IN SPENDING

The net expenditure will be £22.5m higher in 2020/21 compared to 2019/20 following a rise in council tax funding and additional funding from central government through Operation Uplift to increase police officer numbers nationally by 20,000.

The PCC has taken the decision to increase the policing part of the council tax by £10 a year for an average Band D home. **This means the average Band D precept will be £227.81 a year.**

The increased grant and council tax will cover unavoidable cost increases and inflationary pressures. The additional funding will generate funds to invest in an extra 75 police staff investigators who will focus on improving outcomes for victims. The precept increase will also go towards maintaining the 15 additional PCSOs who are working closely with local schools.





## Your fire and rescue service

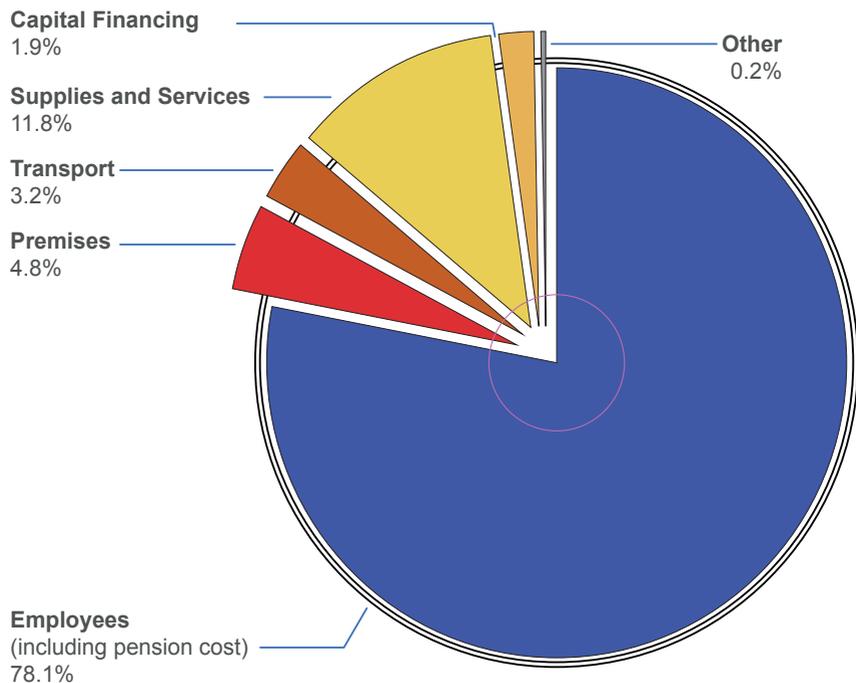
Avon Fire & Rescue Service (AF&RS) protects the communities of Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

In 2020-2021, this service will cost Band D council tax payers £74.94 which is an increase of 1.99%.

We continue to provide this vital service to keep you and your family safe, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year at cost of around 10p a day for each of the 1.1 million people who live in our area.

For more information visit [www.avonfire.gov.uk](http://www.avonfire.gov.uk)   @AvonFireRescue

## Where does each pound go?



## Annual budget

Avon Fire Authority has set its net budget for 2020/21 at £43.726 million. This represents a Council Tax level of £74.94 a year for a Band D property, an increase of 1.99%.

The Government's funding assessment for Avon Fire Authority has been increased by £0.257m (1.6%) to £16.023m for 2020/21. The impact of this is that the funding provided by Central Government is increased by £0.181m (1.6%) to £11.252 m.



## Spending plans

	2019/20 (£m)	2020/21 (£m)
Total fire expenditure	48.622	50.433
Income	-4.900	-5.071
<b>Net budget before use of reserves</b>	<b>43.722</b>	<b>45.362</b>
Use of reserves	-0.650	-1.636
<b>Net budget</b>	<b>43.072</b>	<b>43.726</b>
<b>Funding:</b>		
<b>Central Government</b>		
Revenue Support Grant	5.034	5.116
Business rate - Top-up	6.038	6.136
<b>Local funding</b>		
Locally retained business rates	4.632	4.635
Net collection fund surplus	0.246	0.008
Council tax	27.122	27.831
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.072</b>	<b>43.726</b>



## Savings

This year savings totalling around £0.806 million have been identified in the following areas:

Savings		2020/21 (£m)
Employees		-0.019
Running costs:	Premises	-0.139
	Transport	-0.077
	Supplies and services	0.000
	Other	-0.571
<b>Total</b>		<b>-0.806</b>



## Capital requirements

The capital programme for 2020/21, excluding any capital expenditure within the 2019/20 capital programme that may be delayed or slipped into 2020/21, is shown below:

The main changes in spending from 2019/20 to 2020/21 are shown below:

Main changes in net expenditure	(£m)
<b>2019/20 Budget</b>	<b>43.072</b>
Inflationary pressures	0.860
Other	1.784
Use of reserves	-1.184
Savings	-0.806
<b>2020/21 Budget</b>	<b>43.726</b>

	2019/20 (£m)	2020/21 (£m)
Premises - General	0.500	0.744
Premises - Reinvesting for the future project	3.000	3.976
Vehicles and equipment	1.500	2.759
IT and communications	0.800	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.800</b>	<b>7.479</b>