

# Council Tax explained

2024-25



## Dear resident

First of all, thank you for everything you do for your local area. One of the real privileges of my role is getting out and about to meet so many people doing incredible work for our local communities. These are hugely challenging times due to the national cost of living crisis, but by sticking together we will get through it and onward to a more hopeful future.

I realise no one wants to receive this bill given the increased costs that all households are facing. Like almost every other council in the country we are having to increase our council tax in line with the government's expectations to raise funds, but it's not a decision we take lightly.

We have already had to find cuts and savings of more than £350m since 2010 and we continue to take difficult decisions as we must reshape the council for the future. Councils across the country are facing financial difficulties as our funding has not kept pace with the rising costs and demands for our services.

The sharp increase in need for our vital social care services in particular has had a significant impact on councils' budgets.

The council remains committed to providing good, reliable services across the district now and into the future. For example:

- We grit 712 miles of road on 24 routes within a 3-hour window in wintry weather
- We are transforming a cleaner, greener and more welcoming city centre
- We are replacing 59,000 streetlights to save millions of pounds and cut carbon emissions
- We are helping to deliver approximately £60m of improvements for the people and businesses of Keighley and Shipley
- We are the UK City of Culture 2025 – bringing new jobs, opportunities and investment across the district.

As we work together for a better future we are absolutely committed to investing taxpayers' money wisely and well. We hear loud and clear from you, our residents, that you value your local services. As your council, we remain committed to supporting you and your family and working in partnership with you for a better Bradford District.



Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe,  
Leader of Bradford Council

## What is Council Tax?

Council Tax helps to pay for council services which are used by residents of the Bradford District, such as refuse collection, highways maintenance, child protection, social care and street cleaning. It helps us to pay for services which deliver the council's priorities. These are:

- Better skills, more good jobs and a growing economy
- Decent homes that people can afford to live in
- A great start and good schools for all our children
- Better health, better lives
- Safe, clean and active communities
- A well-run council, using all our resources to deliver our priorities

All domestic properties, whether they are owned or rented, are usually subject to Council Tax. The amount of Council Tax charged will depend on the valuation band that the property falls into and the circumstances of the property and/or its occupants.

Your Council Tax bill also includes charges (called precepts) which we collect on behalf of West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue and West Yorkshire Police. The council does not set these amounts but collects them as part of your bill. We also collect money on behalf of West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Environment Agency. Depending on where you live in the district, you may also be required to pay a Parish or Town council precept. This amount is set by your local Parish or Town council and collected by Bradford Council on their behalf.

## How much is Council Tax this year?

This year Council Tax for Bradford Council will rise by a total of 4.99% compared to last year's bill to support council services as a whole. The increase is made up of two elements, a core Council Tax Increase of 2.99% and the Adult Social Care Precept of 2.00%. The Adult Social Care Precept is further explained below.

Government regulations require us to show the total Adult Social Care Precept separately from the remaining 2024-25 Council Tax charge attributable to Bradford Council and to display the charge for 2024-25.

Your bill will show the exact amount of Council Tax you need to pay according to your property and your personal circumstances.

The maximum amount for occupied properties is shown in the table below (excluding parish precepts but including West Yorkshire Police Authority and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority). You may pay less than this if you qualify for a discount or Council Tax Reduction. You may pay more if your property has been vacant (unoccupied and unfurnished) for one year or more and has become subject to a premium charge.



## Council Tax bands and amounts

This table shows the Council Tax amounts for each property band for 2024 to 2025:

Band	Range of values	Annual Payable (£)
A	Up to £40,000	1,353.75
B	£40,001 - £52,000	1,579.38
C	£52,001 - £68,000	1,805.00
D	£68,001 - £88,000	2,030.63
E	£88,001 - £120,000	2,481.88
F	£120,001 - £160,000	2,933.13
G	£160,001 - £320,000	3,384.38
H	Over £320,000	4,061.26

### Adult Social Care Precept

In relation to the year beginning in 2020 and any subsequent year, The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities. ("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).

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.

## How is the valuation band decided?

The band for each property is set by the Valuation Office Agency (part of His Majesty's Revenue & Customs) according to what the value of the property would have been on the open market on 1 April 1991.

The valuation band the property falls into is shown on your bill.



If you disagree with the band that the property has been given and:

- you have been the Council Tax payer for less than six months
- the property has been demolished or split into separate units
- physical changes in the neighbourhood have reduced the value
- the valuation band of the property has changed in the last six months
- the valuation band of a similar property in your area has been changed in the last six months

You should contact the Valuation Office Agency at [www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals](http://www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals) or telephone them on **03000 501501**.

**Even if you disagree with your band, you must pay your bill as it stands. Should your valuation band be changed at a later date then your bill will be amended and you will be refunded any excess credit.**

## Discounts and exemptions

### Occupied properties

The full Council Tax bill is based on a property being occupied by two or more adults. If you are the only adult resident and you occupy the property as your main residence, you can qualify for a single person discount, which reduces your Council Tax charge by 25%. You can find out more about this by following this link: **Single Person Discount Information (<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/council-tax/apply-for-discounts-reductions-and-exemptions/information-about-council-tax-discounts-reductions-and-exemptions/>)**

There are some unoccupied properties that are exempt from Council Tax such as those that are left unoccupied by people in detention or where the resident is in care or hospital. Please visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax) for a full list.

Some adults qualify for an exemption or discount, such as full-time students or the severely mentally impaired.

If all but one adult qualifies for a Council Tax disregard, then the household will qualify for a discount of 25%. If all the adults in a property qualify to be disregarded, then either a 50% discount or a full Council Tax exemption may be granted. You can find out more about this at [www.bradford.gov.uk/council-tax/app](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/council-tax/app)

### Disabled Band Reduction

Where a member of the household is disabled (whether an adult or a child) and the property has an extra bathroom, an extra kitchen or other room set aside to accommodate the needs of their disability, or if that person uses a wheelchair indoors, your bill may be reduced. You can find out more at [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax)

### Council Tax Reduction scheme

The Council Tax Reduction scheme helps those people living on a low income to pay their bill. The scheme allows for a maximum reduction of 100% of the net Council Tax bill (after discounts) for persons of pension age. Working age recipients can receive a maximum reduction of 70% of the net Council Tax bill for a band A property.

If you are of pension age and your income is too high for the Council Tax Reduction scheme, you may still be entitled to second adult rebate. This is a reduction of up to 25% of your Council Tax bill if there is another adult who is on a low income who lives in your household, who is not your partner.

You can find out more details at [www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits) or by calling **01274 432772**.

### Special Rules for Annexes

Where an annexe is used by the resident of the other part of the property as part of their home or is occupied by a relative as their home, then an additional 50% discount of the net bill may be applied to that part. An application for this discount is available at [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax)

### Care leavers

From 1st April 2022, young people who were being looked after by Bradford Council at the point they turned 18 can be exempt from paying Council Tax, up to the end of the financial year in which the care leaver reaches the age of 25. Further, care leavers are disregarded (not counted) for the purpose of assessing the number of adult residents in a property for the calculation of Council Tax which could result in a discount being applicable.

This disregard applies up to the end of the financial year in which the care leaver reaches the age of 25. These exemptions/discounts can only be applied from 1st April 2018 and not to any prior periods. You can find out further information from your Through Care Key Worker.

## Empty Properties

### Discounts

Properties that are vacant (unoccupied and unfurnished) and undergoing major repair or structural alteration qualify for a 100% discount for the first month.

A 50% discount applies to unoccupied caravans and houseboats.

A 50% discount may also apply where a person is responsible for two properties where one of those properties is job related.

### Premiums

Properties that have been vacant, meaning both unoccupied and unfurnished, for one year or more are subject to an additional 100% premium on the Council Tax charge.

Properties that have been vacant five years or more will be subject to an additional 200% premium and any properties that

have been vacant for ten years or more will be subject to an additional 300% premium.

These measures have been introduced to discourage people from leaving properties unoccupied and unfurnished. You can find out more about how we are tackling empty homes in the district on our website at [www.bradford.gov.uk/housing](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/housing)

Exceptions to this are:

- where the property is an annexe and the owner of the property occupies the remainder of the property
- where the property is left vacant by someone who is occupying a property provided by the Ministry of Defence.

You can find out more details at [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax).

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## Appeals

You can appeal if you disagree with Bradford Council's decision as to whether you should be liable to pay the Council Tax bill regarding any decisions that are made in relation to discounts, exemptions, premiums or penalties. You also have a right of appeal if you disagree with the way that any entitlement under the Council Tax Reduction scheme has been calculated.

To make an appeal you must give, in full, your reasons for disagreeing with your Council Tax bill. You can make an appeal online or in writing:

**Online:** go to [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax) > General Council Tax information > Making an appeal.

**In writing:** send your appeal letter to Council Tax, PO Box 1242, Bradford, BD1 9YN.

**Even if you disagree with how your bill has been calculated you must pay your bill as it stands. If your bill is then changed at a later date, you will be refunded any excess credit.**

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## What if my household gets a Single Person Discount, Exemption or Disabled Relief and the household circumstances change?

If you know there has been a change which means you will no longer qualify for a discount, relief or exemption you must let us know immediately. You can do this online at [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax), or by writing to:

**Council Tax  
PO Box 1242  
Bradford  
BD1 9YN**

We have a duty to periodically review discounts for households where only one adult (a person over the age of 18) is resident

or where a disabled relief or Council Tax disregard or exemption is being allowed. This would include written requests for information, telephone contact, visits to your home or data matching to check the information that you have provided remains correct.

If you do not respond to such a request or fail to supply accurate information, you could lose your discount. This will increase your bill. You could also face a penalty of £70 and prosecution.

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## What if I get a Council Tax Reduction and my circumstances change?

If you are getting a benefit or reduction and you have a change in your household's circumstances, you must tell the Revenues and Benefits Service immediately.

For more information on the types of change that need to be notified then visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits) or telephone **01274 432772**.

## Data protection

The council collects, uses and shares information about you where it is necessary and lawful to do so.

To learn more about out what we collect and how we use and share it, go to [www.bradford.gov.uk/open-data/data-protection/revenues-and-benefits-privacy-notice/](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/open-data/data-protection/revenues-and-benefits-privacy-notice/)

## How do I pay my bill?

Your annual Council Tax bill will normally be issued with 10 monthly instalments unless you pay by direct debit. You may request that your payment be extended over the additional two months of the year. To do this, you must contact the council before 1 April 2024.

For our contact details, look at [www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/counciltax) or use the address given under the appeals heading above.

The easiest way to pay your bill is by Direct Debit. You can:

- Spread the cost over 10 or 12 months
- Pay on either the 5th, 10th, 15th, 25th or 28th of each month (whichever suits you best)
- No more bill reminders!



To do this, visit

[www.bradford.gov.uk/directdebit](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/directdebit)

For other ways to pay see the back of your bill.

## Paperless bills

Join an increasing number of households who get their Council Tax bill by email:

- cuts out the clutter – less paperwork for you to store or shred
- available to all, no matter how you pay your bill
- better for the environment
- saves the council money, which can be spent on other essential services

Sign up at [www.bradford.gov.uk/paperlessbills](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/paperlessbills)



## Payment difficulties

If you have genuine problems making your payments then you should contact us immediately on **01274 437792**.

Contacting us early means we can do our best to help you. If we do not receive your payment on time and you haven't contacted us, we have to start recovery proceedings.

If payments remain outstanding, you may receive a summons to appear at court and the costs (which can end up being considerable) will be added to your bill.

If payment is still not made, further action, including enforcement agent visits, attachment of earnings/benefits, insolvency and committal to prison, will be taken to enforce collection of the outstanding amount.

## Parish & Town Councils

Parish and town councils are separate legal bodies, responsible for their own finances. They receive their funding by making an annual charge, called a precept. This means that Council Tax bills for residents who have a parish or town council in their area will include an amount for running them.

However, residents will not receive separate bills as Bradford Council collects the money on their behalf.

The 2024-25 approved Parish and Town council precept payable by local residents is shown in the table below.

Parish and Town Councils	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Addingham	41.03	47.87	54.71	61.55	75.23	88.91	102.58	123.10
Baildon	33.51	39.09	44.68	50.26	61.43	72.6	83.77	100.52
Bingley	18.5	21.58	24.67	27.75	33.92	40.08	46.25	55.5
Burley	61.29	71.51	81.72	91.94	112.37	132.8	153.23	183.88
Clayton	19.09	22.27	25.45	28.63	34.99	41.35	47.72	57.26
Crossroads (new parish)	30.41	35.47	40.54	45.61	55.75	65.88	76.02	91.22
Cullingworth	25.00	29.17	33.33	37.50	45.83	54.17	62.50	75.00
Denholme	33.31	38.86	44.41	49.96	61.06	72.16	83.27	99.92
Harden	43.28	50.49	57.71	64.92	79.35	93.77	108.2	129.84
Haworth and Stanbury	31.04	36.21	41.39	46.56	56.91	67.25	77.6	93.12
Ilkley	36.75	42.87	49.00	55.12	67.37	79.62	91.87	110.24
Keighley	49.71	58.00	66.28	74.57	91.14	107.71	124.28	149.14
Menston	37.33	43.56	49.78	56.00	68.44	80.89	93.33	112.00
Oxenhope	35.15	41.00	46.86	52.72	64.44	76.15	87.87	105.44
Sandy Lane	11.99	13.98	15.98	17.98	21.98	25.97	29.97	35.96
Shipley	26.81	31.28	35.75	40.22	49.16	58.10	67.03	80.44
Silsden	25.43	29.67	33.91	38.15	46.63	55.11	63.58	76.30
Steeton with Eastburn	34.07	39.74	45.42	51.10	62.46	73.81	85.17	102.20
Wilsden	42.33	49.38	56.44	63.49	77.6	91.71	105.82	126.98
Wrose	10.99	12.83	14.66	16.49	20.15	23.82	27.48	32.98

The money raised from precepts will be used to run the parish or town council and to enhance services to local communities.

To find out more about your local Parish council, visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/parish](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/parish)



## Where will the money come from in 2024-25 to pay for Bradford Council services?

In 2024-25 the Council intends to spend £575.3m on the various services that it provides.

There are large elements of the gross budget which are provided by the government for specific purposes and over which the council has no control, for example money for schools. The gross budget also includes spending on services that recover their costs by charging customers.

When councils calculate what money they need to deliver services in the next financial year, they exclude fees and charges and the income over which they have no control. The remaining income is known as the council's net budget and this is used as the starting point for working out the budget and Council Tax for the next year.

Bradford Council's net budget for 2024-25 is £575.3 million. It is funded through income provided by the Government, Council Tax and Business Rates.

### Where the money will come from

This chart shows where the money will come from to pay for Bradford Council services in 2023 to 2024.

Amount (£million)	Amount (£million)
Government grant	43.0
Business Rates	145.7
Council Tax	246.6
Exceptional Financial Support	140.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>575.3</b>

You can see how this money is allocated to different services, and comparisons to last year's spending, in the table below.

This table shows how much the council plans on spending in each service in 2024 to 2025

Services	2023-24		2024-25	
	Gross £m	Net £m	Gross £m	Net £m
Children's Social Services	189.9	174.3	269.8	220.2
Education Services	407.9	27.5	353.5	30.1
Waste, Fleet & Transport Services	49.0	31.9	62.0	42.6
Economy and Development	13.3	4.7	25.6	7.4
Sport & Culture	25.3	4.4	28.4	6.9
Neighbourhoods & Customer Services	25.6	16.9	13.8	4.8
Planning, Transportation & Highways	28.1	16.8	32.2	18.2
Revenues and Benefits	133.1	4.8	125.5	10.5
Corporate Resources and General Fund	111.0	-20.3	104.1	-41.4
Adult Social Care	233.8	136.2	254.9	151.7
Public Health	50.8	1.1	52.6	0.5
Chief Executive	5.2	4.8	10.7	5.7
<b>(sub-total)</b>	<b>1,273.0</b>	<b>403.1</b>	<b>1,333.1</b>	<b>457.2</b>
Capital financing	27.0	27.0	45.0	45.0
Passenger Transport Levy	23.1	23.1	23.1	23.1
Time limited costs transformation & redundancies	0	0	50.0	50.0
<b>Bradford Council Budget</b>	<b>1,323.1</b>	<b>453.2</b>	<b>1,451.2</b>	<b>575.3</b>
Central Government Revenue Support Grant		-40.3		-43.0
Top-up Grant		-75.0		-78.6
Retained Local Business Rates		-56.0		-67.1
Use of Reserves		-48.6		
Exceptional Financial Support		0.0		-140.0
<b>BRADFORD COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT</b>		<b>233.3</b>		<b>246.6</b>
Parish/Town Council Precepts		3.1		3.1
<b>TOTAL COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT</b>		<b>236.4</b>		<b>249.7</b>

## What did we spend in 2023-24?

The base budget for 2023-24 was £453.2 million.

To this figure provision for the following has been added:

- £48.6m for cost pressures
- £42.1m of extra budget for Childrens Social Care provided by the Bradford Children & Families Trust
- £27m for inflation and demographic growth
- £50.0m of time limited costs associated with IT development & transformation and contingencies



## What else has changed for 2024-25?

- £16.8m service-related savings as approved for 2024-25, rising to £38.9m by 2026-27
- £19.8m net increase in other funding grants receivable
- -£8.9m of other changes

This means that the total cost of providing services in 2024-25 is £575.3 million.

## 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 2292 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the Yorkshire 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:

	Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000
Gross Expenditure	£91,676	£133,559
Levies Raised	£2,833	£2,946
<b>Total Council Tax Base</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>1,581</b>

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 4.0%.

**The total Local Levy raised has increased from £2,832,677 in 2023/2024 to £2,945,984 for 2024/2025.**





# West Yorkshire Police Council Tax Information 2024-25



As Mayor of West Yorkshire, I oversee our Police budget, which includes setting part of your Council Tax.

Unfortunately, since 2010, the Government has reduced their funding, in real terms, for West Yorkshire Police.

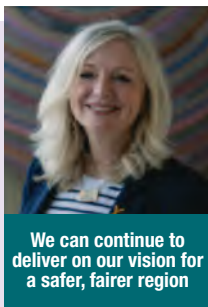
That has left us as one of a few forces nationally to face real term reductions greater than 10%.

However, I know just how much you value your police service and want to see it properly resourced. The positive response to my recent precept survey made this clear, but to maintain it, I've reluctantly had to increase the police section of your council tax by 5.5%.

For the majority of the region's households, who are in Bands A to C, this will equate to between an extra 17p to 22p a week.

This crucial funding will be used to recruit more Police Community Support Officers (PSCOs) to keep West Yorkshire's neighbourhoods safe as well as bringing in extra Initial Contact Officers, who answer 999 and 101 calls from the public.

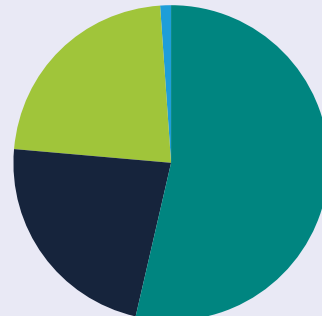
**Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire**



We can continue to deliver on our vision for a safer, fairer region

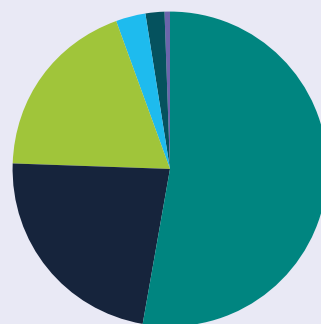
## Where the money came from 2024/25

- Government grant 53.8%
- Income 22.7%
- Precept 22.6%
- Other 0.9%



## What the money is spent on 2024/25

- Police officers 52.9%
- Police staff 22.8%
- Running costs\* 18.9%
- PCSOs 3.2%
- Borrowing 2.0%
- WYCA 0.3%



\* Running costs eg. premises and vehicles

## West Yorkshire continues to have the fourth lowest Precept in England and Wales

Budget	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
Gross Expenditure	694.040	754.940
Council Tax Requirement	159.533	170.542

I've been working with the police, partners agencies and my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Alison Lowe OBE over the last year to make our region a better place, this includes:

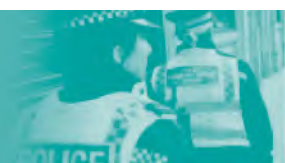
- Funding an Independent Stalking Advocacy Service, supporting hundreds of victims of domestic stalking.
- Launching a Safer Travel Team to increase bus safety with dedicated patrols.
- Creating the viral "Just Don't" campaign targeting inappropriate behaviour and empowering men and boys to change society for the better.
- Over £2.4 million taken from criminals has been shared across 289 local projects as part of my Mayor's Safer Communities Fund.
- Working towards eliminating road death and serious injuries through Vision Zero.
- Crucial work to tackle knife crime and serious violence particularly among young people, alongside our dedicated Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP).

Council Tax band	Current cost per year £	2024-25 cost £	Annual increase £	Per week increase £
A	157.52	166.19	8.67	0.17
B	183.78	193.89	10.11	0.19
C	210.02	221.58	11.56	0.22
D	236.28	249.28	13.00	0.25
E	288.78	304.67	15.89	0.31
F	341.29	360.07	18.78	0.36
G	393.80	415.47	21.67	0.42
H	472.56	498.56	26.00	0.50

To find out more about our work and contact us on the below:

**Contact**  
**0113 251 7272**  
**Mayoral.Enquiries@westyorks-ca.gov.uk**  
**www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk**

Twitter/X: @MayorOfWY  
 Facebook: @MayorOfWY



## West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority 2024-25



West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue

A slight increase has been approved for the council tax precept for fire, at a meeting of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (WYFRA).

The 2.99% rise will see Band D taxpayers pay an extra 2.31 a year.

The WYFRA has approved the increase due to the cost of living still remaining high across the UK, alongside important investment and new equipment still being needed by the fire service. However, despite the rise, the precept remains the fourth lowest cost-per-head-of-population in the country.

Chair Cllr Darren O'Donovan said: "We must balance being extremely careful with our money, with providing the best level of service for people across West Yorkshire – a task that gets harder every year due to Central Government refusing to invest properly in our fire and rescue services – we haven't received capital funding for a decade now which has made things very tricky. Rather than funding us properly the Government expect the general public to pick up their bill.

"Despite this, careful planning and risk management through our community risk strategy has allowed us to continue to

work to the best of our abilities – becoming more efficient by investing in greener and more state-of-the-art buildings and infrastructure.

"I understand it's difficult for us to ask the public for more money during a time when all of us are feeling the pinch – however by not properly funding us the Government have left us no choice. This rise will allow us to continue to provide the excellent fire and rescue service that the community in West Yorkshire deserves."

Chief Fire Officer John Roberts said: "It's a big year for WYFRS as we enter our 50th year of keeping the communities of West Yorkshire safe. We have had to make significant investments in our infrastructure and fleet, plus deal with all the other cost of living issues like higher bills. Despite this we are among the fourth best value for money fire and rescue services in the country.

"We'd like to thank the people of West Yorkshire for their understanding at this change in the precept, and reassure them that we will continue to work hard to continue providing the excellent level of service and safety that they deserve."



### What will the Fire and Rescue Authority cost?

	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	Per head £
Gross Expenditure	106,785	116,870	
Contributions to/from Reserves	0	0	
Income	-2,485	-2,964	
<b>Budget Requirement</b>	<b>104,300</b>	<b>113,914</b>	£48.74
Revenue Support Grant	-15,472	-20,783	-£8.84
Pension Grant	-4,285	-2,916	-£1.24
Top Up Grant	-17,737	-18,499	-£7.87
Business Rates	-7,590	-8,035	-£3.42
Collection Fund	200	159	£0.07
Service Grant	-1,001	-173	-£0.07
Funding Guarantee	0	-1,370	-£0.58
Section 31 Grants	-6,304	-7,908	-£3.37
<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>	<b>52,111</b>	<b>54,389</b>	£23.14

### What are the changes from last year?

	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000
<b>Previous Years' Budget</b>	<b>95,651</b>	<b>104,300</b>
Inflation	7,436	3,714
Changes in Service Provision	1,213	5,900
Changes in use of Reserves	0	0
<b>Budget Requirement</b>	<b>104,300</b>	<b>113,914</b>



## West Yorkshire Combined Authority 2024-25



**Tracy Brabin**  
Mayor of West Yorkshire

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority is committed to creating a brighter West Yorkshire that works for all.

Chaired by the Mayor of West Yorkshire, the Combined Authority works closely with the five local authorities (Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield) to deliver services and investments that benefit the people of West Yorkshire.

We are building a prosperous, happy, well-connected, sustainable and safe region, as outlined in our West Yorkshire Plan.

In 2024/25, we are committed to investing in our transport system to connect communities, creating jobs and developing skills and tackling the climate emergency.

The largest portion of the Combined Authority’s revenue income comes from the transport levy, collected by our partner councils through council tax and used to fund public transport across West Yorkshire. We use levy funding to support and maintain our transport network, to keep fares affordable and to support bus routes and services that aren’t covered by commercial providers.

At around £92.2m, to keep costs to a minimum, the transport levy has not changed for over 10 years.

From the levy, we spend £37.5m on concessionary travel schemes (ENCTS), £10.9m on subsidised travel for young people and £29m on other tendered services.

We also invest in growth areas that are not funded through council tax such as business, employment and skills.

Here’s an overview of our income and expenditure in 2024-25:

### Where the money came from 2024/2025



Other	29.1%
City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement	19.1%
Transport Levy	11.0%
Transforming Cities Fund	10.2%
Education & Skills Funding Agency	8.0%
Brownfield Housing Fund	6.5%
Local Transport Capital Funding	6.4%
Gainshare	5.3%
Transport Fund	3.6%
Local Enterprise Partnership Funding	0.6%
Police Precept	0.3%

### What the money is spent on 2024/2025



Infrastructure for growth (Transport)	46.7%
Adult Education	8.0%
Growing businesses	7.4%
Infrastructure for growth (Housing & Regeneration)	6.5%
Passenger services	5.4%
Concessionary travel (senior, blind and disabled)	4.5%
Skilled people, better jobs	4.0%
Corporate services	4.0%
Energy and environmental resilience	3.4%
Subsidised bus services	2.9%
Police & Crime Commissioner	2.2%
Education transport	2.0%
Concessionary travel (young people)	1.3%
Finance charges	0.9%
Economic and transport policy and delivery	0.5%
Other corporate projects	0.4%

To find out more about the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, please visit our website: [www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk](http://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk)

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