

Council Budget 2021 – 2022

Easier to read version

This is the easier to read version of our proposed Council Budget 2021 – 2022.

It is an update to the September 2020 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) this is how we will spend our money.

The proposed Council Budget looks at what we need to put money into (invest), council tax and what we want to put forward for consultation (to ask you about) which is called our proposals.

Proposal means that this is our plan and suggests what the budget should include.

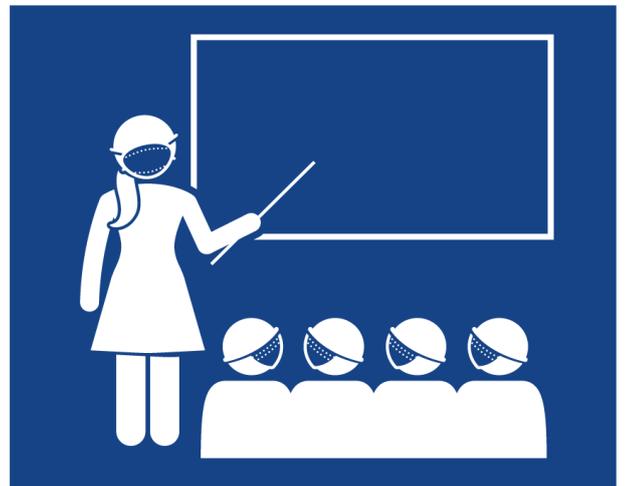


What will the proposed council budget include?

This Council Budget looks at a number of proposals to support people whose lives have changed because of coronavirus.

It will help:

- People get new job skills
- Find work
- Children catch up on what they have missed through schools being shut
- Communities to be more involved
- Important council services to carry on when people need them the most



Our Plan

As well as putting money into making our environment better and creating less pollution, we will look at improving our city and town centres. We want our district to include people from different backgrounds and to share and celebrate different cultures.

We are planning to raise council tax by 1.99% and also raise a 3% social care precept.

A Social Care Precept is extra money the government allows us to raise to help pay for adult health and social care.



This works out at less than £1.40 extra a week on a band D property. Our council tax is still lower than many other areas in the country.

Our proposals are also based on key priorities highlighted in the Bradford Council Plan 2021 - 2025 and Bradford Equality Objectives.

To meet those priorities we will be investing a total of £14m into services including adult and children's social care so that it is fair for everyone no matter where they live. We will also put money into waste services and training to improve peoples skills.



Some of the other things that we plan to invest money into are:



- Support for our most vulnerable families and children
- Children's services and social care
- Education and schools
- Jobs, job skills and our economy



- Better health and wellbeing for everyone
- Communities and different cultures
- People's safety
- Improving how the council works

Over the past few years we have been able to make some good decisions and we have managed our money well.

We have been able to save £0.8 million and are able to keep services going, keep all of our staff and make no extra cuts this year.

There are some things that we have had to put on hold for one year only. These include not reducing money to youth services and to benefits advice and customer services.



We are going to use money we have saved over the years (called our reserves) to help us now.

We are going to use £12 million of our reserves in the year 2021 to 2022 to help us through these difficult times.

The council has some money for spending on things like buildings, streets and roads called the Capital Programme.

This will also include £2.2 million in providing children with new laptops so they can learn from home over the next 2 years.



£6 million over 3 years for expanding Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) schools.

£3.3 million in providing equipment to support people to live better and healthier lives over 4 years.

The council is working on many ways that we can stay sustainable for the future. Sustainable means that we can carry on working without having to lose services and money.

We will be able to share this progress with you in our future plans, updates and budgets.

We will still need ongoing support from the government to make sure we have enough money to keep all our services going. Coronavirus has meant we have spent more and also lost some income we were expecting.

We will hear from the government what funding is available by the end of December 2020. This will let us know how much money we can spend from our reserves and will help us make a final budget in February 2021.



Planning a budget for 2021 – 2022 has been very difficult to do because of things that are out of the council's control such as:

The impact of coronavirus



The changes due to Brexit

The future of government money



The future of social care

A high demand on services



Tell us what you think

Because we don't know these things at the moment we are making this a one year budget.

That is why we will be asking local people first about our proposals and there may be some changes.

We will be opening consultation from the 1st December 2020 to the 15th January 2021.

The outcomes of the consultation will be used by the council to help them set the council budget for 2021-2022. This will take place at the Full Council meeting on the 18th February 2021.

In February 2021 the council will meet to decide its budget and spending plans for 2020-2021.

You can tell us what you think about our plans and give us any ideas you have by searching on the council's website for 'Budget Consultation' or by following this link:

[Online Budget Consultation Link](#)



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

