



Your Council Tax for 2025/2026

The council will receive **£56.3 million** from council tax in 2025/26. This represents only around 16% of our funding.

The council administers a Council Tax Reduction Scheme, that helps nearly **10,000 residents** on low incomes.



The financial forecast remains challenging with a **£9.2 million funding gap to be addressed over the next four years from April 2026.**



Budget



Costs



| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Adults & Communities | £51,703,778 |
| Children & Families | £125,307,113 |
| Economy & Environment | £25,620,011 |
| Resources | £17,579,815 |
| Council Tax Reduction Scheme | £11,317,984 |
| Housing Benefit Subsidy | £671,251 |
| Capital Financing and other costs | £16,288,013 |

Pay by Direct Debit in 10 or 12 monthly instalments



Our 25/26 Revenue Budget includes: Everything you need for everyday

Cost to you

Value for money



4.95%

A council tax increase of 4.95% which is £1.48 per week for a band D property.
★★★★☆

Delivery

From 1st April



£5.35million

A 6.9% or £5.35 million increase for Torfaen's schools.
★★★★☆



£2million

Provides funding of up to £2m for highway repairs.
★★★★☆

Reviews

★★★★☆ & Up

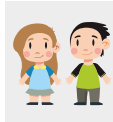


£1million

An extra £1m for Adult Social Care services.
★★★★☆

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

It is estimated that a base level of £28.6 million will be invested in the County Borough in the form of capital works in 2025/26, which is anticipated to be supplemented by additional grant assistance during the course of the financial year. Next year the council will be investing in a new Maendy Primary School, Welsh Medium Education and completing the Community Farm project.



£1million

An extra £1m to transform Children's Services and meet care costs in 2025/26 and 26/27, leading to a net reduction by 2027/28.
★★★★☆



£750,000

A further investment of £750,000 for the schools' budget and schools related Additional Learning Needs support.
★★★★☆



£534,000

An extra £534,000 to help support nearly 10,000 Torfaen homes through the Council Tax Reduction scheme.
★★★★☆



£800,000

A further £800,000 for Crownbridge Special School; making a total investment of £1.26m.
★★★★☆



£800,000

£800,000 to meet demand pressures on School Transport and for Additional Learning Needs.
★★★★☆



5%

A 5% increase for Social Care providers to recognise the impact of the Real Living Wage.
★★★★☆



£250,000

£250,000 to continue the school leaver employment and apprentice scheme.
★★★★☆



£385,000

An extra £385,000 to meet cost pressures in refuse and recycling services and a £227,000 investment in a waste education and enforcement team.
★★★★☆



£3million

An extra £3m million to cover staff pay and pension inflation.
★★★★☆

Keeping vital local services going and keeping council tax bills as low as possible.



Costs

| | Expenditure on services £* | | (less) | Income from services £* | | Net expenditure £ | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|
| | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 |
| General Fund Services | | | | | | | |
| Children & Family Services (including Schools) | 151,367,705 | 159,067,893 | (35,083,603) | (33,760,780) | 116,284,102 | 125,307,113 | |
| Adults and Communities | 83,979,075 | 78,108,636 | (36,301,418) | (26,404,858) | 47,677,657 | 51,703,778 | |
| Economy and Environment | 46,938,739 | 39,288,251 | (22,423,347) | (13,668,240) | 24,515,392 | 25,620,011 | |
| Resources | 20,658,703 | 21,123,279 | (3,796,314) | (3,543,464) | 16,862,389 | 17,579,815 | |
| Council Tax Reduction Scheme | 10,910,006 | 11,317,984 | 0 | 0 | 10,910,006 | 11,317,984 | |
| Housing Benefit Subsidy | 23,473,974 | 23,473,974 | (23,052,554) | (22,802,723) | 421,420 | 671,251 | |
| Capital Financing & Other Costs | 16,568,129 | 17,053,780 | (1,078,439) | (765,421) | 15,489,690 | 16,288,359 | |
| SERVICE TOTAL | 353,896,331 | 349,433,797 | (121,735,675) | (100,945,486) | 232,160,656 | 248,488,311 | |

* Income and Expenditure shown above have been adjusted for internal recharges.

| Plus Precepts from: | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Community Councils | 1,784,265 | 1,897,502 |
| Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent | 12,043,502 | 13,047,248 |
| Total Before Funding | 245,988,423 | 263,433,061 |
| Sources of Funding: | | |
| Re-Distributed Non-domestic Rates | (33,296,784) | (33,030,361) |
| Revenue Support Grant | (145,435,881) | (159,185,224) |
| Funded by Council Tax | 67,255,758 | 71,217,476 |

PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS

A precept is an annual sum that organisations like the police and community councils levy for their services and the council collects on their behalf.

| | £ Amount Precepted 2024/25 | £ Amount Precepted 2025/26 | £ Comparison |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent | 12,043,502 | 13,047,248 | 1,003,746 |
| Community Councils | | | |
| Cwmbran | 638,746 | 692,866 | 54,120 |
| Pontypool | 738,503 | 774,942 | 36,439 |
| Blaenavon | 194,250 | 205,701 | 11,451 |
| Henllys | 36,205 | 38,788 | 2,583 |
| Croesyceiliog & Llanyrafon | 149,624 | 156,921 | 7,297 |
| Ponthir | 26,937 | 28,284 | 1,347 |
| | 1,784,265 | 1,897,502 | 113,237 |
| Totals | 13,827,767 | 14,944,750 | 1,116,983 |

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[Access the online benefits service](#)

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[Apply for a council tax discount/exemption](#)

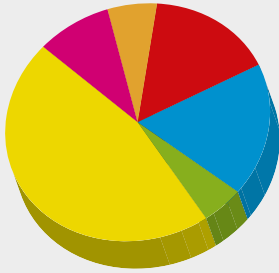
[Apply for council tax reduction \(income based\)](#)



Budget

Top picks for you

HOW THE BUDGET IS FUNDED



| | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 16% | Council Tax |
| 18% | Government Grants |
| 5% | Other Funding & Contributions |
| 46% | Revenue Support Grant |
| 9% | Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates |
| 6% | Customer & Client Receipts |

COUNCIL TAX DEMAND

A summary of the total Council Tax charge for 2025/26 covering Torfaen County Borough Council, Community Councils and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent for each council tax valuation band is below:

| | A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ | I £ |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cwmbran | 1,369.33 | 1,597.54 | 1,825.78 | 2,053.99 | 2,510.44 | 2,966.87 | 3,423.32 | 4,107.98 | 4,792.64 |
| Pontypool | 1,375.52 | 1,604.77 | 1,834.03 | 2,063.28 | 2,521.79 | 2,980.29 | 3,438.80 | 4,126.56 | 4,814.32 |
| Blaenavon | 1,406.07 | 1,640.40 | 1,874.76 | 2,109.10 | 2,577.80 | 3,046.47 | 3,515.17 | 4,218.20 | 4,921.23 |
| Henllys | 1,358.87 | 1,585.34 | 1,811.83 | 2,038.30 | 2,491.26 | 2,944.20 | 3,397.17 | 4,076.60 | 4,756.03 |
| Croesyceiliog & Llanyrafon | 1,366.53 | 1,594.28 | 1,822.05 | 2,049.80 | 2,505.32 | 2,960.82 | 3,416.33 | 4,099.60 | 4,782.87 |
| Ponther | 1,362.07 | 1,589.08 | 1,816.10 | 2,043.11 | 2,497.14 | 2,951.15 | 3,405.18 | 4,086.22 | 4,767.26 |

RESERVES

We need to keep reserves and provisions to help with unforeseen circumstances. We have used our reserves in 2025/26 to help with providing resources to establish a two-year transition plan that allows for an increase in Children's Services social care placements in 2025/26, leading to a net reduction by 2027/28.

| All £000s | 31/03/24 (Actual) | 31/03/25 (Forecast) | 31/03/26 (Forecast) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund Balance | 11,998 | 9,093 | 8,599 |
| Service Area Balances | 4,926 | 3,640 | 2,053 |
| Corporate Reserves | 14,791 | 13,117 | 11,711 |
| School Balances | 5,936 | 2,895 | 1,448 |
| Insurance Reserve & Provision | 3,426 | 3,582 | 3,702 |

This table sets out our actual and estimated positions.

Pay by Direct Debit in **10** or **12** monthly instalments