

YOUR Council Tax guide 2019/20

INCLUDING POLICE AND FIRE BUDGETS



Open your own self-service account today to manage and view your council tax online. Register at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/myaccount



www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Your guide to council tax

This leaflet provides information about the budgets for local public services for the year ahead and explains your council tax bill.

Depending on your household income, you may be eligible for help with paying your bill (see page 9 for more information).

In North Somerset we pride ourselves on our low council tax levels and have frozen council tax for two out of the last five years while also saving £100m from the council's overall expenditure since 2010. However, the national issue of ongoing increases in demand for social care and reductions in the amount of funding the council receives from central government mean that there will be a council tax increase of 2.75% for the year ahead.

We will continue to do our best to keep council tax in North Somerset below average and we remain committed to providing excellent value for money through the services we deliver.

Keep reading North Somerset Life for regular updates about our budget setting process.

Council documents can be made available in large print, audio, easy read and other formats. Documents on our website can also be emailed to you as plain text files.

Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

For more information call 01934 888 144

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Sometimes it's good to be part of the crowd



Almost 70% of households in North Somerset pay their council tax by Direct Debit meaning they never put themselves in danger of missing a payment. Set up a Direct Debit and join the crowd today

Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/counciltax or call 01934 888 144.



What is council tax?

It's a local property tax levied by councils, to be used alongside central government funding, to pay for the local services they provide.

What does it pay for?

North Somerset Council provides a wide range of services including education, planning, transport, highways, social care, public health, libraries, leisure and recreation, recycling and waste collection, environmental health and trading standards among many others. The money you pay also funds the police and fire and rescue service, as well as supporting work in your local parish or town.

Parish and town councils raise their money primarily from a levy called a precept. We collect the precept on

behalf of town and parish councils and pass it on to them.

Who decides how much I have to pay?

Council tax is based on property value. Every property is put into a banding and charged accordingly after certain other factors are taken into account.

If you think your house is in an incorrect council tax band, you can appeal in writing to:

Council Tax West Valuation Office
Agency Overline House
Central Station, Blechynden Terrace
Southampton SO15 1GW

or visit:

www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals

or call: **03000 501 501**

Adult Social Care Precept

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government previously made an offer to councils with responsibilities for adult social care.

The offer provides an option of being able to charge an additional 'precept' on council tax from 2016 without holding a referendum, to assist the council in meeting expenditure on adult social care.

This offer was subject to an overall limit of 6% which could be spread over two or three years. North Somerset Council charged the precept over two years ending in 2018/19, therefore there is no additional adult social care precept increase for 2019/20.

For councils with responsibilities for adult social care, council tax demand notices 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



Where does the money go?

The table below shows how the money will be spent on services and how that relates to the average council tax bill.

Service	Money spent £ millions	Share of Band D £
People and communities – including educating 28,000 pupils, 74 schools (including academies), pre-school provision, children at risk, adoption and fostering, residential care, community meals, services for people with learning difficulties, tackling homelessness and adult education	96.4	863.18
Development and environment – including maintaining 684 miles of roads, collecting household waste, recycling, parks, libraries, economic development, public transport and environmental health	36.1	322.91
Corporate services – including registration of births, deaths and marriages, legal, democratic and electoral services, council tax collection and benefits administration	6.7	60.18
Capital financing – infrastructure projects, new buildings and refurbishment, for example, schools and play areas	11.3	100.73
Other, inc. non-service items and contingency – included in your council tax and provided by others, for example, magistrates courts, coroners service.	2.6	23.58
Special expenses	0.1	0.71
Levy – Environment Agency	0.3	2.53
Special levy – drainage boards	0.5	4.68
Net North Somerset requirement	154.0	1,378.50

Proposed budget for 2019/20

2018/19		2019/20		
Net exp £000		Gross exp £000	Income £000	Net exp £000
93,961	People and Communities	200,803	(104,387)	96,416
35,407	Development and Environment	50,126	(14,058)	36,068
6,603	Corporate Services	103,778	(97,056)	6,722
13,791	Capital Financing and Interest	13,221	(1,970)	11,251
2,667	Other, inc. Non-service items & Contingency	3,858	(1,224)	2,634
152,429	Gross expenditure	371,786	(218,695)	153,091
36	Special Expenses	79	0	79
278	Levy - Environment Agency	283	0	283
517	Special Levy - Drainage Boards	523	0	523
153,260	North Somerset requirement	372,671	(218,695)	153,976
4,672	Parish Precepts	4,852	0	4,852
157,932	Budget requirement	377,523	(218,695)	158,828
To be funded by:				
(36,366)	National Non Domestic Rates	0	(36,866)	(36,866)
(6,919)	Revenue Support Grant	0	(2,132)	(2,132)
0	Winter Pressures Grant	0	(924)	(924)
(577)	Adult Social Care Support Grant	0	(1,578)	(1,578)
(3,653)	New Homes Bonus	0	(2,783)	(2,783)
528	Net Collection Fund Adjustment	0	(279)	(279)
(1,624)	Transfers to / from Reserves	0	0	0
109,321	Council tax requirement	377,523	(263,257)	114,266

The collection fund adjustment is the difference between the amount the council expects to raise from the council tax and business rates and the amount which is actually collected.

Council tax summary 2019/20

The information below shows the amount needed to fund public services in North Somerset – not just those of the council but also the police, fire and rescue service, parish and town councils.

2018/19 £000		2019/20 £000
152,429	North Somerset Council (inc. Adult Social Care precept)	153,091
36	Special Expenses	79
278	Levy – Environment Agency	283
517	Special Levy – Drainage Boards	523
4,672	Parish & Town Council precepts	4,852
157,932	North Somerset's Budget requirement	158,828
	less:	
(36,336)	National Non Domestic Rates	(36,866)
(6,949)	Revenue Support Grant	(2,132)
(577)	Adult Social Care Support Grant	(1,578)
0	Winter Pressures Grant	(924)
(3,653)	New Homes Bonus	(2,783)
528	Net Collection Fund Adjustment	(279)
(1,624)	Transfers to / from Reserves	0
109,321	North Somerset's precept	114,266
15,118	Police and Crime Commissioner of Avon and Somerset precept	17,288
5,565	Avon Fire Authority precept	5,833
130,004		137,387

The average Band D council tax for North Somerset 2019/20 will be as follows:

2018/19 £		2019/20 £
193.81	Police and Crime Commissioner of Avon and Somerset	217.81
71.35	Avon Fire Authority	73.48
1,244.21	North Somerset Council	1,281.10
97.40	Adult Social Care precept	97.40
59.88	Average Parish/Town Council	61.13
1,666.65		1,730.92

Parish councils

Six parish councils in North Somerset raise more than £140,000 each through council tax contributions.

Local council	2018/19	How much needed	2019/20
Clevedon Town Council	50,450	Recreation	42,500
	29,035	Highways	17,500
	264,641	Other	300,626
	13,355	Contingency/balances	7,695
	357,481		368,321
Long Ashton Parish Council	70,850	Recreation	105,600
	21,848	Highways	72,898
	85,705	Other	93,705
	(20,403)	Contingency/balances	(100,203)
	158,000		172,000
Nailsea Town Council	183,740	Recreation	189,252
	33,106	Highways	34,099
	252,088	Other	259,651
	2,400	Contingency/balances	2,472
	471,334		485,474
Portishead Town Council	171,331	Recreation	85,437
	3,500	Highways	54,870
	163,816	Other	207,735
	(44,292)	Contingency/balances	(70,635)
	294,355		277,407
Weston-super-Mare Town Council	769,096	Recreation	477,565
	38,664	Highways	61,301
	1,097,681	Other	1,447,133
	0	Contingency/balances	21,278
	1,905,441		2,007,277
Yatton Parish Council	70,600	Recreation	72,750
	7,000	Highways	8,750
	160,789	Other	187,556
	(33,522)	Contingency/balances	(53,946)
	204,867		215,110

Council tax and housing benefits have gone digital

The council tax and benefit service is an online service. To access these services you must register and create an account. Registration is quick, easy and secure and will allow you to apply for benefits, discounts and exemptions. You can also let us know about a change of circumstances or a change of address, set up a direct debit or just view your account balance.

Going digital means we can process many of your requests earlier and provided any additional documents are submitted with your application, you may receive your benefit earlier. For those customers who may have difficulty getting online or have additional needs, support is available. Please visit us at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare or Castlewood Offices, Clevedon, visit one of our libraries or call us on **01934 888 144** and one of our customer service advisers will assist you.

Help with your bill

Council tax support

If you are on a low income and currently pay council tax, you may be eligible for council tax support even if you receive other benefits or council tax discounts.

Please visit our website to register for MyAccount and make your application online. If you are unable to get online or have additional needs please visit us at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare or Castlewood Offices, Clevedon where one of our customer service advisers will assist you.

You can also visit any of our libraries and use one of the public access computers to make your application.

If you receive council tax support an amount will be taken off the total council tax you owe for the year and this is shown on the front of your bill.



What to do if your circumstances change

If your circumstances change you must tell us as soon as the changes happen. It is an offence not to tell us about any change in your circumstances that affects your support and could result in a fine of £70 or prosecution. Don't rely on someone else to pass the message on. Examples of changes in circumstances are:

- you move home
- your rent changes
- any changes to the income or circumstances of anyone who lives with you
- someone moves into or out of your home
- you're going to be away from your home for more than four weeks

If the change in your income affects your entitlement to Council Tax Support a revised bill will be issued.

You can request a written statement of your entitlement, within one month of the decision being made, by contacting the council on 01934 888 144. If you want to appeal, this should be in writing within two months of the decision, to

the council, who will review the decision. If you remain dissatisfied a further appeal can be made to the Valuation Tribunal.

More help with your bill

Discounts

You can claim a discount if there are fewer than two adults living in the property. For Council Tax purposes we will not count the following groups of people when we assess the number of adults who live in the property.

- People who you receive child benefit for.
- Full-time students, apprentices and people on youth training schemes.
- Husbands, wives/dependants of students not allowed to take a job or claim benefits.
- People under 20 who are still at school or college studying a full-time course of further education.
- People under 20 who have left school between 30 April and 1 November.
- People who are severely mentally impaired and entitled to certain state benefits.
- Patients who live in hospital.
- Patients in nursing homes, residential care homes, hospices and hostels.

- People staying in certain hostels and night shelters who would otherwise have no home at all.
- People in prison or on remand. This includes people held under the Mental Health Act 1983.
- Care workers introduced by an official or charitable body.
- People who care for someone in the property with a disability who is in receipt of certain state benefits.
- Members of religious communities who receive no income.
- People with diplomatic immunity.
- People who are members of a visiting force.
- Members of international headquarters and defence organisations.
- Properties left unoccupied by people in hospital, care home, hostel, etc.
- Properties left unoccupied when a person dies until, and up to six months after probate.
- Unoccupied properties whose occupation is prohibited by law.
- Unoccupied properties being held for a minister of religion.
- Properties left empty by people who are receiving residential care.
- Properties left empty by people providing care elsewhere.
- Properties left empty by students.
- Unoccupied properties that have been repossessed.
- Student halls of residence.
- Properties that only students live in.

Other discounts available

- Unoccupied, unfurnished properties which are being or have recently been altered or repaired, maximum of 12 months.

Exempt Dwellings

We will not charge Council Tax on the following:

- Unoccupied charitable properties for up to six months.
- Properties left unoccupied by prisoners.

- Armed forces' barracks, messes and married quarters.
- Visiting armed forces accommodation.
- Unoccupied properties held by trustees in bankruptcy.
- Empty caravan pitches and boat moorings.
- Properties that are only lived in by people who are under 18.
- Properties that have an empty annex.

- Properties that are lived in by one or more people that are severely mentally impaired.
- Properties where at least one of the liable people is a diplomat.
- Properties with elderly or disabled people living in separate accommodation with families.

If your property falls into one of these categories then you may qualify for an exemption. Please contact us to discuss this further. If you are in any doubt as to your eligibility to a discount or exemption please ring **01934 888 144** or email **n-somersetCTAX@liberata.com**.

Disabled relief

If anyone in your household needs a devoted room, or an extra bathroom or kitchen, or extra space for wheelchair use indoors, in order to receive care or treatment arising from a substantial and permanent disability, you may be entitled to a reduction off your Council Tax.

For more information and details of how to apply visit

www.n-somerset.gov.uk or call **01934 888 144** or email **n-somersetCTAX@liberata.com**.

You can also reduce the amount you pay each month by extending your payments into March.



Data Protection

North Somerset Council is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for the purposes of processing personal data. The council tax service is administered on behalf of North Somerset Council by our partner Liberata UK Ltd, 5th Floor, Knollys House, 17 Addiscombe Road, Croydon CR0 6SR.

The information you provide will be held and used in accordance with the requirements of UK and European data protection law. The information will form part of your council tax account and held for six years after the closure and final action on that account.

Unless otherwise agreed with you, we will only collect the minimum personal data required to deliver the service, which includes your name, address, email address and contact telephone number(s). It does not include any special category personal information. The information will be used for the administration of council tax; our statutory duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1992. We will not use your personal information in a way that may cause you unwarranted nuisance. Failure to provide the information could

result in the incorrect administration of your council tax account.

We may lawfully disclose information to public sector agencies to prevent or detect fraud or other crime, or to support the national fraud initiatives and protect public funds under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Under the conditions of the Digital Economy Act 2017, we may also share personal data provided to us with other public authorities as defined in the Act, for the purposes of fraud or crime detection or prevention, to recover monies owed to us, to improve public service delivery, or for statistical research. In addition we may also disclose information to a third party where we are satisfied that the party has both a legitimate interest in the information and that it would be fair to do so, in accordance with UK and European data protection law. We do not share the information with other organisations for commercial purposes.

If you have any questions or concerns about the way we process your personal data, our Data Protection Officer can be contacted at DPO@n-somerset.gov.uk.

How much will you pay?

Local council	2019/20 precept £	2018/19 precept £	Parish precept amount for Band D	Band A £
Abbots Leigh	29,800.00	29,700.00	69.21	1,158.67
Backwell	134,317.00	131,795.68	69.32	1,158.74
Banwell	88,896.00	88,897.00	83.82	1,168.41
Barrow Gurney	9,000.00	8,200.00	37.17	1,137.31
Blagdon	41,750.00	40,250.00	80.12	1,165.94
Bleadon	45,344.00	44,401.00	82.31	1,167.40
Brockley	4,500.00	4,500.00	33.41	1,134.80
Burrington	3,000.00	3,000.00	11.32	1,120.08
Butcombe	3,000.00	2,500.00	26.62	1,130.28
Churchill	67,353.00	60,800.00	64.96	1,155.84
Clapton-in-Gordano	5,900.00	4,700.00	31.38	1,133.45
Cleeve	15,701.32	15,244.00	42.56	1,140.90
Clevedon	368,321.00	357,481.00	46.74	1,146.75
Congresbury	112,334.64	110,131.87	79.39	1,165.46
Dundry	11,715.00	11,426.05	29.55	1,132.23
Flax Bourton	26,500.00	25,000.00	74.46	1,162.17
Hutton	84,700.00	79,615.00	77.83	1,164.42
Kenn	6,300.00	6,000.00	31.23	1,133.35
Kewstoke	46,000.00	46,000.00	66.34	1,156.76
Kingston Seymour	11,200.00	10,700.00	61.07	1,153.24
Locking	81,000.00	79,000.00	64.28	1,155.38
Long Ashton	172,000.00	158,000.00	64.66	1,155.64
Loxton and Christon	3,000.00	3,000.00	31.95	1,133.83
Nailsea	485,474.00	471,334.00	76.90	1,163.80
Pill and Easton-in-Gordano	102,652.00	99,800.00	57.51	1,150.87
Portbury	26,885.00	24,950.00	60.39	1,152.79
Portishead	277,407.00	294,355.00	26.00	1,132.55
Puxton	7,400.00	6,960.00	55.68	1,149.65
St. Georges	17,040.00	16,335.00	15.00	1,122.53
Tickenham	7,505.45	7,358.28	16.40	1,123.46
Walton-in-Gordano	4,804.00	4,350.00	32.22	1,134.01
Weston-in-Gordano	6,400.00	6,210.00	42.75	1,141.03
Weston-super-Mare	2,007,277.00	1,905,441.00	76.57	1,163.58
Wick St. Lawrence	16,000.00	13,500.00	28.62	1,131.61
Winford	26,000.00	24,500.00	26.25	1,130.03
Winscombe and Sandford	143,000.00	134,000.00	70.25	1,159.36
Wraxall and Failand	44,631.00	44,631.00	38.51	1,138.20
Wroughton	93,030.00	92,285.00	76.37	1,163.44
Yatton	215,110.00	204,867.00	74.70	1,162.33

Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
1,351.78	1,544.90	1,738.00	2,124.22	2,510.44	2,896.67	3,476.00
1,351.87	1,545.00	1,738.11	2,124.35	2,510.60	2,896.85	3,476.22
1,363.14	1,557.89	1,752.61	2,142.08	2,531.54	2,921.02	3,505.22
1,326.86	1,516.42	1,705.96	2,085.06	2,464.16	2,843.27	3,411.92
1,360.27	1,554.60	1,748.91	2,137.55	2,526.20	2,914.85	3,497.82
1,361.97	1,556.54	1,751.10	2,140.23	2,529.36	2,918.50	3,502.20
1,323.94	1,513.08	1,702.20	2,080.46	2,458.73	2,837.00	3,404.40
1,306.75	1,493.44	1,680.11	2,053.47	2,426.82	2,800.19	3,360.22
1,318.65	1,507.04	1,695.41	2,072.17	2,448.92	2,825.69	3,390.82
1,348.47	1,541.12	1,733.75	2,119.03	2,504.30	2,889.59	3,467.50
1,322.36	1,511.27	1,700.17	2,077.98	2,455.80	2,833.62	3,400.34
1,331.05	1,521.21	1,711.35	2,091.65	2,471.95	2,852.25	3,422.70
1,337.87	1,529.01	1,720.12	2,102.37	2,484.61	2,866.87	3,440.24
1,359.70	1,553.95	1,748.18	2,136.66	2,525.14	2,913.64	3,496.36
1,320.93	1,509.65	1,698.34	2,075.75	2,453.15	2,830.57	3,396.68
1,355.86	1,549.57	1,743.25	2,130.64	2,518.02	2,905.42	3,486.50
1,358.48	1,552.56	1,746.62	2,134.76	2,522.89	2,911.04	3,493.24
1,322.24	1,511.14	1,700.02	2,077.80	2,455.58	2,833.37	3,400.04
1,349.55	1,542.35	1,735.13	2,120.71	2,506.29	2,891.89	3,470.26
1,345.45	1,537.66	1,729.86	2,114.27	2,498.68	2,883.10	3,459.72
1,347.95	1,540.52	1,733.07	2,118.19	2,503.32	2,888.45	3,466.14
1,348.24	1,540.86	1,733.45	2,118.66	2,503.87	2,889.09	3,466.90
1,322.80	1,511.78	1,700.74	2,078.68	2,456.62	2,834.57	3,401.48
1,357.76	1,551.74	1,745.69	2,133.62	2,521.55	2,909.49	3,491.38
1,342.68	1,534.50	1,726.30	2,109.92	2,493.54	2,877.17	3,452.60
1,344.92	1,537.06	1,729.18	2,113.44	2,497.70	2,881.97	3,458.36
1,321.30	1,510.07	1,698.82	2,076.34	2,453.85	2,831.37	3,397.64
1,341.26	1,532.87	1,724.47	2,107.68	2,490.90	2,874.12	3,448.94
1,309.62	1,496.71	1,683.79	2,057.96	2,432.14	2,806.32	3,367.58
1,310.71	1,497.96	1,685.19	2,059.67	2,434.16	2,808.65	3,370.38
1,323.01	1,512.02	1,701.01	2,079.01	2,457.01	2,835.02	3,402.02
1,331.20	1,521.38	1,711.54	2,091.88	2,472.22	2,852.57	3,423.08
1,357.50	1,551.44	1,745.36	2,133.22	2,521.07	2,908.94	3,490.72
1,320.21	1,508.82	1,697.41	2,074.61	2,451.81	2,829.02	3,394.82
1,318.37	1,506.71	1,695.04	2,071.71	2,448.39	2,825.07	3,390.08
1,352.59	1,545.82	1,739.04	2,125.49	2,511.94	2,898.40	3,478.08
1,327.90	1,517.61	1,707.30	2,086.70	2,466.10	2,845.50	3,414.60
1,357.35	1,551.26	1,745.16	2,132.97	2,520.78	2,908.60	3,490.32
1,356.05	1,549.78	1,743.49	2,130.93	2,518.37	2,905.82	3,486.98



**AVON &
SOMERSET**
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

INVESTING IN YOUR POLICING

I fully understand that this is a big increase for households. It was not an easy decision to raise the policing part of the council tax by £2 a month (Band D household). However I have to balance the challenges facing policing, the increased threat from criminality and the safety of residents.

In order to improve visibility and results, we need to have the resources. With the government set on raising money for policing from local people I have the unenviable job of deciding how we meet these challenges.

Just like last year we will continue to protect neighbourhood policing the very 'eyes and ears' of our communities and invest in additional officers, above planned numbers, for the first time in over a decade. I'm committed with the Chief Constable to intensify our fight against serious violence on our streets, in our towns and cities with high profile disruption activity for residential burglary, drugs and violent crime. Sending a loud and clear message to criminals that coming into our area to commit their crimes and exploit the vulnerable is not an option.

This money will not fix everything but it's the first investment we've seen since austerity began in 2010 and it's a big step in the right direction.

Sue Mountstevens

Sue Mountstevens

Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset



**TO IMPROVE
THE POLICE'S**



**RESPONSE TO
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY**

**BETTER RESULTS =
JUSTICE**

**TACKLE
SERIOUS
VIOLENCE**



**INCLUDING
KNIFE CRIME**

**OPERATIONS
TO DISRUPT
& DISMANTLE**



**DRUG SUPPLY
ON OUR STREET**

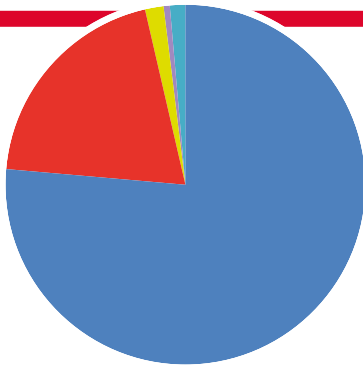


**100
POLICE OFFICERS**

RECRUITMENT
OF 100 NEW OFFICERS, INCREASING
PLANNED NUMBERS FOR THE
FIRST TIME SINCE 2004

HOW WE SPEND THE BUDGET 2019/20

THE CHART BELOW SHOWS WHERE THE MONEY GOES



- Police Officers, Staff and PCSOs - £237.2m
- Running Expenses - £56m
- Capital Funding - £8m
- Office of the PCC - £1.4m
- PCC victim and crime related support services - £3.4m

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

	2018/19	2019/20
Funding from central government	£176m	£182m
Council tax	£109m	£124m
Total	£285m	£306m

CHANGES IN SPENDING

The net expenditure for the police will be £21m higher in 2019/20 compared to 2018/19 following a rise in council tax funding. The Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) has taken the decision to increase the policing part of the council tax by £24 a year for the average band D household. **This means that the average band D precept will be £217.81.** Although inflation and other spending pressures will increase costs by £25m, savings have been agreed to balance the budget.

There is now a joint local community safety and Police and Crime Plan for your local area.



**AVON &
SOMERSET**
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

Remember call **101** in a non-emergency and always dial **999** in emergency
01278 646188 | www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk
pcc@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk



AandSPCC



Aandspcc



Your fire and rescue service

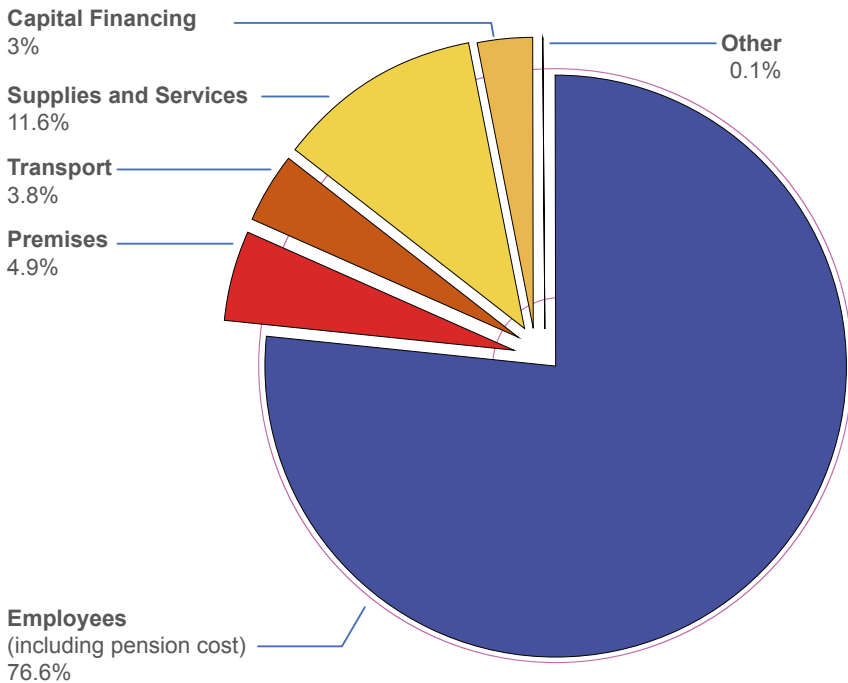
Avon Fire & Rescue Service (AF&RS) protects the communities of Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

In 2019 - 2020 this service will cost Band D council tax payers £73.48 which is an increase of 2.99%.

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  [@AvonFireRescue](https://twitter.com/AvonFireRescue)  [AvonFireRescue](https://www.facebook.com/AvonFireRescue)

Where does each pound go?



Annual budget

Avon Fire Authority has set its net budget for 2019/20 at £43.072 million. This represents a Council Tax level of £73.48 a year for a Band D property, an increase of 2.99%.

The Government's funding assessment for Avon Fire Authority has been cut by £0.507m (3.13%) to £15.704m for 2019/20. The impact of this is that the funding provided by Central Government is reduced by £0.481m (4.16%) to £11.072 m.

Spending plans

	2018/19 (£m)	2019/20 (£m)
Total fire expenditure	44.732	48.622
Income	-2.322	-4.900
Net budget before use of reserves	42.410	43.722
Use of reserves	-0.567	-0.650
Net budget	41.843	43.072
Funding:		
Central Government		
Revenue Support Grant	5.670	5.434
Business rate - Top-up	5.883	5.638
Local funding		
Locally retained business rates	4.658	4.632
Net collection fund surplus	-0.110	0.246
Council tax	25.742	27.122
Total	41.843	43.072

The main changes in spending from 2018/19 to 2019/20 are shown below:

Main changes in net expenditure	(£m)
2018/19 Budget	41.843
Inflationary pressures	1.026
Other	0.398
Use of reserves	0.164
Savings	-0.359
2019/20 Budget	43.072

Savings

This year savings totalling around £0.359 million have been identified in the following areas:

Savings		2019/20 (£m)
Employees		-0.092
Running costs:	Premises	-0.089
	Transport	0.000
	Supplies and services	-0.178
	Other	0.000
Total		-0.359



Capital requirements

The capital programme for 2019/20, excluding any capital expenditure within the 2018/19 capital programme that may be delayed or slipped into 2019/20, is shown below:

	2018/19 (£m)	2019/20 (£m)
Premises - General	0.000	0.500
Premises - Rationalisation project	0.000	3.000
Vehicles and equipment	1.508	1.500
IT and communications	0.200	0.800
Total	1.708	5.800

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