



COUNCIL TAX 2022-2023

How much you pay...
How it's spent...

YOUR COUNCIL TAX BILL

2021-2022 was another challenging year for Sunderland as the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to be felt.

Your council continued to work hard, in some very challenging circumstances, to ensure we responded to the ongoing health emergency and its social and economic impacts.

Protecting, supporting, and working collaboratively with residents, communities, businesses, and partner organisations continues to be of critical importance to us as we all learn to live with the pandemic.

That's why we've continued to put every effort into providing up-to-date public health advice, guidance, and support in relation to Covid-19, and, wherever it's been possible and safe to do so, we've operated on a business-as-usual footing to ensure high-quality services are delivered and activities and events have opened back up.

At the same time, we've been ensuring the conditions are in place for the city to emerge from the pandemic in a strong and competitive position and have made significant strides in the delivery of our ambitious regeneration plans and the creation of opportunities for residents.

Progress in the past year has included:

- Our Children's Services making the unprecedented transition straight from an Inadequate Ofsted rating to Outstanding;
- Being a key partner in the £1bn world-leading Nissan EV36Zero (electric vehicle hub) project;
- Opening the third phase of the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor linking Wessington Way to the city centre;
- Being named Digital Council of the Year 2021, and creating a strategic partnership with BA1 Communications to develop and deploy next generation digital connectivity across the city;
- Opening City Hall on Riverside Sunderland, creating a public sector hub which brings City Council, Gentoo, Department for Work and Pensions and Sunderland College services together in one accessible location; and
- Bringing world-class events and much-loved traditions back to Sunderland with the Tour Series cycling competition in the Summer and the return of the Festival of Light in the Autumn.

In light of these and many other positive developments, and in also continuing to assess the impacts of the pandemic, we have, once again, reviewed the City Plan 2019-30 to ensure, alongside our partners, we are working on the right things and securing investment to achieve our shared vision to create a connected, international city with opportunities for all.

Over the next two years, further plans, and projects include:

- Creation of City of Sunderland Arena, a vibrant visitor attraction by day and night. Activated by two important leisure anchors, an arena and food hall, complimented by restaurants, shops hotel and new public realm;
- The development of Culture House - a new state of the art library and creative hub in the city centre;
- Co-facilitating the development of the new Sunderland Eye Hospital at Riverside Sunderland;
- Major investment in schools across the city;
- Working with Education Partnership North East to establish the new Housing Innovation and Construction Skills Academy - a ground-breaking facility that will train local people with the skills to build innovative new homes;
- Replacement Adult social care Day Centre and investment in Supported Living for adults; and
- Working in partnership with Network Rail, Nexus, Grand Central and Northern Rail to redevelop Sunderland Station, the first phase of which will be the development of a new £26m statement southern entrance.

Whilst we are working hard to keep on creating the fantastic city and opportunities our residents deserve, we are doing so in the context of ongoing and increasing financial pressures. And for vital, wide-ranging, everyday services, local government continues to be underfunded by the Government, with their budget cuts since 2010 placing councils under considerable financial strain.

This means that for 2022–2023, we have had to make further budget cuts of £5.8m and use £5.4m of reserves to balance the budget. It is against this backdrop that unfortunately, we are left with no alternative other than to raise council tax.

As we move through the coming year, there is no doubt that some of the challenges brought about by the pandemic will remain and others may emerge. But we remain focused on our commitment to develop and deliver the best services, support and opportunities for residents, businesses, organisations, and stakeholders across the city.



Cllr Graeme Miller
Leader
Sunderland City Council



Patrick Melia
Chief Executive
Sunderland City Council

WHAT YOU WILL PAY

The amount of Council Tax you pay depends on the value of your home. More expensive properties pay more Council Tax. Each home is placed in a valuation band based on what your home was valued at in 1991. This table sets out the Council Tax levels for 2022-2023 for each valuation band.

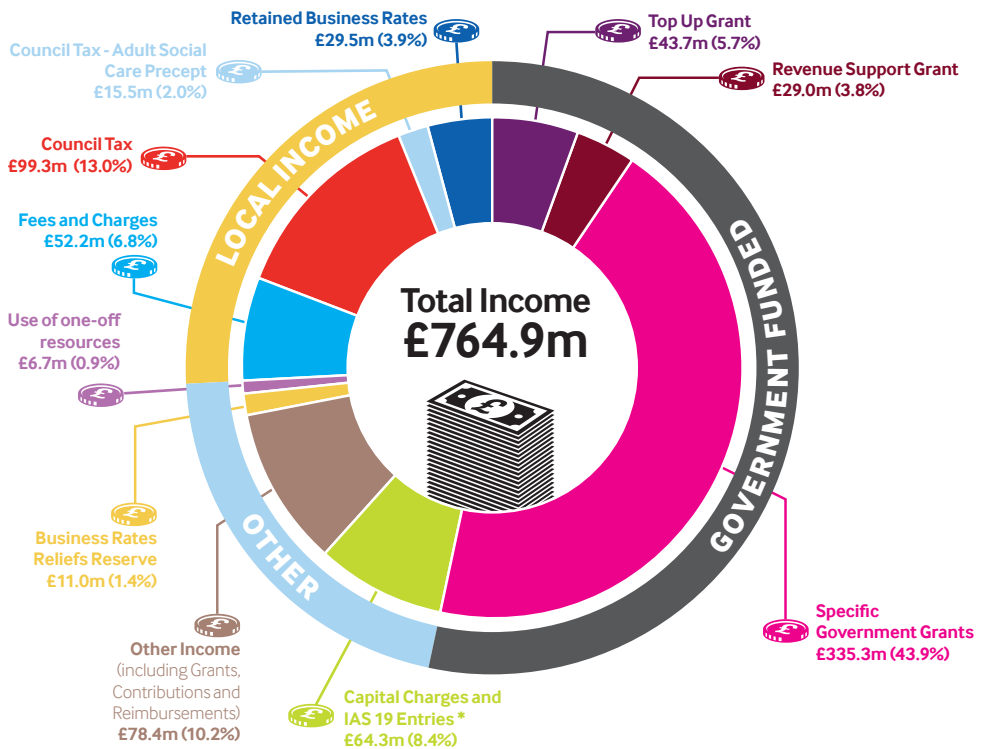
Your Council Tax bill includes charges for levies and precepts which the council is legally required to collect on behalf of other organisations. Charges for Levies are included within the City Council Tax Level shown in column 2, the Precept from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority in column 3 and the Precept from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria in column 4.

Your Council Tax bill states the band that applies to your property. Residents in most of Sunderland will pay the Total Council Tax level in column 5. Residents of Hetton will pay the Total Council Tax level in column 7.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Valuation Band	City Council Tax Level	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority Tax Level	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria Tax Level	Total Council Tax Level	Hetton residents only	
					Hetton Town Council Tax Level	Total Council Tax Level
	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
A	1,059.73	58.23	102.56	1,220.52	9.64	1,230.16
B	1,236.34	67.94	119.65	1,423.93	11.25	1,435.18
C	1,412.96	77.64	136.75	1,627.35	12.86	1,640.21
D	1,589.59	87.35	153.84	1,830.78	14.46	1,845.24
E	1,942.84	106.76	188.03	2,237.63	17.67	2,255.30
F	2,296.07	126.17	222.21	2,644.45	20.89	2,665.34
G	2,649.32	145.58	256.40	3,051.30	24.10	3,075.40
H	3,179.18	174.70	307.68	3,661.56	28.92	3,690.48

WHERE THE COUNCIL'S MONEY WILL COME FROM IN 2022-2023

The council delivers a wide range of services including schools, caring for the elderly and collecting rubbish. The cost of running and maintaining the day-to-day services provided by the council is called Revenue Expenditure. The Council Tax you pay forms only part of the funding to pay for these services. The chart below shows that over half of the money comes from grants from the Government and the remainder from Council Tax, Retained Business Rates and income received from users of council services.

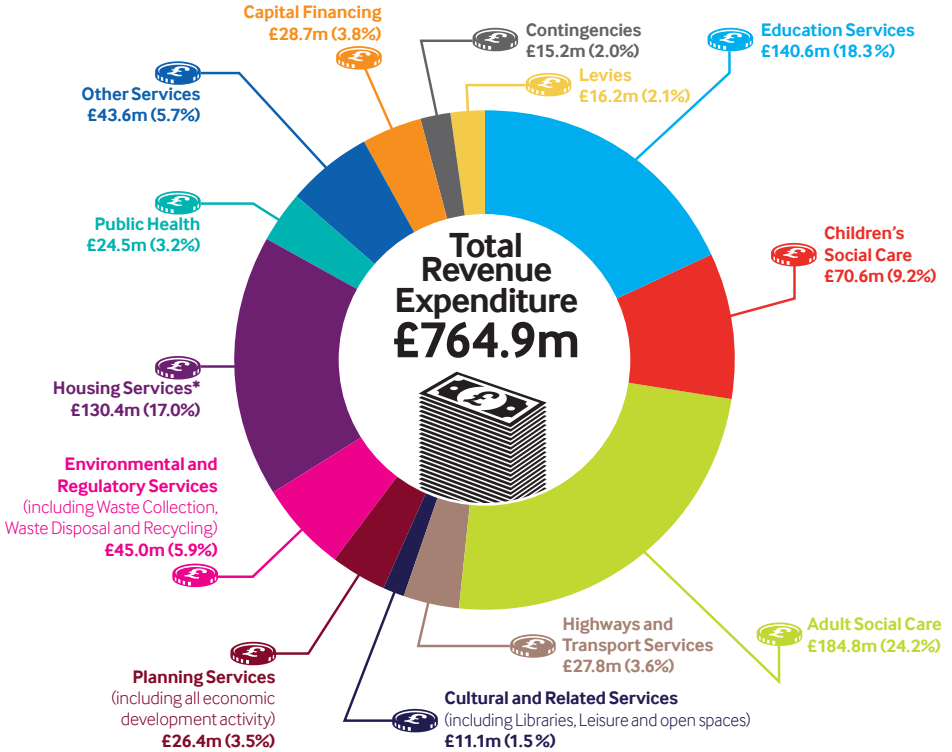


* Capital charges and IAS19 amounting to £64.3m are included in gross expenditure and income in accordance with the Service Reporting Code of Practice. This has no impact on the level of Council Tax.

HOW THE COUNCIL'S MONEY WILL BE SPENT FOR 2022-2023

The chart below shows what the council plans to spend on its services in 2022-2023.

Total or gross expenditure is the total revenue costs of running council services before any income from grants, fees and charges are taken into account.



* This expenditure mainly relates to Housing Benefit payments, funded by specific government grant.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE FUNDING AND COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION

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.

The Secretary of State has renewed this offer in respect of 2022-2023 and the council has elected to increase its adult social care precept by 1%. The total council tax raised for 2022-2023 now includes the cumulative impact of a 2% social care precept raised from 2016-2017, 3% raised from 2017-2018, 2% raised from 2018-2019, 1% raised from 2019-2020, 2% raised from 2020-2021, 3% raised from 2021-2022 and 1% raised from 2022-2023. The additional £13.5m raised in 2022-2023 will help to meet expenditure on adult social care.

BUDGET CONSULTATION

A budget consultation took place between December 2021 and January 2022, seeking views on the budget savings proposals and the level of Council Tax increase for 2022-2023. The responses received during the consultation and feedback from residents have been used to inform the budget proposals for 2022-2023. In general, the consultation feedback supported the council's plans and a Council Tax increase to support the proposed budget and the continued investment in the city.



THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES 2022-2023

The budget for the next financial year has been prepared taking account of spending pressures and commitments associated with provision of council services.

The cost of services

In addition to services provided by the council, other bodies including the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority also provide services which the council must take into account. This table provides a summary of the net cost of these services for 2022-2023 and how the Council Tax for Band D is built up.

Last Year 2021-2022 £m	Summary net cost of services	This year 2022-2023 £m	Band D Council Tax £ p
108.110	City Council (including Levies)	114.706	1,589.59
5.999	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority	6.303	87.35
10.075	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria	11.101	153.84
124.184	Total	132.110	1,830.78
0.055	Hetton Town Council	0.059	14.46
124.239	Total (Hetton residents only)	132.169	1,845.24

Cost per head of population

The table below shows the total cost to each person in Sunderland of services provided by the council and Precepting Authorities, after taking account of the income received from Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates.

	Total Net Budget Requirement £	Government Funding* £	Retained Business Rates £	Collection Fund (Surplus)/ Deficit £	Council Tax Requirement £
City Council	780.49	(261.65)	(106.00)	0.00	412.84
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority	43.97	(18.07)	(4.30)	0.74	22.34
Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria	230.77	(188.25)	0.00	(0.47)	42.05
Total	1055.23	(467.97)	(110.30)	0.27	477.23

* Includes Revenue Support Grant and Top Up Grant

BUDGET INFORMATION

SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL BUDGET INFORMATION

The council needs to collect £6.6m more from council tax payers in 2022-2023 than it did in 2021-2022. This is because the increase in government funding is insufficient to meet increasing spending pressures. The full impact has been mitigated by use of reserves. Details are shown in the table opposite.

	£m
Net funding changes	(22.4)
Spending pressures and additional investment	34.6
Planned budget savings	(5.8)
Decrease in business rates receipts	3.4
Additional use of Reserves	(3.2)
Total	6.6

Last Year 2021-2022				This Year 2022-2023		
Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
165.2	75.6	89.6	Adult Social Care	184.8	80.3	104.5
62.2	5.0	57.2	Children's Social Care	70.6	6.5	64.1
130.8	114.4	16.4	Education Services	140.6	117.5	23.1
10.4	1.5	8.9	Cultural and Related Services	11.1	1.5	9.6
36.1	8.2	27.9	Environmental and Regulatory Services	45.0	8.2	36.8
25.9	6.8	19.1	Highways and Transport Services	27.8	7.4	20.4
129.5	125.9	3.6	Housing Services (mainly Housing Benefit payments)	130.4	126.1	4.3
22.6	12.5	10.1	Planning Services	26.4	13.1	13.3
24.3	24.3	0.0	Public Health	24.5	24.5	0.0
33.1	14.6	18.5	Other Services	43.6	15.5	28.1
0.0	54.4	(54.4)	Other Core Grants	0.0	63.5	(63.5)
22.1	0.0	22.1	Capital Financing Costs	28.7	0.0	28.7
662.2	443.2	219.0		733.5	464.1	269.4
12.4	0.0	12.4	Provision for contingencies and strategic priorities	15.2	0.0	15.2
13.6	0.0	13.6	Provision for contingencies - Covid-19	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.0	1.8	(1.8)	Interest on Balances	0.0	1.8	(1.8)
2.2	22.1	(19.9)	Movement on Reserves (including Medium Term Planning Smoothing Reserve and Covid-19 Business Rates Relief Reserve)	0.0	17.7	(17.7)
0.0	33.7	(33.7)	Capital Charges and IAS19 entries	0.0	64.3	(64.3)
690.4	500.8	189.6	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	748.7	547.9	200.8
			Levies and Precepts			
		14.9	North East Combined Authority			15.8
		0.2	Environment Agency - Flood Defence			0.2
		0.1	NE Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority			0.1
		0.1	Hetton Town Council Precept			0.1
		204.9	TOTAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT			217.0
			Less:			
		28.1	Revenue Support Grant			29.0
		24.9	Retained Business Rates			29.5
		43.7	Top Up Grant			43.7
		108.2	COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT			114.8

BUDGET INFORMATION

LEVIES AND PRECEPTS COLLECTED BY THE COUNCIL

Your Council Tax bill is made up of a number of elements besides the council's Council Tax Requirement. These include levies and precepts that the council is legally required to collect on behalf of other organisations. For Sunderland City Council these organisations are:

Levy: Environment Agency						
Last Year 2021-2022				This Year 2022-2023		
Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
38.4	36.0	2.4	Flood Defence	39.6	37.1	2.5
		2.4	Levy			2.5

Change in levy between years is attributable to:	£m
Programme of works for both capital and revenue needed by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	0.1
	0.1

Sunderland's proportion of the Environment Agency levy is £0.240m in 2022-2023 (2021-2022 £0.232m).

Levy: North East Combined Authority						
Last Year 2021-2022				This Year 2022-2023		
Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
30.3	30.3	0.0	Tyne Tunnels	32.8	32.8	0.0
3.3	0.0	3.3	Transport co-ordination and former ITA	3.2	0.0	3.2
89.2	0.0	89.2	Grant to Nexus	97.5	0.0	97.5
21.8	0.0	21.8	Grant to Durham and Northumberland	22.0	0.0	22.0
144.6	30.3	114.3		155.5	32.8	122.7
		2.7	Less transfer from Reserves			5.6
		111.6	Total Budget Requirement			117.1
		28.7	Less Rail Grants and Miscellaneous Grants			29.8
		82.9	Levy			87.3

Change in levy between years is attributable to:	£m
Inflation and other cost pressures	10.9
Increased income	(3.6)
Movement on contribution from reserves	(2.9)
	4.4

Sunderland's proportion of the North East Combined Authority levy is £15.805m in 2022-2023 (2021-2022 £14.865m).

BUDGET INFORMATION

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHUMBRIA

This precept sets the funding increase for Northumbria Police in order to let the force continue to fight crime and prevent crime. It is informed by a public survey which showed people agree there needs to be more investment in Northumbria Police. I believe this should be funded by Government, but while I continue to lobby for this, it is clear that local investment is needed now. To address the challenges facing Northumbria Police I have approved an increase of 83p per month for a Band D property and 56p per month for those living in a Band A.

It's important to me that you can see where your money is going to address the pressures facing policing.

The precept will be used to fund additional call handlers to improve performance for 999 and 101 services, provide extra resources to tackle cybercrime and serious and organised crime, hire more investigators to support investigations and free up officers, and to increase workforce investment in order to support our officers and keep them on the beat.

The Band D council tax precept for Northumbria will increase from £143.84 to £153.84 for the year. This remains, by far, the lowest precept of any Police and Crime Commissioner in England and Wales. You can find more information on the OPCC website - www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

Precept: Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

Last Year 2021-2022				This Year 2022-2023		
Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
337.3	17.0	320.3	Police General	363.5	24.2	339.3
		250.2	Less: Formula Grant			265.2
		3.4	Special Pension Grant			3.4
		1.3	Legacy Council Tax Freeze Grant			1.3
		1.7	Local Council Tax Support (Covid-19)			0.0
		6.9	Council Tax Support Grant			6.9
		(0.2)	Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit)			0.7
		57.0	Council Tax Requirement			61.8

Change in Council Tax Requirement between years is attributable to:

	£m
Inflation, recruitment, budget pressures and other budget adjustments	20.4
Increase in capital financing costs	1.5
Investment in policing provided through precept increase	4.0
Budget savings	(5.8)
Increase in formula grant funding	(15.0)
Increase in ring-fenced Uplift grant	(1.1)
Local Council Tax Support (Covid-19) grant removed	1.7
Change in Council Tax Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(0.9)
	4.8

This represents £153.84 of the Band D Council Tax and equates to a council tax increase of 6.95%.

Council Tax represents 17.0% of Gross Expenditure (2021-2022 16.9%) this increases the reliance on Council Tax as a funding stream.

The amount to be collected from Sunderland residents on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria is £11.101m in 2022-2023 (£10.075m in 2021-2022).

BUDGET INFORMATION

Precept: Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority						
Last Year 2021-2022				This Year 2022-2023		
Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
54.1	7.3	46.8	Fire Service	55.6	6.4	49.2
		46.8				49.2
		1.7	Contingencies			2.3
		0.0	Interest on Balances			0.0
		48.5	Total Budget Requirement			51.5
		11.5	Less: Revenue Support Grant			11.5
		(2.1)	Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit)			(0.8)
		0.8	Local Council Tax Support Scheme Grant			0.0
		9.0	Top Up Grant			9.3
		3.8	Business Rate Share			3.3
		0.0	Service Delivery Grant			1.1
		0.8	Settlement Funding Assessment Adjustment			1.5
		24.7	Council Tax Requirement			25.6

Change in Council Tax Requirement between years is attributable to:

	£m
Cost Pressures	4.5
Budget Efficiencies	(3.7)
Integrated Risk Management Plan Impacts / Savings	1.5
Decrease in net use of reserves	0.7
Increase in net Government funding	(1.3)
Reduction in Business Rates Local Share	0.5
Decrease in Collection Fund net deficit	(1.3)
	0.9

This represents £87.35 of the Band D Council Tax and equates to a council tax increase of 1.99%.

Council Tax represents 44.2% of Gross Expenditure (2021-2022 44.4%) this reduces the reliance on Council Tax as a funding stream.

The amount to be collected from Sunderland residents on behalf of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority is £6.303m in 2022-2023 (£5.998m in 2021-2022).

More than **seven out of ten** households in Sunderland pay their Council Tax by Direct Debit because it's the easiest way.



Why don't you join them?



Do it online...

- Set up a Council Tax Direct Debit
- Report missed refuse collections or damaged/missing bins
- Arrange a bulky waste collection
- Request maintenance of grass, trees and water features
- Report fly tipping
- Request a copy of a birth, death or marriage certificate
- Book an appointment to register a birth or death
- Book an appointment to give notice of a marriage or civil partnership
- Report litter
- Report anti-social behaviour and hate crimes
- Report an issue with street lighting
- Sign up to garden waste collections

...and much more at www.sunderland.gov.uk