

Council Tax in West Dorset 2016/17

A guide to the 2016/17 Council Tax in West Dorset.

What your Council Tax pays for

The district council uses the money to provide a range of services, including:

- rubbish collections and kerbside recycling
- housing services, street cleaning and litter bins
- public toilets and car parks
- leisure centres and tourist information centres
- environmental health
- flood defence and coast protection works
- development and building control, including dealing with planning applications

Serving you and reducing costs

West Dorset District Council charges one of the lowest Council Tax rates in England. The district council has kept its charges low again in 2016/17 despite the difficult financial climate. During the next three years it needs to reduce costs further. This is on top of significant savings it has already made by joining forces with North Dorset District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. Great efforts are being made to reduce costs and minimise the effect on services. However, given the scale of the reductions, changes will be inevitable.

West Dorset District Council spending plans

This explains how the money is spent. Some services generate income through fees and charges and that is taken off the expenditure in the table below.

NET Budget	Where the money is spent	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget	NET Budget
2015/16		2016/17	2016/17	2016/2017
£000		£000	£000	£000
1,758	Cultural and related services	3,145	-1421	1,724
8,384	Environmental services	8,661	-202	8,459
1,960	Planning and development	3,260	-1,164	2,096
-1,169	Highways, roads and transport	2,248	-3,754	-1,506
391	Housing services	32,439	-31,613	826
419	Corporate and democratic management (audit fees, councillors and committee support, corporate management)	2,197	-2,204	-7
566	Non distributed costs	574	0	574
2,211	Central services to the public (electoral services, Council Tax collection, land charges)	2,739	-631	2,108
	Partnership efficiencies	-	-	-

14,520	Cost of providing services	55,263	-40,989	14,274
-1,090	Trading accounts	395	-1,537	-1,142
-3,760	Net capital charges	-	-3,760	-3,760
-522	Interest and investment income	-	-522	-522
841	Transfer to / from reserves	976	0	976
9,989	Budget requirement	56,634	-46,808	9,826
-381	Local Council Tax Support Grant			0
-1,899	Government Revenue Support Grant	-	-	-1,408
	Government Revenue Support Grant - one off			
-2,410	Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates	-	-	-2,757
-40	Collection Fund Surplus			-152
5,259	To be met by Council Tax payers	-	-	5,509
40,531	Council Tax base	-	-	40,882
129.75	Band D Council Tax	-	-	134.75

Budget changes

This explains significant budget changes that the council is managing.

Changes to the Base Budget 2016/17	£'000
Council Tax Requirement 2015/16	5,259
Price inflation	128
Known commitments	1,079
Changes in Government grant	423
Partnership savings	-582
Savings / additional income	-519
Contribution to balances	-279
Council Tax Requirement 2016/17	5,509

Summary of the council tax

This shows what each organisation charges for its services for band A to band H homes.

Organisation	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Dorset County Council	842.52	982.94	1,123.36	1,263.78	1,544.62	1,825.46	2,106.30	2,527.56
Dorset Police Authority	127.20	148.40	169.60	190.80	233.20	275.60	318.00	381.60
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority	46.14	53.83	61.52	69.21	84.59	99.97	115.35	138.42
West Dorset District Council	89.83	104.81	119.78	134.75	164.69	194.64	224.58	269.50

Total (minus any parish or town council charge)	1,105.69	1,289.98	1,474.26	1,658.54	2,027.10	2,395.67	2,764.23	3,317.08
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Town council charges

Budget information for town councils precepting more than £140,000 in 2016/17. More information is available from each town council clerk.

Town Council	Bridport		Dorchester		Sherborne	
Clerk	Robert Gillis		Adrian Stuart		Trevor Savage	
Phone number	01308 456722		01305 266861		01935 812807	
Year	2015/2016	2016/2017	2015/2016	2016/2017	2015/2016	2016/2017
Gross Expenditure	£778,016	£835,775	£1,412,262	£1,385,453	£724,213	£768,445
Budget Requirement	£532,595	£535,789	£1,279,543	£1,251,000	£585,043	£631,012