

Council Tax in West Dorset 2015-2016

A guide to the 2015/16 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 2015/16 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 Weymouth and Portland Borough Council. Great efforts are being made to reduce costs but minimise the effect on services. However, given the scale of the reductions, changes will be inevitable.

2020 Vision

The council is looking to the future and aiming to design services that will be fit (and affordable) for 2020 and beyond. This project is examining whether services could be provided more efficiently, in different ways or sometimes not at all.

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 2014/15 £000	Where the money is spent	Expenditure Budget 2015/16 £000	Income Budget 2015/16 £000	NET Budget 2015/2016 £000
1,714	Cultural and related services	3,258	-1,500	1,758
5,599	Environmental services	8,627	-243	8,384
1,247	Planning and development	3,124	-1,164	1,960
-1,268	Highways, roads and transport	2,113	-3,282	-1,169
3,410	Housing services	32,080	-31,689	391
-622	Corporate and democratic management (audit fees, councillors and committee support, corporate management)	1,776	1,357	419
495	Non distributed costs	566	0	566

1,627	Central services to the public (electoral services, Council Tax collection, land charges)	2,814	-603	2,211
0	Partnership efficiencies	-	-	-
12,202	Cost of providing services	54,358	-39,838	14,520
-1,201	Trading accounts	416	-1,506	-1,090
-1,058	Net capital charges	-3,760		-3,760
-522	Interest and investment income		-522	-522
879	Transfer to / from reserves	841		841
10,300	Budget requirement	51,855	-41,866	9,989
-432	Local Council Tax Support Grant	0	0	-381
-2,672	Government Revenue Support Grant	0	0	-1,899
-	Government Revenue Support Grant - one off	-	-	-
-2,088	Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates	0	0	-2,410
0	Collection Fund Surplus	0	0	-40
5,108	To be met by Council Tax payers	-	-	5,259
40.130	Council Tax base	-	-	40.531
127.28	Band D Council Tax	-	-	129.75

Budget changes

This explains significant budget changes that the council is managing.

Changes to the Base Budget	£'000
Council Tax Requirement 2014/15	5,108
Price inflation	209
Known commitments	561
Changes in Government grant	255
Partnership savings	-441
Savings / additional income	-646
Contribution to balances	213
Council Tax Requirement 2015/16	5,259

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	810.18	945.21	1,080.24	1,215.27	1,485.33	1,755.39	2,025.45	2,430.54
Dorset Police Authority	124.74	145.53	166.32	187.11	228.69	270.27	311.85	374.22
Dorset Fire Authority	45.24	52.78	60.32	67.86	82.94	98.02	113.10	135.72
West Dorset District Council	86.50	100.92	115.33	129.75	158.58	187.42	216.25	259.50
Total (minus any parish or town council charge)	1,066.66	1,244.44	1,422.21	1,599.99	1,955.54	2,311.10	2,666.65	3,199.98

Town council charges

Budget information for town councils precepting more than £100,000 in 2015/16. More information is available from each town council clerk.

Town Council	Beaminster		Bridport		Dorchester		Chickerell		Lyme Regis		Sherborne	
Clerk	Christine Bright		Robert Gillis		Adrian Stuart		Hilary Trevorah		John Wright		Trevor Savage	
Phone number	01308 863634		01308 456722		01305 266861		01305 767458		01297 445175		01935 812807	
Year	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016
Gross Expenditure	£162,473	£172,714	£751,432	£778,016	£1,461,919	£1,412,262	£96,756	£137,397	£921,820	£1,152,535	£706,600	£724,213
Budget Requirement	£113,500	£125,364	£522,761	£532,595	£1,162,423	£1,279,543	£102,277	£121,044	£123,116	£126,126	£575,000	£585,043