

Council Tax Guide 2021/22

Welcome to your Council Tax guide

This brief guide will explain how your Council Tax helps to pay for the services Fareham Borough Council provides across the Borough.

Fareham's part of the Council Tax increases

Following a consultation with residents living in the Fareham Borough, it has become clear that an increase in Council Tax is necessary to ensure that residents continue to receive the same high level of service they have come to expect.

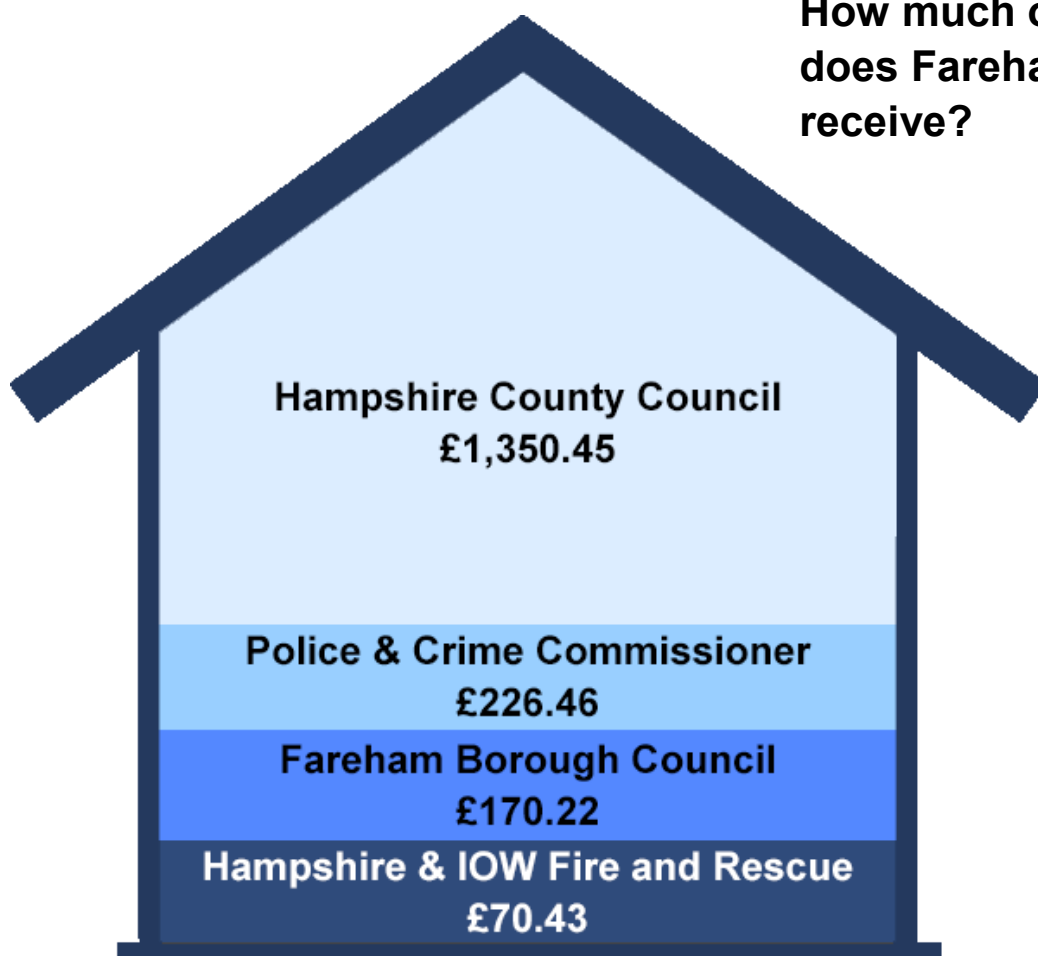
This decision has come as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit all local authorities hard, as well as reduced funding from Central Government, which has seen our New Homes Bonus funding drop by a further £462,000 from the level received in 2020/21.

The Government's expectation is that we can increase Council Tax by £5 or 2% whichever is the greater. Despite this increase we still have one of the lowest rates of Council Tax in the country. This is achieved by running our services more efficiently and by using careful financial management.

How much of my Council Tax goes to Fareham Borough Council?

Only 10% of the Council Tax you pay goes towards services provided by Fareham Borough Council. Fareham's B and D charge of £170.22 continues to be the fifth lowest Council Tax for a district council in England out of more than 200 Councils.

How much of my Council Tax does Fareham Borough Council receive?



Council Tax for a Band D property (the mid Band) in 2021/22 will be £1,817.56

How do we calculate the Council Tax in Fareham?

We produce a Finance Strategy each year. This helps us make spending, borrowing and investment decisions over the next 5 years.

The Council has £6.3 million revenue reserves (money saved to invest in the future), funds balances of £7.6 million and capital reserves of £13.8 million. These are used to pay for new projects and services, meet any unforeseen costs and to smooth the effect of other financial pressures and changes in Government funding on Council Tax.

However, the Council's funds remain even tighter this year and are likely to be so for the foreseeable future because of economic pressures as a result of the pandemic and Government funding cuts.



The table below shows the changes to the Council's budget for 2021/22 and how we calculate your Council Tax.

COUNCIL TAX SUMMARY 2021/22			Amount per Band	
2020/21		2021/22	D Property	
£'000		£'000	£	
9,607	Net Expenditure	10,272	234.51	
	Less Income:			
0	Lower Tier Services Grant	-154	-3.52	
47	Use of Collection Fund Balances	-84	-1.92	
-2,457	Retained Business Rates	-2,578	-58.85	
7,197	Fareham Borough Council Total	7,456	170.22	
Add:	Hampshire County Council Precept		1,350.45	
	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority Precept		70.43	
	Police and Crime Commissioner Precept		226.46	
	TOTAL		£1,817.56	

Good at collecting Council Tax

Fareham Borough Council maintains excellent collection rates for Council Tax. We collected 98.4% of the Council Tax due in 2019/20, this compares excellently with other authorities both in Hampshire and nationally.

Making sure your Council Tax is well spent

Part of your Council Tax funds services provided by Fareham Borough Council such as waste collection and kerbside recycling, street cleaning, housing and community and leisure services.



The table below shows how we spend your money to provide services in Fareham.

REVENUE BUDGET SUMMARY 2021/22	Budget	Budget	Change between
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21 and 2021/22
Service Budgets	£	£	£
Planning Committee	472,600	482,000	9,400
Licensing & Regulatory Affairs Committee	520,500	552,700	32,200
Executive - Service Budgets			
- Leisure & Community	453,800	1,641,400	1,187,600
- Housing	1,468,500	1,856,500	388,000
- Planning & Development	1,584,800	1,659,500	74,700
- Policy & Resources	-1,002,000	-705,100	282,300
- Health & Public Protection	221,100	557,100	336,000
- Streetscene	5,101,900	5,399,300	297,400
Other service expenditure	2,767,300	3,249,300	496,600
Total Service Expenditure	11,588,500	14,692,700	3,104,200
Other Budgets	-1,982,000	-4,420,800	-2,438,800
NET EXPENDITURE	9,606,500	10,271,900	665,400

What is my Council Tax spent on?

The chart below shows you how much of your £170.22 (Band D) is spent on the different services we provide to our residents.

How your £170.22 is spent	
EMPTYING YOUR BINS	27.78
GOOD QUALITY GREEN SPACES	16.88
AFFORDABLE HOUSING	15.95
MANAGING GROWTH	14.98
REMOVING LITTER	14.67
POPULAR LEISURE CENTRES	11.05
CONTROLLING PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT	8.63
GIVING LOCAL PEOPLE A VOICE	7.32
SUPPORTING THOSE ON LOWER INCOMES	6.92
MOWING THE GRASS	6.65
KEEPING YOU INFORMED	6.17
PROTECTING YOUR HEALTH	5.68
CONSERVATION	4.48
HELPING YOU FEEL SAFE AND SECURE	3.61
GRANTS	3.55
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	2.96
LOCAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES	2.02
WELL MAINTAINED SPORTS PITCHES	1.65
ENTERTAINMENT AT FERNEHAM HALL	1.53
A RANGE OF LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES	1.33
CREATING A VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE	1.13
PROTECTING THE COAST	1.10
PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES	0.99
PEST CONTROL	0.87
HELPING WITH TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	0.80
HELPING YOU TRAVEL AROUND THE BOROUGH	0.46
HOME IMPROVEMENTS	0.38
PLAY AREAS	0.29
HELPING WITH YOUR PROPERTY MOVES	0.27
LICENSING	0.12
HELPING WITH BEREAVEMENT ARRANGEMENTS	0.00
PLACES TO PARK YOUR CAR	0.00
TOTAL TO BE MET BY FAREHAM COUNCIL TAX PAYERS	£170.22

Council Tax Support

If you have made a claim for Council Tax Support, your Council Tax bill and enclosed Decision Letter will tell how much support you are entitled to. Please contact us to find out more about the Council Tax Support scheme and how to apply.

Contact us

For more information regarding Council Tax please see the back of your Council Tax Bill or visit our website. Alternatively you can contact us at the Civic Offices and we will be happy to help you.

Tel: (01329) 824651

Email: counciltax@fareham.gov.uk

Web: www.fareham.gov.uk

Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, PO16 7AZ



How is the rest of my Council Tax spent?

Further details on the spending plans of Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority can be found at the following websites:

Hampshire County Council

For adult social care authorities, Council Tax bills 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.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/budgetspendingandperformance/council-tax-calculations>

Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner

<https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/council-tax>

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority

www.hantsfire.gov.uk/how-we-are-performing/our-performance/council-tax-information/