

# YOUR 2025/26 COUNCIL TAX EXPLAINED



# Council Tax and Business Rates 2025/26

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## Welcome

Now more than ever, people are turning to their local authorities for support. It is therefore vital that we continue to provide those services that are important to you.

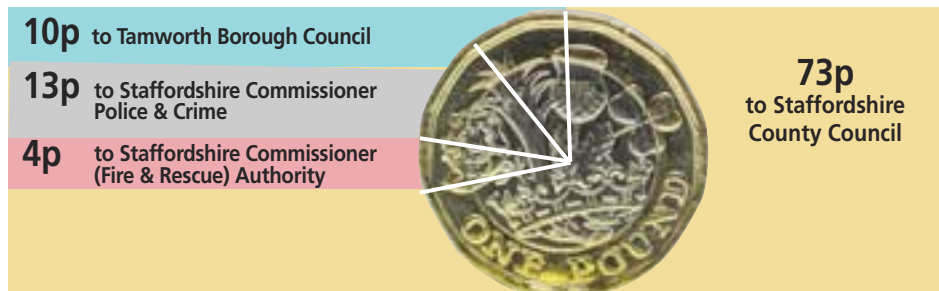
We continue to work hard to ensure we retain high-quality, value for money services for our residents.

This booklet outlines how we plan to spend our share of the money raised from your Council Tax and business rates this year. Please take a few minutes to read through this information.

You may find you are eligible to claim an exemption, discount or reduction which could reduce how much Council Tax you need to pay. See pages 5-9 for more detail.



# Where does your money go?



The table below shows how much of your Council Tax goes to each authority.

Who gets your money? Your bill is divided up like this (Band D)	Council Tax (subject to rounding)	Increase this year
<b>Staffordshire Commissioner Fire &amp; Rescue Authority</b>	£91.77	5.76%
<b>Tamworth Borough Council</b>	£208.76	2.99%
<b>Staffordshire Commissioner Police &amp; Crime</b>	£287.57	5.12%
<b>Staffordshire County Council</b>	£1,621.71	4.99%
<b>Total Amount Payable (Band D)*</b>	<b>£2,209.81</b>	<b>4.85%</b>

\*This is the amount all Band D properties in Tamworth will pay for their core services.

The actual amount of Council Tax you pay will depend on which Council Tax band your property is in. More than 80% of people in Tamworth will pay less than the **Band D** charge. Any discounts and benefits you are entitled to receive may reduce your charge. For more information on Council Tax bands and discounts please see **pages 5-8**

## Summary of your Council Tax charge

The table below shows you what this authority plans to spend in the coming year and the amount each will raise from Council Tax.

To work out the **Band D** Council Tax we divide the amount to be raised from Council Tax by the number of **Band D** equivalent properties in Tamworth, after adjusting for discounts, exemptions and local Council Tax reductions.

	Tamworth Borough Council
Gross spending (including tariff)	£52.141m
Less income (including retained business rates)	£43.286m
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<b>£8.855m</b>
Less government support and net business rates income	£3.929m
<b>Amount to be raised from Council Tax</b>	<b>£4.926m</b>

# Tamworth Borough Council Services

This page highlights the main services provided by Tamworth Borough Council funded by your Council Tax.



# Facts about your Council Tax bill

Find out more about your Council Tax bill, including information on discounts, exemptions and appeals.



## How is Council Tax calculated?

Your Council Tax is based on two adults living in a property.

- If only one person lives there, they are entitled to a 25% discount.
- If nobody lives there, the bill may be reduced. **See page 6 for more detail.**
- Certain properties could be 100% exempt even if they are occupied. **See page 7 for more detail.**

**Please remember, if you are waiting for the outcome of an application for a reduction, you must continue to pay your current bill. If successful, you will be entitled to a refund of any overpaid Council Tax.**

## Council Tax valuation bands

The Valuation Office Agency, part of HM Revenue and Customs (not your local council) has put every property into one of eight valuation bands. A full list of valuation bands is available on its website at [www.voa.gov.uk](http://www.voa.gov.uk) (see table below).

Your Council Tax bill states which band applies to your home and your home's valuation is based on an estimate of how much it was worth on 1 April 1991. Price changes since that time won't affect the valuation.



Band	Range of values as at 1 April 1991	Proportion of Band D tax payable
A	Up to and including £40,000	6/9
B	£40,001 to £52,000	7/9
C	£52,001 to £68,000	8/9
D	£68,001 to £88,000	1
E	£88,001 to £120,000	11/9
F	£120,001 to £160,000	13/9
G	£160,001 to £320,000	15/9
H	More than £320,000	2

## Could I get a discount?

This depends on the number of adults in your house and their circumstances. If any of the adults are on the list below, they may not be counted for Council Tax purposes. If this takes the number of 'counted' adults below two, you could be eligible for a discount.

- Full time students, student nurses, apprentices, youth training trainees and foreign language assistants.
- Young people for whom child benefit is payable and 18/19 year olds who have just left school or college.
- Patients resident in hospital or being looked after in care homes.
- Severely mentally impaired people.
- People in hostels or night shelters.
- Low paid care workers usually for charities.
- Carers for a person with a disability who is **NOT** a partner or child under 18.
- Members of religious communities such as monks or nuns.
- People in detention (except for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine).
- Spouses or dependants of students who are non-British subjects and are prevented by immigration regulations from working or claiming benefits.
- Members of visiting forces, certain international and defence organisations and those with diplomatic privilege or immunity.

## Reduction for people with disabilities

If you, or someone who lives with you, needs a room, an extra bathroom or kitchen, or extra space in your property to meet special needs arising from a disability, your bill may be reduced. The bill may be reduced to that of a property in the band immediately below the band of your property. If your property is in Band A, a reduction (equivalent to one ninth of band D) will be given. This reduction is not based on your income or savings.

## Empty and second homes

You may be able to get a discount on your bill for empty homes. This will depend on where the property is. If your main residence is elsewhere you will be charged the full Council Tax for any home in Tamworth. Contact us to find out more. (See page 20).

Type of home	Discount Allowed
Empty & unfurnished up to 2 months	100%
Empty & unfurnished over 2 months	None
Empty & undergoing major repairs	50% for up to 1 year
Furnished & 2nd homes	None

**In addition, properties empty and unfurnished over two years are subject to a 150% charge to encourage owners to bring them back into use.** The Private Sector Housing Team can give you advice about bringing your property back into use. Telephone 01827 709709.

If you buy or rent a property that is already empty, the reductions above may have been used by the previous tax payer, the discount periods will not start again.

## Family annexes

Most annexes in the borough are exempt – see Class T and W exemptions on page 7. However, a Council Tax discount of 50% is available for family annexes that are not exempt.

If you currently have an annexe which is lived in by a family member or used by the resident of the main dwelling you can receive a 50% Council Tax discount on the annexe.

The discount is not based on occupation or the annexe being furnished but on the use by the resident of the main building or occupation by a family member. If a non family member occupies an annexe the Family Annexe Discount will not apply.

# Could I be exempt from Council Tax?

Some properties may be exempt from Council Tax.

## **Class Unoccupied properties which are:**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>B</b> | Owned by a charity (allowed for up to six months)   |
| <b>D</b> | Left empty by someone who has gone to prison  |
| <b>E</b> | Previously occupied by a person in permanent residential care   |
| <b>F</b> | Waiting for probate or letters of administration to be granted (continuous for up to six months after)    |
| <b>G</b> | Empty because occupation is forbidden by law  |
| <b>H</b> | Waiting to be occupied by a minister of religion  |
| <b>I</b> | Left empty by someone who has moved to receive personal care by reason of old age, disablement or illness |
| <b>J</b> | Left empty by someone who has moved to provide personal care to another person                            |
| <b>K</b> | Owned by a student and last occupied by a student   |
| <b>L</b> | Subject to a Repossession Order   |
| <b>Q</b> | The responsibility of a bankrupt person's trustee   |
| <b>R</b> | A site for a caravan, mobile home or mooring  |
| <b>T</b> | Unable to let separately because it is linked to, or in the grounds of another property                   |

## **Class Occupied properties where:**

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| <b>M/N</b> | All the residents are students   |
| <b>O</b>   | They are used for UK armed forces accommodation, whether occupied or not                   |
| <b>P</b>   | At least one liable person is a member of a visiting force                                 |
| <b>S</b>   | All residents are less than 18 years old   |
| <b>U</b>   | All residents are severely mentally impaired   |
| <b>V</b>   | At least one liable person is a foreign diplomat   |
| <b>W</b>   | It is annexed to a family home and occupied by that family's elderly or disabled relatives |

## Can I appeal against my Council Tax band?

Yes, you may appeal against your Council Tax band. There are several situations where you can appeal against the band in which your house has been placed:

- Within six months of becoming the new tax payer for the property.
- Within six months of the Valuation Office Agency making a change to the band.
- If there have been specific material changes in the property value.

Any queries about appeals and bandings should be made direct to the Valuation Office Agency. **See handy contacts on page 21.**

## What if I don't think I should be paying Council Tax?

You can appeal to the if you think you are not liable to pay Council Tax e.g. because you are not the resident or owner, or because your property is exempt or you are entitled to a discount. You should not withhold payment if you are making an appeal. You should pay as normal and a refund will be made if you are successful.

## Changes in circumstances

If you have been granted a reduction, you must tell us of any change in circumstances which will affect your entitlement within 21 days. If you fail to do so you may be faced with a penalty of £70.

For more details about Council Tax discounts and exemptions, see pages 5-7.

## How we collect and use information

We're required, under section 6 of the Audit Commission Act 1998, to participate in the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) data matching exercise. Council Tax data is provided to the Audit Commission for this purpose and will be used for cross-systems and cross-authority comparison for the prevention and detection of fraud.

We advise Council Tax payers that the data held by the council in respect of your Council Tax liability will be used for comparison purposes.

The eight district and borough councils within the Staffordshire area work in partnership with Staffordshire County Council to conduct a review of Council Tax discounts. We may share the information you have provided to the Council Tax team, with private organisations

employed to conduct data matching for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Data matching helps to identify fraud but it may also identify claims and payments which are erroneous. Where a match is found it may indicate that there is an inconsistency which requires further investigation. No assumption is made as to whether there is fraud, error or another explanation until an investigation is carried out.

If you are currently in receipt of a Council Tax discount that you are not entitled to, or require further information, please contact our Revenues Team. **See handy contacts on page 21.**



# Local Council Tax Reduction

If you are working age and on a low income including Universal Credit you may qualify for a reduction on your Council Tax bill under the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Any award will be deducted from the amount of Council Tax that you may have to pay and reduce your monthly payments.

For persons of Pension Credit age who do not claim working age benefits, there is a national scheme of regulations which is broadly the same as the previous Council Tax Benefit rules.

## About the scheme

- Income banded schemes give people more financial stability and reduce unnecessary and confusing paperwork for customers. The amount you pay only changes if the change in your income takes you to a different income band. Please see our website for the income bands.
- Residents who receive a working age disability benefit may be awarded a £40 disregard to their income.
- Residents in the lowest income band will be eligible for 100% discount on their Council Tax bill.
- A change in income or circumstances will take effect from the date the change happens.
- The Capital limit is £6 000.
- Any changes in household or income MUST be reported by the person claiming the reduction.

We won't take the following into account when calculating someone's income –

- Child Benefit,
- Child Maintenance received,
- Personal Independence Payments,
- Disability Living Allowance,
- War Pensions,
- War Widows/Widower's Pensions,
- War Disablement Pensions,
- Employment & Support Allowance support component,
- Universal credit - housing element and the disabled child element.

If you already receive Council Tax Reduction, the reduction shown on your bill is based on your income known to us at the time of the assessment.

For Universal Credit claimants, the banding scheme no longer updates claims for each assessment period. So, when your Universal Credit is uprated after 1st April, you MUST tell us what your new payments are. Email us at [benefits@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@tamworth.gov.uk)

To see the income bands visit [www.tamworth.gov.uk](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk)

# Pay the easy way

Sign up for Direct Debit over the phone



Choose which date suits you best

Council Tax

Business Rates



You can pay your annual Council Tax or Business Rates bill in twelve instalments from April to March, rather than ten, but you need to contact us via email on [enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk) before **5 April 2025** if you wish to do this. We can also extend your monthly instalments through to March during the year, but you need to contact us via email if you wish to do this.

# What's happened

## Looking back

The money that Tamworth Borough Council collects through Council Tax helps pay for services such as household waste collection and recycling, street cleansing, maintaining parks and open spaces, Tamworth Castle, Tamworth Assembly Rooms and outdoor events such as St George's Day celebrations fireworks, Christmas lights switch on and the Christmas events.

We also provide housing services and 4,300 homes for tenants; this is paid for by the rent tenants pay and government grants.

We achieve all of this using 10% of the Council Tax we collect from you each year.

The remaining 90% you pay is passed on to Staffordshire County Council for services including roads and pothole repairs, education, social services and libraries, to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire Police and to the Fire Authority for Staffordshire Fire and Rescue.

The money we receive from Council Tax helps us achieve our vision:

**Tamworth – celebrating our heritage, creating a better future.**

We work to make sure we can take full advantage of every opportunity that leads to Tamworth being a better place, with Tamworth communities experiencing better lives and the council being a better organisation.

## Strategic Priorities 2022-25

Our funding, resources and capacity are reducing. This inevitably has impacted on how we deliver services to the people of Tamworth.

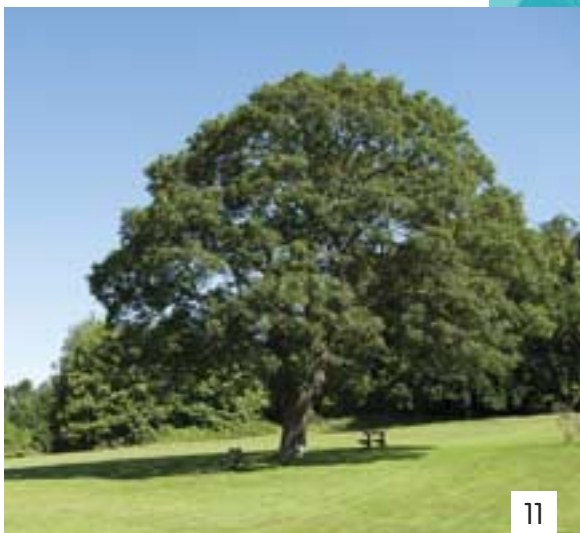


We continue to support the most vulnerable in Tamworth and work to improve the lives of all residents.

Through our vision and [Corporate Plan](#) we have identified five key specific areas of focus:

## The Environment

- Reducing litter and fly tipping
- Working to reduce the impact of climate change
- Supporting people to recycle and reduce waste
- Working to protect, maintain and improve our green spaces



## The Economy

- Support businesses to promote business growth and new businesses in Tamworth
- Support businesses to generate local employment opportunities
- Make sure Tamworth has good quality and affordable housing
- Encourage people to come and visit Tamworth and enjoy the attractions of our town

## Infrastructure

- Update local plans to improve transport links within Tamworth
- Improve existing walkways and cycle routes
- Make sure people can access our services digitally

## Living in Tamworth

- Make sure there is adequate supply of affordable housing
- Invest in neighbourhoods and local areas

- Support job creation and seek to protect the local economy
- Improve and promote Tamworth's events and historic and cultural heritage
- Help everyone feel safe in their neighbourhood and with others reduce the fear of crime

## Town Centre

- Develop the street markets and events
- Create a scheme for 'created in Tamworth'
- Work to improve the night-time economy, including improving night-time transport options
- Encourage local people to be proud of Tamworth and it's rich history
- Develop a new Tamworth Enterprise Centre as part of plans to improve and transform the town centre
- Make the town more accessible
- Encourage the growth of the food and leisure choices in the town

## Some of the things achieved during 2024/25:

- Made significant progress on our ambitious plans to transform Tamworth town centre into a place that meets the needs of 21st century shoppers, residents and businesses. We've completed work to rebuild the former Peel Café replicating the original Georgian style bringing a building back into active use. This is now open as Nationwide Building Society. The historic 19th Century former Co-op building has been sympathetically renovated and transformed into the Elizabeth Bradford Business Centre, providing office space for new and small businesses. The name of the new business centre pays homage to the first Co-op employee. Work is also underway at all other sites as part of the



regeneration programme, with all expected to complete in 2025.

- Launched a new face to face reception service from the main council house in Tamworth town centre to meet the needs of the whole community. The new service offers face to face support with all council service enquiries and is additional to the face to face service at the Assembly Rooms.
- Following grant from Premier League, The FA and government's Football Foundation, we've successfully built a new all-weather flood-lit 3G football pitch within the existing Anker Valley Sports and Community Complex, offering opportunities for local clubs and others all round access to high quality facilities.
- Sympathetically restored the historic bandstand in the castle grounds the extensive conservation programme included replacement timbers, joists, floorboards and balustrades. Specialist contractors worked to make sure all materials and rendering were sensitively replaced to heritage conservation guidelines and standards.
- Built 29 new homes for council tenants, increasing our number of council homes to 4,300. We're also working in partnership with Staffordshire County Council and House Project, to provide suitable home options and support to those young people aged 17-18 who are leaving care.
- Continue to offer a range of free business support opportunities, including workshops, networking events, grants for business development and more, to town centre businesses and new businesses within the borough. Plus, access to low-cost office space through our existing enterprise centre and the new Elizabeth Bradford Business Centre in the 19th century former Co-op building on Colehill.

- Showed continued commitment to the armed forces covenant, increasing to a Silver Award level employer in the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. As part of this commitment, if military personnel or somebody related to them applies for a job at the council, as long as they meet the minimum requirements for the role, they will automatically have an interview. Our employees who are reservists also receive an extra ten days additional paid leave to carry out any training required. And if they were called up to active duty, no matter the period of time, their job will be protected.
- Launched the Tamworth Strategic Partnership, to improve the borough and the quality of life for residents. Bringing together representatives from health and social care, Staffordshire police, fire and rescue, public health partners and faith and voluntary groups, the partnership will work together to build a better Tamworth for all.
- Delivered free summer and half term activity programmes, where over 3,000 local children took part; helping children and young people achieve the recommended activity levels of 60 minutes per day.
- Delivered a full outdoor entertainment programme, including fireworks, St Georges Day, food festivals, archaeology around the castle, outdoor concerts, theatre and music from local artists, Christmas lights switch on and the Christmas events seeing attracting many many thousands of visitors to the town centre.

We've also...

- Introduced electric vehicles to our fleet reducing the carbon footprint of our borough maintenance operations and installed EV charging stations at our castle grounds car park.

- Welcomed over 70 tenants to our tenants conference and met many more on our tenant engagement roadshow.
- Introduced 30 minutes free parking in all our town centre car parks to help boost visits. Also introduced a new pay by phone app to make parking payments easier.
- Won a silver Trip Advisor award for the best small visitor attraction for Tamworth Castle. And delivered our first ever castleTV advert thanks to government funding.
- Checked the wiring at 2,000 tenant properties making sure homes are safe and fitted over 100 new roofs on council homes.
- Collected £49.5M in council tax and £33M in business rates.
- Processed and managed over 300 planning applications.
- Completed over 150 food hygiene inspections, helping to keep local people safe.
- Cleaned and cleansed Tamworth town centre everyday of the year.
- Processed over 1,700 housing register applications.
- Supported 45 organisations with community and councillor grants. Working to improve the lives of local people.

## Looking forward:

Every well run council needs a plan so staff, residents and partners understand what the council is trying to achieve and how it plans to do that.

Our previous plan was from 2022 – 2025, so we've consulted residents, staff, members, community groups and key strategic partners to develop a new plan to meet the needs and expectations of our residents.

### Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030

Our vision is to Build a Better Tamworth which we will achieve by delivering our key priorities over five years.

**Prosperity and place** - We want growth in the local economy by creating jobs and a Tamworth we are all proud of, ensuring financial stability for all. We will:

- Work with businesses to help them grow and create jobs.
- Identify and address skills shortages, including the digital divide.
- Make the town centre more vibrant and accessible.
- Regenerate and create spaces for people to use and enjoy.
- Promote tourism and nightlife by using our culture and heritage sites.

**Environment** - We want to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, protect the environment and enhance local biodiversity. We will:

- Keep Tamworth's local areas clean.
- Tackle fly tipping, littering and environmental offenses.
- Cut down on using carbon in our operations.
- Collaborate with partners to protect the environment.
- Provide eco-friendly housing options.



**Community wellbeing** - We want residents to lead safe, healthy and happy lives in communities that are cohesive, where diversity is celebrated. We will:

- Work with our partners to support children and vulnerable individuals' wellbeing.
- Ensure our active health and wellbeing offer supports residents physical and mental health.
- Improve our offer to provide suitable homes and make good quality, ecofriendly and affordable housing available.
- Work with our partners to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Work with our partners to reduce crime and help our residents feel safe.

**Council** - We're focused on being a caring, accessible and effective council that is financially resilient. We will:

- Be visible, accessible, approachable and accountable to the community.
- Learn and work with communities to provide broader social benefits.
- Maintain balanced budgets in our financial strategies.

The money we receive from council tax helps us achieve our vision and deliver on these priorities.

In 2025 – 2026, we aim to:

Complete our £21million Future High Streets Fund project to transform Tamworth town centre, which will see:

- New Business Centre in the original 19th century former Co-op building.
- New flexible retail space for independent small businesses.

- Historic building back in active use, replicating the original Georgian style of building.
- A wider footbridge into the castle grounds, and improvement to the public realm in St Editha's Square, though Middle Entry, around the town hall into the castle grounds.

#### **Key activities for 2025-2026**

Deliver the government's requirement for separate food waste collections in all areas by 2026, investing £635,000. This is largely covered by a grant from government.

Continue to invest in refurbishing play areas, seeing £75,000 spent to improve play areas across the borough.

Invest £215,000 to rebuild and improve the Snowdome footbridge.

Provide £300,000 for flood protection work dredging and de-silting the balancing ponds in the town. The ponds take water from the A5 bypass and surrounding estates to help prevent flooding.

Help support people to live independently, spending £800,000 to provide disabled facilities for local people in their own homes.

Continued annual investment to make our industrial and commercial units available for businesses to rent more energy efficient.

Continue to provide in home and specialist support to the most vulnerable in our communities. This is through direct council services and through services funded by grants to local voluntary, charity and community groups.

We'll also work to improve tenant homes, investing over £10million over the next 12 months. This work is paid for by the rent tenants pay and government grants.

## Council Tax Bands 2025/26

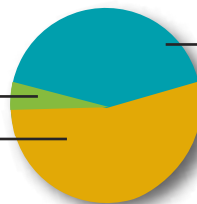
Band	Tamworth Borough Council	Staffordshire Commissioner (Fire & Rescue)	Staffordshire Commissioner (Police & Crime)	Staffordshire County Council	Total
A	£139.17	£61.18	£191.71	£1,081.14	£1,473.20
B	£162.37	£71.38	£223.67	£1,261.33	£1,718.75
C	£185.56	£81.57	£255.62	£1,441.52	£1,964.27
D	£208.76	£91.77	£287.57	£1,621.71	£2,209.81
E	£255.15	£112.16	£351.47	£1,982.09	£2,700.87
F	£301.54	£132.56	£415.38	£2,342.47	£3,191.95
G	£347.93	£152.95	£479.28	£2,702.85	£3,683.01
H	£417.52	£183.54	£575.14	£3,243.42	£4,419.62
Percentage of total Council Tax	10%	4%	13%	73%	100%

### Tamworth Borough Council's Net Funding

Revenue Support Grant £0.4m

Council Tax £4.9m

Business Rates (Net) £3.6m



Council Tax Requirement	Council Tax Calculation	Amount per Person	Amount per Band D Property
Budget we need	£8,795,479	£114.70	£372.75
Revenue Support Grant	-£362,961	-£4.73	-£15.38
Business Rates (Net of Tariff)	-£3,566,116	-£46.51	-£151.13
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£4,866,402</b>	<b>£63.46</b>	<b>£206.24</b>
Add Deficit from previous years	£59,499	£0.78	£2.52
<b>Council Tax 2025/26</b>	<b>£4,925,901</b>	<b>£64.24</b>	<b>£208.76</b>

Why the Council Tax changes this year	Amount
<b>Raised from Council Tax 2024/25</b>	<b>£4.759m</b>
<b>Change in Council Spending</b>	
Inflation	£0.682m
Change in Income	-£0.122m
Developing Services	£0.146m
Savings and Efficiencies	-£1.307m
Decrease in use of money from our balances	+£1.283m
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>£5.441m</b>
Changes in Government Financial Support	-£0.515m
<b>Amount to be raised from Council Tax 2025/26</b>	<b>£4.926m</b>

All figures quoted above exclude the costs and income for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) as these are not funded by Council Tax revenue.



# General Fund

Tamworth Borough Council provides a wide range of services to local residents, businesses and visitors.

## Planning Services

£1.4m - (prior year £1.8m)

- Planning Policy & Applications
- Building Control
- Community & Economic Development

## Environmental Services

£4.4m - (prior year £3.4m)

- Cemetery Services
- Street Cleansing
- Waste Collection
- Recycling

## Cultural Services

£4.4m - (prior year £5.3m)

- Culture & Heritage
- Recreation & Sport
- Tourism
- Community Safety

## Central Services to the Public

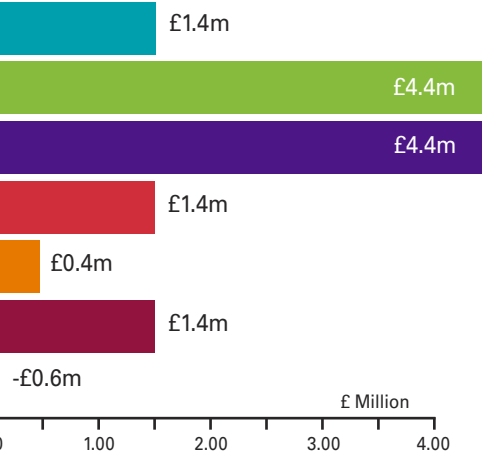
£1.4m - (prior year £1.1m)

- Elections
- Local Land Charges
- Local Tax Collection

## Other Costs/Income

£0.4m - (prior year £1.0m surplus)

- Corporate Management
- Democratic Representation



## General Fund Housing Services

£1.4m - (prior year £1.5m)

- Private Sector Housing
- Housing Benefit

## Highways & Transport Services

£0.6m surplus - (prior year £0.7m surplus)

- Parking

Council Tax Requirement	2024/25	2025/26	Increase/Decrease
Service Expenditure	£34.766m	£34.307m	-1%
Service Income	-£21.248m	-£21.616m	2%
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>£13.518m</b>	<b>£12.691m</b>	<b>-6%</b>
Council Tax	-£4.759m	-£4.926m	
Surplus (-) of Trading Undertakings	-£1.080m	-£1.410m	
Net (income)/Cost of investment interest, debt interest payments and charges to HRA in relation to debt	-£3.396m	-£2.303m	
<b>Net Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>£4.283m</b>	<b>£4.052m</b>	<b>-5%</b>
Use of Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit	£1.125m	£0.060m	
Government Support	-£0.322m	-£0.363m	
Business Rates (Net of Tariff)	-£3.092m	-£3.566m	
<b>Deficit for year</b>	<b>£1.994m</b>	<b>£0.183m</b>	<b>-91%</b>
Adjustments required by statute or proper practices to ensure no impact on Council Tax	-£0.858m	-£0.332m	
<b>Total Decrease/Increase (-) in General Fund Balances</b>	<b>£1.136m</b>	<b>-£0.149m</b>	<b>-113%</b>

## Housing Revenue Account

In addition, Tamworth Borough Council manages a Housing Revenue Account, specifically for the management of the Council's Housing Stock. These services for the borough's council housing tenants are funded through rents received and specific contributions.

### Key Budget Figures for 2025/26:

Gross Income of: Including	£25.6m	Gross Expenditure of: Including	£26.0m
Dwelling Rents Receivable	£23.2m	Costs of Repairs	£7.8m
Other Income	£2.4m	Supervision & Management	£7.7m
		Depreciation	£4.0m
		Interest payable	£3.0m
		Capital Expenditure funded by HRA	£3.5m

## Other Information

- We will employ 334 staff in 2024/25 compared to 328 staff in 2023/24. (These figures are estimated full time equivalents and not actual staff employed).
- It is estimated that at March 2024 we will have £63.1m in loans and £50.4m in investments.

## Environment Agency Midlands Region

### The Council Tax (Demand Notices) (England) Regulations 2011

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Functions under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Environment Agency (Levies) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Environment Agency has powers in respect of flood and coastal erosion risk management for 2369 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. Money is spent on the construction of new flood defence schemes, the maintenance of the river system and existing flood defences together with the operation of a flood warning system and management of the risk of coastal erosion. The financial details are:

Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	2024/25	2025/26
Gross Expenditure	£67.518m	£99.241m
Levies Raised	£2.313m	£2.360m
<b>Total Council Tax Base</b>	<b>1.930m</b>	<b>1.959m</b>

The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). However, under the new Partnership Funding rule not all schemes will attract full central funding. To provide local funding for local priorities and contributions for partnership funding the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees recommend through the Environment Agency a local levy.

A change in the gross budgeted expenditure between years reflects the programme of works for both capital and revenue needed by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to which you contribute. The total Local Levy raised by this committee has increased by 2.0%

The total Local Levy raised has increased from £2,313,472 in 2024/2025 to £2,359,742 for 2025/2026.

## Single person discount

If you live alone, or are the only person over 18 at your address, you are entitled to a 25% Single Person Discount. If you have already been granted this discount, it will be shown on your bill.

If you are getting a discount but your circumstances change so it no longer applies, the law says you must contact us within 21 days. If you don't, you can be fined £70. If you still don't inform us after that, you can be fined another £280.

If someone moves out of an address temporarily, a single person discount does not always apply, even when only one person remains; we have to consider whether their main residence has changed.

We're committed to detecting discount fraud and regularly checks discounts claimed. We have recently undertaken a review with other Staffordshire local authorities of all single person discounts. We have access to a wide range of financial, electoral, housing and benefit information to help us prevent and detect single person discount fraud. Reducing fraudulent claims helps us to keep Council Tax increases lower.

### What should I do if I think someone is claiming a Council Tax discount fraudulently?

There are a number of ways you can tell us. You can do it anonymously, but if you do give your name we will keep it confidential. We have trained and experienced staff who can advise you if you are unsure about whether to tell us what you suspect.

#### You can:

- email us at [counciltax@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@tamworth.gov.uk)
- ring us on 01827 709709
- write to us at The Revenues Department, Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, B79 7BZ

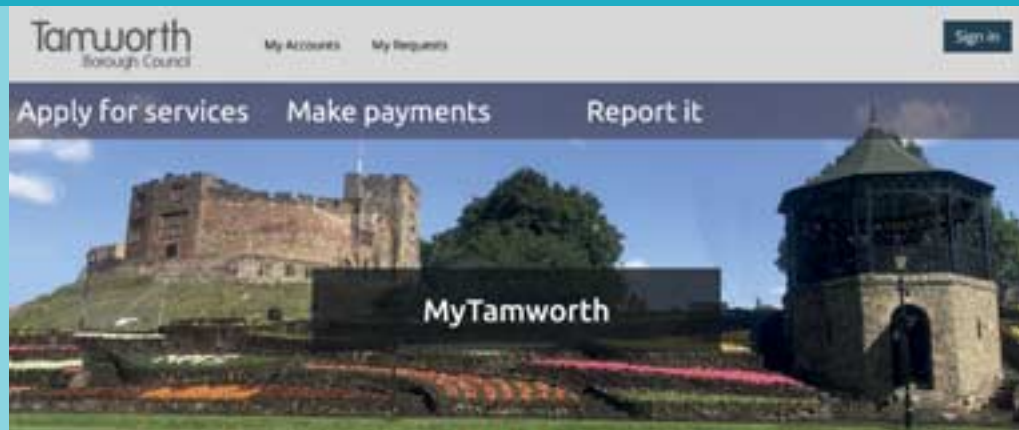
It is important that you give us as much information as possible as this helps us to gather enough evidence to cancel the discount. Due to the Data Protection Act (1998) and Human Rights Act (1998), we cannot tell you what we have done about a case you have reported, but we will investigate all reports and take suitable action.



**INTRODUCING our online service...**

# MyTamworth

Tamworth  
Borough Council



**This online service allows you to interact 24/7 with the council and be able to track your requests. You can also:**

- ✓ see the council payments you have made and easily make payments direct to your account
- ✓ let us know if you are moving home
- ✓ apply for services such as a single person discount
- ✓ report street issues such as litter or tree pruning and upload a photo

**Why not register today!** Click the Do It Online button at [www.tamworth.gov.uk](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk) and then the MyTamworth link. (Or go direct to <https://mytamworth.tamworth.gov.uk>) Press Sign In and you will be given the option to register. You will need an email address and if you wish to view your council tax account you will need your council tax number which is found on your most recent bill. More features will be added soon.

### **Need help registering?**

Contact our Customer Service Team during office hours, either

- go to [www.tamworth.gov.uk](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk) and use our online chat facility or
- call 01827 709709 and click option 5 or
- look out for one of our community workshops

<https://mytamworth.tamworth.gov.uk>



# Handy Contacts

## Tamworth Borough Council

Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, Staffs, B79 7BZ

Website .....[www.tamworth.gov.uk](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk) & webchat

Email .....[enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk)

Council Housing Repairs ..... Call 0800 1830044 & webchat or ***MyTamworth contact us form***

Customer Service Centre .....01827 709709

Telephone Payments .....0345 2307709

Refuse Collection and Bulky Items Collection .....0345 0020022

## Help Stop Fraud

Fraud Hotline .....0800 854 440

## Valuation Office Agency

Listing Officer, Valuation Office Agency .....03000 501501

Valuation Office Website .....[www.voa.gov.uk](http://www.voa.gov.uk)

## Fire

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Pirehill, Stone, ST15 0BS

[www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk)

Fire HQ .....0300 3301000

**In an Emergency Dial 999**

## Police

Police Headquarters, PO Box 3167, Stafford, ST16 9JZ

[www.staffordshire.police.uk](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk)

Police single number .....101

**In an Emergency Dial 999**

## Staffordshire County Council

**Responsible for Social Services, schools, libraries, roads, street lighting and highways.**

No 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP

[www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk)

Main reception .....0300 111 8000

Adult social care.....0300 111 8010

Children and families.....01827 475555

## Tamworth Advice Centre / Citizens Advice

Free advice and support on financial well-being, debt or general advice .....0808 2787972

**This information can be produced on request in other formats and languages. Call 01827 709709 or email [enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk)**