

# Council Tax booklet 2025/2026

This document incorporates Council Tax information for Slough Borough Council, Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, and Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Authority.

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## Useful contact details

### Council Tax

#### Contact us:

Save time do it online [www.slough.gov.uk/selfservice](http://www.slough.gov.uk/selfservice)

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

Council Tax E-form: [Council tax enquiry | Instructions – Slough Borough Council](#)

email: [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk). Please include your Council Tax reference number to the subject field starting with 7\*\*\*\*\*

Paying by phone: 0300 456 0480 (open 24/7) - option 1

See [www.slough.gov.uk/Council-tax](http://www.slough.gov.uk/Council-tax) for information about your Council Tax and discounts and exemptions.



Scan here for more information about council tax, how to make payment, ways to reduce the amount of Council Tax payable.

#### Benefits

Find out more about Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support here. [Benefits and support – Slough Borough Council](#)

#### Department for Work and Pensions Universal Credit

Tel: 0800 328 5644

Visit the DWP Universal Credit website. [Universal Credit: What Universal Credit is - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

#### Valuation Office Agency (VOA)

[Valuation Office Agency - GOV.UK \(voa.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

To view your property and check if you can request a review.

You can [contact the VOA here](#). Or send them an email: [cteast@voa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cteast@voa.gsi.gov.uk)

If you cannot use the online service, call **03000 501 501**. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm. Or write to:

Valuation Office Agency  
Durham Customer Service Centre Wycliffe House  
Green Lane Durham, DH1 3UW

#### Valuation Tribunal Service

If you have appealed to the council about your bill and disagree with our decision, you can appeal to this independent organisation.

Website: [www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk](http://www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk) Email: [appeals@valuationtribunal.gov.uk](mailto:appeals@valuationtribunal.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0303 445 8100

## Introduction

This booklet explains how we work out your Council Tax, and where the money goes. It also sets out easy ways to pay and details of how you could be eligible for a discount or exemption.

Many people are entitled to claim Council Tax Support (CTS), even if they are in full time work. For more information, please visit [How to apply for council tax support – Slough Borough Council](#).

This booklet is available on our website, where you can find a copy that can be easily downloaded and printed if you need a hard copy. Making it available online helps us save considerable printing and delivery costs, as well as protecting the environment.

## Fair Processing Notice

It is a statutory requirement the authority holds your personal information. You have the right to:

- request access to, rectification or erasure of your personal data from the council
- restrict or object to processing, and data portability.

All parties above using such information do so on the basis of public interest and the legitimate interest stated above, processing will only cease if compelling legitimate grounds cannot be proven to override your interest.

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) or relevant supervisory authority.

For further information [Privacy notices – Slough Borough Council](#).

## What is Council Tax?

Council Tax is the way people pay for local services such as:

- education
- bin collections
- libraries
- care for the elderly etc.

Based on property values set by the Inland Revenue's Valuation Office in 1991, the amount of tax you pay makes a contribution towards the cost of local services.

## Ways to pay your Council Tax

### Direct Debit

Direct Debit is the easiest and most convenient way to pay. Over 63% of residents pay their Council Tax by Direct Debit. To sign-up follow the simple process at [Pay council tax – Slough Borough Council](#)  
You have the option of 4 dates: 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

### Pay On-Line via your bank

You can pay your council tax by phone or online banking using the following bank details:

- Sort Code: 30-97-73
- Bank Account No: 00251708
- Bank address: Lloyds Bank, 123 High Street, Slough, SL1 1EH

Please make sure you quote your Council Tax reference number, so we know the payment is from you.

### Online Payments

You can pay your Council Tax through our [online payments system](#), if you have a debit or credit card. You can make regular or one-off payments 24 hours a day. Please have the following details ready:

- your Council Tax account reference number
- your debit or credit card details.

### Telephone

Please call our 24/7 payment line on **0300 456 0480** and follow the instructions at option 1.

Please make sure you have your Council Tax reference number so that we know the payment is from you.

### Post Office or Payzone

Visit a Payzone location to make a payment. You will need to show your bill with the barcode on.

[Find your nearest Payzone store](#)

Pay at your local Post Office [Find your nearest Post Office Branch](#) Please make sure you have your Council Tax reference number so that we know the payment is from you.

If you pay your Council Tax at Payzone or Post Office, you should allow at least **7 days before the due date** for the money to reach our account on time.

## **Pay your Council Tax over 12 instalments instead of 10**

You can ask to pay your Council Tax over 12 instalments. This means your monthly payments will be slightly lower. However, you would have instalments to pay all year round, April to March. For more information visit [Pay your council tax over 12 instalments instead of 10](#).

## **Sign up to Council Tax self-service**

It is now easy for you to manage your own Council Tax, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support online through the Council Tax self-service portal [What is Self Service and how to use it – Slough Borough Council](#) You can:

- view your Council Tax bill and set up e-Billing.
- set up a Direct Debit.
- check your account balance, payment history and next payment due
- make a payment.
- apply for a Council Tax Support/Housing Benefit
- view your benefit awards and calculations.
- tell us you are moving.

## **Paperless billing**

Under Council Tax self-service all residents can ask to receive Council Tax bill notifications by email rather than through the post.

## **Who has to pay?**

To work out who is responsible for paying Council Tax in your home, look down the list below until you come to the category that applies to you.

1. Resident owner of the property (who owns the freehold)
2. Resident person who owns the lease
3. Resident tenant (including council tenants)
4. Resident who has a license to live in the property
5. Someone who just lives there.
6. Non-resident owner of the property

If no adults live in the property as their main home, the owner or person entitled to possession is responsible for paying the Council Tax bill.

In some special cases (including houses in multiple occupation such as bedsits), it is the owner who is responsible for paying the Council Tax and not the residents.

A resident is a person aged 18 years or over who lives in the dwelling as their only or main home.

Joint owners or tenants are jointly liable for one Council Tax bill for the dwelling. Husbands and wives, civil partners and unmarried partners who live together are also jointly responsible for paying the bill.



## What if I do not pay my Council Tax?

Reminders and Final Notices will be issued.

If you believe the notice is incorrect, please email: [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk) Please include your Council Tax reference number to the subject field as this will speed up a response to your query.

You must confirm why you believe the notice is incorrect for example liability. This can prevent:

- statutory recovery documents being issued.
- help residents avoid paying expensive additional costs.

**It is your responsibility to maintain the instalments** due on your account in line with the Council Tax demand notice issued and failure to do so will result in recovery action being taken.

## Enforcement

If you fail to pay or pay late, you will lose your right to pay by instalments and must pay the outstanding balance in full immediately. You will receive a reminder / final notice and you could receive a court summons and must pay £83.95 costs and £61.00 for a liability order if your summonsed amount is not paid by the court hearing date.

Your case could then be referred to enforcement agents for collection and incur the following charges.

### Compliance stage fee: £75

This fee is due as soon as the case is received by the enforcement agent and covers all activity up to the first commencement of the enforcement stage.

### Enforcement stage fee: £235 plus 7.5% of the value of the original debt which exceeds £1,500

This stage comprises all activity from the first attendance at the premises in relation to the instruction.

### Sale stage fee: £110 plus 7.5% of the value of the original debt which exceeds £1,500

This stage commences with the first attendance at the property for the purpose of transporting goods to the place of sale.

Enforcement fees are nationally fixed and set by government.

You could also if the payment remains outstanding:

- be made bankrupt.
- A charge be placed on your home.
- be jailed for up to 90 days.

So, please let us know straight away if you are having difficulty paying your Council Tax. You can make an arrangement to pay please email: [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk) Please include “arrangement” and your Council Tax reference number to the subject field as this will speed up a response to your query.

## **Council Tax discounts**

You may be entitled to a discount on your Council Tax bill if you, or someone in your household, fall into one of these categories:

- students, apprentices, YTS trainees, student nurses and foreign language assistants
- a person aged between 18 and 25 who has left Slough Borough Council local authority care
- people under 20 who are on, or have just completed, a qualifying course of further education
- young people for whom child benefit is still payable.
- people caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner, or child under 18
- severely mentally impaired people
- live-in care workers on low pay, such as community service volunteers
- patients usually resident in hospital, residential care homes, nursing homes or hostels providing a high level of care
- residents of certain hostels or night shelters
- prisoners, convicted or on remand, except where imprisonment is for non-payment of fines or Council Tax.
- second adult rebate for pension age only

To apply for a discount please go to our website [Discounts – Slough Borough Council](#)

## **Reductions for people with disabilities**

If you or anyone who lives with you is disabled, you may be entitled to reduced Council Tax if:

- your home has an extra bathroom or kitchen that is essential or of major importance to the disabled person's wellbeing
- your home has a room (not a bathroom, kitchen, or lavatory) specifically used or adapted for the disabled person, which is essential or of major importance to the disabled person's wellbeing
- a wheelchair is used inside the home, and it is essential or of major importance to the disabled person's wellbeing

You can still apply even if your home is charged as a band A property.

If you care for someone with a disability who is not your spouse, partner, or a child under 18, you may be entitled to be 'disregarded' for Council Tax.

For more information and to apply please visit [Council tax reduction form - for person with a disability – Slough Borough Council](#)



## Empty homes premium

The Council will charge a premium on all properties that have been unoccupied and unfurnished for 1 year or more, unless the property meets the criteria for an exception, or it is exempt from council tax. The amount of premium charged depends on how long the property has been unoccupied and unfurnished.

- 100% - Empty for 1 year or more
- 200% - Empty for 5 Years or more
- 300% - Empty for 10 Years or more

## Second homes premium

From 1 April 2025, the council will charge a Second Home Premium on top of what you normally pay as soon as a property becomes unoccupied and furnished.

The conditions for the premium are:

- There is no resident in the dwelling, and
- The dwelling is substantially furnished.

## Exceptions to the Empty Home and Second Home Premium

The Government have created some mandatory exceptions, some apply to both the Long-Term Empty Premium and the Second Home Premium while others may only apply to one or the other.

The exceptions only apply from 1 April 2025, and cannot be backdated e.g., if a property has been charged a Long-Term Empty Premium before 1 April 2025, but then falls into a category for an exception, the premium will only be removed from 1 April 2025, and not before this date.

**Please tell us if you believe that your property fits one of the exception criteria below:**

Exception criteria	Status of property
Dwelling which is or would be someone's sole or main residence if they were not residing in job-related armed forces accommodation	Long-term empty homes and second homes
Annexes forming part of, or being treated as part of, the main dwelling	Long-term empty homes and second homes
Dwellings being actively marketed for sale (12 months limit)	Long-term empty homes and second homes
Dwellings being actively marketed for let (12 months limit)	Long-term empty homes and second homes
Unoccupied dwellings which fell within exempt Class F and where probate has recently been granted (12 months from grant of probate/letters of administration)	Long-term empty homes and second homes
Job-related dwellings	Second homes only
Occupied caravan pitches and boat moorings	Second homes only
Seasonal homes where year-round, permanent occupation is prohibited, specified for use as holiday accommodation or planning condition preventing occupancy for more than 28 days continuously	Second homes only
Empty dwellings requiring or undergoing major repairs or structural alterations (12 months limit)	Second homes only

## Discount for annexes

The government wishes to support extended families living together i.e., children saving for a new home or elderly parents. If parts of a home are constructed or adapted for separate occupation and separately banded for Council Tax as an annexe, a 50% discount can be awarded.

If you think this discount applies to you, please email: [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk). Please include "annexe" and your Council Tax reference number to the subject field as this will speed up a response to your query.

## Council tax exemptions

You do not have to pay Council Tax on a property if it falls into any of the following exemption categories. If your bill has an exemption code on it, you must tell us if you think the exemption is wrong. If you have not been granted an exemption but think you may be entitled to one, please apply on-line [Council tax exemption – Slough Borough Council](#)

**Class B** - Owned by charity and unoccupied. Exempt for up to six months.

**Class D** - Unoccupied because the owner or tenant is in prison.

**Class E** - Unoccupied because the owner or tenant now lives in a hospital or care home.

**Class F** - Unoccupied after a death. Exempt for up to six months after grant of probate.

**Class G** - Unoccupied because occupation is forbidden by law.

**Class H** - Unoccupied and is being held for occupation by a minister of religion.

**Class I** - Unoccupied as the person has moved to receive personal care elsewhere.

**Class J** - Unoccupied as persons have moved to provide personal care elsewhere.

**Class K** - Unoccupied properties owned and last used by a student

**Class L** - Unoccupied properties that have been repossessed by the mortgage lender.

**Class M** - Student Hall of residence.

**Class N** - Properties only occupied by students.

**Class O** - UK armed forces accommodation.

**Class P** - Occupied by a member of visiting force.

**Class Q** - Unoccupied property that is the responsibility of a bankrupt's trustee.

**Class R** - Unoccupied caravan pitch or boat mooring.

**Class S** - All occupiers under 18 years of age.

**Class T** - Unoccupied granny flat or annex which cannot be let out separately.

**Class U** - All occupiers are severely mentally impaired.

**Class V** - Main residence of a person with diplomatic privilege or immunity.

**Class W** - Granny flat or annexes that is occupied by a dependent relative.

## Moving home?

Please remember to tell us if you move home. You can do this through our online change of address form on the Self-service portal [Change of circumstances – Slough Borough Council](#)

**Let us know immediately about any changes in your circumstances, particularly if you are claiming Council Tax Support, Housing Benefit or any other discount or exemption.**

You must also tell us if you have been given a discount to which you are not entitled.

## How to request a review of your Council Tax bill

If you disagree with our decision about the bill or your responsibility to pay Council Tax, please email [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk) Please include your Council Tax reference number to the subject field as this will speed up a response to your query.

You can ask for a review of the decision if you think:

- we are sending bills to the wrong person for your home
- your home should be exempt from Council Tax
- the amount on the bill is wrong, for example if you think you are entitled to a discount or a reduction.
- we have not reduced the bill for a disability.

## Appeals to the Valuation Tribunal Service

If you asked for a review of your bill and do not receive a reply within two months, or you receive a reply within two months and you still disagree with our decision, you have a further two months in which to appeal to the Valuation Tribunal Service (VTS). [Contact details for VTS](#), can be found here.

You cannot appeal if your only reason for doing so is that you do not agree with our Council Tax Support Scheme.

## Disagree with the banding of your property?

Your property has been allocated to one of eight bands by the Inland Revenue's Valuation Office, on the basis of its open market value on 1 April 1991.

Each valuation band pays a different amount of Council Tax.

If you think the property has been placed in the wrong band, you may be able to appeal by:

- asking the [Valuation Office Agency - GOV.UK \(voa.gov.uk\)](http://voa.gov.uk) to check it
- making a formal challenge to the VOA – you can only do this in certain circumstances, for example, if your property has changed significantly since it was valued

## **Statement concerning Adult Social Care funding**

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has 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.

Slough Borough Council members agreed at Full Council on 6 March 2025 that the Adult Social Care precept for 2025/26 would increase by 2%.

This increase is combined with the main 2.99% increase, to give a total increase for Slough Borough Council for 2025/26 of 4.99%.

As part of the process of setting our budget the Executive Director of Corporate Services (s151) is required to confirm in writing to central government that we will use the 'Adult Social Care precept' and this will be spent on Adult Social Care functions.

The Regulations were laid before Parliament on 8 January 2025 and came into force on 6 February 2025. Local authorities are required to apply these changes in Council Tax demand notices issued to bill payers from the start of the 2025-26 financial year.

The Regulations will require billing authorities to adjust the presentation of the Council Tax charge by adult social care authorities on Council Tax demand notices. The notices will now show a single line for the total cash charge and annual increase, with one cash figure and one percentage figure.

## **Getting help with your Council Tax bill**

### **Council Tax Support Scheme**

Our Council Tax Support Scheme continues to support those struggling on lower incomes.

For further information please follow the link: [Council tax support – Slough Borough Council](#)

### **Disagree with our Council Tax Support decision?**

Please check the details of your award on the notification letter which detailed the amount of your entitlement. If you think we have made a mistake or disagree with the decision you can ask us to explain the decision by emailing [benefits@slough.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@slough.gov.uk), in the subject field please enter your benefit account number starting with 1\*\*\*\*\*.

If you think the decision is wrong, you have one month from the date of the letter to request a reconsideration. You must clearly state why you think the decision is wrong. Once your 'request for reconsideration' has been looked at by the benefits service they will contact you to advise you of the decision.

If we agree with our original decision, you have one month from the date of the letter to lodge an appeal. Your appeal must be in writing (not by telephone) clearly stating what you are appealing against and must be signed by you.

If we decide that our original decision was correct you have the right to appeal directly to the Valuation Tribunal Service (VTS) which is independent of the council. You can appeal against the:

- amount of Council Tax Support we have granted you.
- information we have used to calculate your Council Tax Support.

**You cannot appeal against any of the rules of our Council Tax Support scheme.**

If you disagree with a Council Tax Support decision it is important that before you can appeal to the VTS you must have first contacted us to look at our original decision. Once we have considered our decision and decided that it is correct then you can appeal to the VTS.

If you appeal directly to the VTS without first asking us to look at the original decision again, the appeal will not be accepted or considered. If we have decided our original decision is correct, you then have two months in which to appeal directly to the VTS.

If we do not respond to your request to look at the original decision again within two months, you can appeal directly to the VTS. In these circumstances the appeal must be made within four months of the original decision that you think is incorrect.

**Please note** you must continue to pay your Council Tax while awaiting the result of an appeal hearing.

## **Council Tax Support Hardship Policy**

The Council Tax Support Hardship Policy has been developed to support residents who are in receipt of Council Tax Support but are suffering hardship and need assistance for a specified period to pay their Council Tax. The scheme will only be used for the payment of Council Tax and all payments will be credited to the Council Tax account; no payments will be paid direct to the customer. Please complete the form and email it to [benefits@slough.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@slough.gov.uk) or return it to PO Box 1032 Slough SL1 3YT.

If you have problems accessing or completing this form, please email [benefits@slough.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@slough.gov.uk)

- [Council Tax hardship application form](#)

## **Help with your rent: Universal Credit or Housing Benefit**

### **What is Universal Credit (UC)?**

UC is a means-tested benefit for people of working-age who are on a low income. It replaces the following six existing means-tested benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit

The above six benefits are also known as legacy benefits.

### **Can I get Universal Credit (UC)?**

Whether you can claim UC depends on your personal circumstances. If you are receiving any of the legacy benefits listed above, you will lose these if you claim UC, and will not be able to go back on them.

To claim UC, you must:

- be 18 or over (in most cases)
- be under Pension Credit age.
- be in Great Britain
- not be in education (in most cases)
- have accepted a claimant commitment.

If you have a partner, you will make a joint claim as a couple. If one of you does not meet any of the above conditions, that person will be ignored for the purposes of calculating the UC maximum amount - although their savings/capital, income and earnings will still be considered.

### **What is the UC housing costs element?**

This money is to help you with your housing costs. It can help with rent and some service charges if you are a tenant.

If you are a homeowner, you cannot get the housing costs element to help with mortgage payments. However, you might be able to get it for ground rent and service charges. Homeowners might be able to get help with mortgage payments in the form of a [Support for Mortgage Interest loan](#).

The UC housing cost element cannot be paid if you:

- are a pensioner.
- live in supported or temporary accommodation.

If any of the above applies you will need to claim Housing Benefit if you need help with your rent costs.

If you are already claiming any of the benefits that UC replaces, you can carry on getting your benefits. If you have any change of circumstances that means your existing claims for these benefits ends, you will not be able to make new claims for any of the benefits UC replaces.

Citizens Advice (England and Wales) provide a new Help to Claim service to anyone who requires support to make a new UC claim. This includes anyone moving from another benefit to UC following a change of circumstances.

The service offers you tailored, practical support to help you make a UC claim up to receiving your first full correct payment on time. You can access the service:

- online through webchat
- on free telephone phone number
- face to face through local Citizens Advice services

[Find out more about the Help to Claim service here.](#)

**Please note UC does not cover Council Tax costs so applications for Council Tax Support should still be made through the council. Visit our website for more information.**

[How to apply for council tax support – Slough Borough Council](#)

### **Claim Housing Benefit today online**

You should claim Housing Benefit to help with your housing costs if:

- you have reached State Pension age.
- you live in temporary accommodation.
- you live in sheltered or supported housing with special facilities such as alarms or wardens.

[Claim housing benefit – Slough Borough Council](#)

### ***Disagree with our Housing Benefit decision?***

Please check the details of your award on the notification letter which detailed the amount of your entitlement. If you think we have made a mistake or disagree with the decision you can ask us to explain the decision by phoning, writing, or visiting us.

[Contact details for benefits](#)

If you think the decision is wrong, you have one month from the date of the letter to request a reconsideration. You must clearly state why you think the decision is wrong. Once your 'request for reconsideration' has been looked at by the benefits service they will contact you to advise you of the decision.

If we agree with our original decision, you have one month from the date of the letter to lodge an appeal. Your appeal must be in writing (not by telephone) clearly stating what you are appealing against and must be signed by you.



Please note: this information is for general guidance only. Please contact us to talk about your individual circumstances and we will be able to give you more information.

### **Help us fight benefit fraud**

To report fraud against the council such as council tax support or discount, housing, blue badge, social care payments and business rates.

- Complete our simple online [report fraud form](#).
- Call the fraud hotline on 01753 787876 (24 hours).

You have the right to remain anonymous and all the information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### **Benefit fraud**

Benefit fraud is now the responsibility of the Department of Work and Pensions. Slough Borough Council no longer investigates this.

If someone claims Housing Benefit and/or Social Security benefits where they have no right to entitlement, they are committing benefit fraud. Typical examples of benefit fraud are people who:

- work, but do not declare this when they submit their claim
- claim as a single person, but live with a partner
- claim from an address, but do not live there
- do not tell the Council the full amount of income, savings, or capital they have when they claim benefit
- for any reason do not have any right to claim Housing Benefit.

### ***How to report benefit fraud***

**Telephone:** call the National Benefit Fraud Hotline on 0800 854 440. Your call is free and confidential you do not have to give your name or address. Lines are open Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm. If you have speech or hearing problems, you can use a text phone service on 0800 328 0512 or Welsh speakers can call on 0800 678 3722.

**Online:** [GOV.UK site to report benefit fraud](#).

## Council Tax Budget 2025/2026

### Expenditure and Council Tax

Uncertainty in local government funding in recent years has made it challenging for councils to budget beyond a one-year horizon robustly. Government have announced as part of the Spending Review that it has committed to multi-year settlements which if implemented will provide the council with greater clarity of funding over future years. In the meantime, the Council continues to focus on setting annual budgets to address the challenging circumstances in which we operate.

The total expenditure for Council services (money spent on running the council and overheads) in 2025/26 is £175.727m, an increase of £15.526m. This does not include spend on capital infrastructure projects which is budgeted separately. To fund this expenditure income is generated from Council Tax is £87.390m, 49.7% of the total spend, and Business Rates £44.393m, 25.3% of the total spend. In addition, £28.235m is from specific grants, and £15.709m from the Capitalisation Direction.

The increase in Council Tax for 2025/26 is 4.99% in total, of which 2% is for the Adult Social Care precept. For a Band D this means an increase of £91.40 on 2024/25 to £1,923.09 in 2025/26 for council services.

The extra funding helps the Council protect services for vulnerable residents including social care, for children and adults, and supporting homeless families. The 2025/26 Budget also allows us to invest in universal services such as Food Waste collection which will roll out across the borough through 2025/26. The Council is also doubling its support for assistance to households who experience extreme financial difficulty

The Council continues to focus on improving its financial resilience on its journey to becoming a Best Value authority and the importance of the transformation programme in achieving these aims.

### Valuation Bands

The Council Tax for each valuation band is calculated as a proportion of Band D. The table below shows the Council Tax for each band.

#### Total 2025/26 Council Tax excluding local Parishes:

Band	Valuation Bands	Total 2025/26 Council Tax	Total 2024/25 Council Tax
A	£40k or less	£1,528.45	£1,454.86
B	£40,001 to £52,000	£1,783.20	£1,697.33
C	£52,001 to £68,000	£2,037.93	£1,939.81
D	£68,001 to £88,000	£2,292.68	£2,182.28
E	£88,001 to £120,000	£2,802.16	£2,667.23
F	£120,001 to £160,000	£3,311.65	£3,152.18

G	£160,001 to £320,000	£3,821.13	£3,637.14
H	Over £320k	£4,585.36	£4,364.56

**Total 2025/26 Council Tax for Colnbrook with Poyle:**

<b>Band</b>	<b>Parish Precept</b>	<b>Total 2025/26 Council Tax</b>	<b>Total 2024/25 Council Tax</b>
A	£33.09	£1,561.54	£1,488.27
B	£38.60	£1,821.80	£1,736.31
C	£44.12	£2,082.05	£1,984.36
D	£49.63	£2,342.31	£2,232.40
E	£60.66	£2,862.82	£2,728.49
F	£71.69	£3,383.34	£3,224.58
G	£82.72	£3,903.85	£3,720.67
H	£99.26	£4,684.62	£4,464.80

**Total 2025/26 Council Tax for Britwell:**

<b>Band</b>	<b>Parish Precept</b>	<b>Total 2025/26 Council Tax</b>	<b>Total 2024/25 Council Tax</b>
A	£45.11	£1,573.56	£1,498.87
B	£52.63	£1,835.83	£1,748.68
C	£60.15	£2,098.08	£1,998.49
D	£67.67	£2,360.35	£2,248.30
E	£82.71	£2,884.87	£2,747.92
F	£97.75	£3,409.40	£3,247.54
G	£112.78	£3,933.91	£3,747.17
H	£135.34	£4,720.70	£4,496.60

**Total 2025/26 Council Tax for Wexham:**

<b>Band</b>	<b>Parish Precept</b>	<b>Total 2025/26 Council Tax</b>	<b>Total 2024/25 Council Tax</b>
A	£51.33	£1,579.78	£1,474.86
B	£59.89	£1,843.09	£1,720.66
C	£68.44	£2,106.37	£1,966.48
D	£77.00	£2,369.68	£2,212.28
E	£94.11	£2,896.27	£2,703.90
F	£111.22	£3,422.87	£3,195.51
G	£128.33	£3,949.46	£3,687.14
H	£154.00	£4,739.36	£4,424.56

## How the total is made up

The table below shows how the 2025/2026 Council Tax, excluding payments for Parish precepts, is made up.

<b>Band</b>	<b>Slough</b>	<b>Police &amp; Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley</b>	<b>Royal Berks Fire &amp; Rescue Authority</b>	<b>Total Council Tax</b>
A	£1,282.06	£188.85	£57.54	£1,528.45
B	£1,495.74	£220.33	£67.13	£1,783.20
C	£1,709.41	£251.80	£76.72	£2,037.93
D	£1,923.09	£283.28	£86.31	£2,292.68
E	£2,350.44	£346.23	£105.49	£2,802.16
F	£2,777.80	£409.18	£124.67	£3,311.65
G	£3,205.15	£472.13	£143.85	£3,821.13
H	£3,846.18	£566.56	£172.62	£4,585.36

More details of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley precept for Slough 2025/26 can be found on the Thames Valley PCC website.

<https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/our-information/finances/council-tax/>

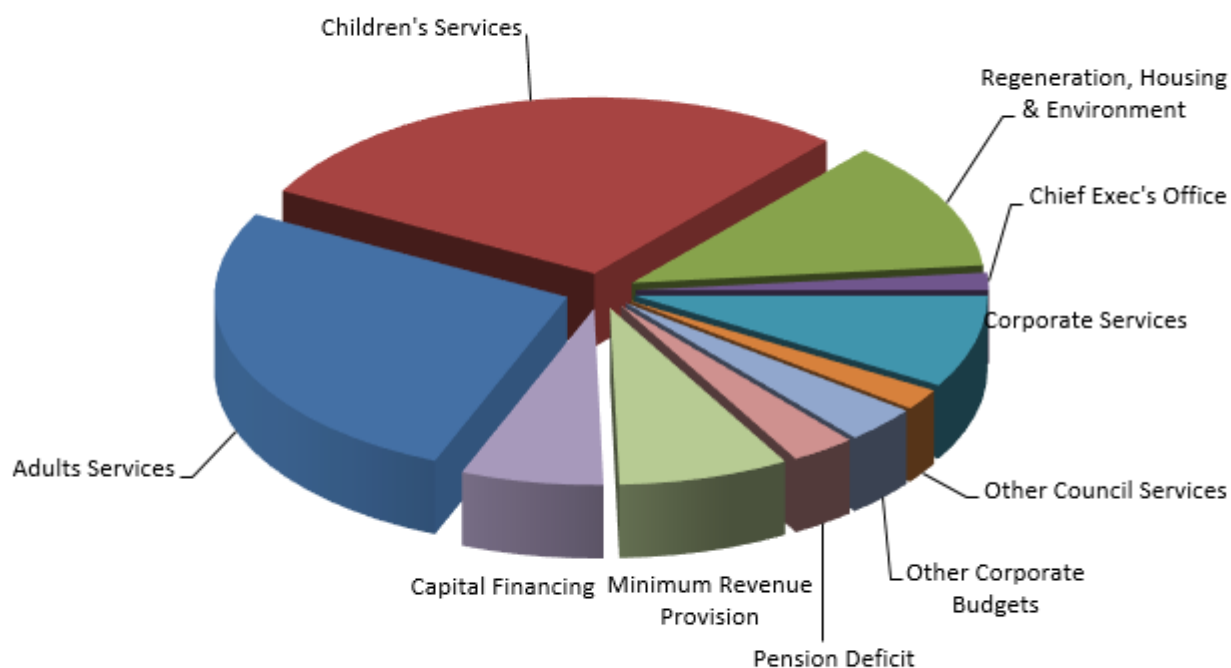
More details of the Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Authority precept for Slough for 2025/26 can be found on the Fire Authority website.

<https://www.rbfrs.co.uk/your-service/transparency-and-governance/financial-transparency/>

## Environmental Agency

The Environmental Agency charges local authorities, including Slough Borough Council, a levy for providing flood defenses. In the Thames region, this includes maintenance, of the river system and operation of a flood warning system. In 2025/2026 the levy is £107,467.28.

## How the money is spent – 2025/2026



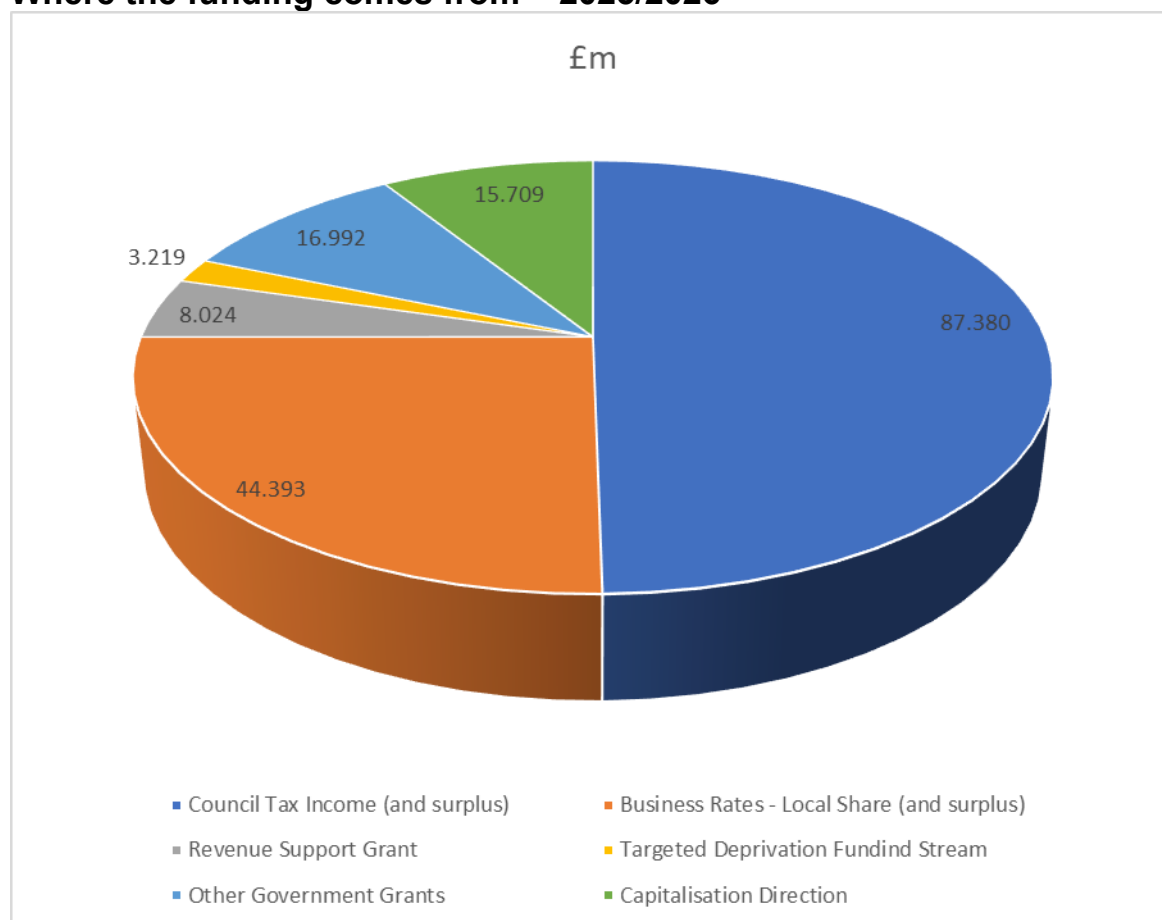
The graph shows how every £1 budgeted is spent:

- 27p pays for Adult Social Care services
- 29p pays for Children's Services
- 12p pays for Regeneration, Housing and Environment services
- 2p pays for Chief Exec's Office
- 8p pays for Corporate Services
- 2p pays for other Council services
- 3p pays for Other Corporate Budgets
- 3p pays for the Pension Deficit
- 8p pays for Minimum Revenue Provision
- 6p pays for Capital Financing

For further information please see our website: [Council budget and spending – Slough Borough Council](#)



## Where the funding comes from – 2025/2026



Breakdown of the pie chart showing where the funding comes from 2025-26:

- £87.380m from Council tax income (and surplus)
- £44.393m from Business Rates - local share (and surplus)
- £16.992m from Other Government Grants
- £15.709m from Capitalisation Direction
- £8.024m from Revenue Support grant
- £3.219m from Targeted Deprivation Funding Stream

## Supporting you through tough times

We cannot stop the tough times, but as a council we are committed to providing you with local quality services delivering value for money.

Do not bury your head in the sand if you are in financial difficulty. Contact us as early as possible. We can advise you of any discounts or benefits to which you may be entitled. In special circumstances, we may be able to offer you a revised payment plan.

You can also get specialist money advice from outside organisations:

- [Citizens Advice Bureau](#) provides a range of advice services including how to cope with your debt problems.  
Telephone: 03444 111 444, or Slough freephone number: 08081697766 Slough local number: 01753 981040
- [StepChange Debt Charity](#)
- [National](#)

### Debtline

0808 808

4000

- [Money Advice Service](#) offers free, impartial advice and tools which can help you get your money into shape.

Telephone: 0161 640 6400 or email [assessment-team@moneyadvice.co.uk](mailto:assessment-team@moneyadvice.co.uk).

### **Other useful advice services**

- [Court claims, debt and bankruptcy detail on the GOV.UK site.](#)



Email: [counciltax@slough.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@slough.gov.uk) - please include your Council tax account number to the subject field as this will speed up a response to your query.



Scan here for more information about council tax, how to make payment, ways to reduce the amount of Council Tax payable.