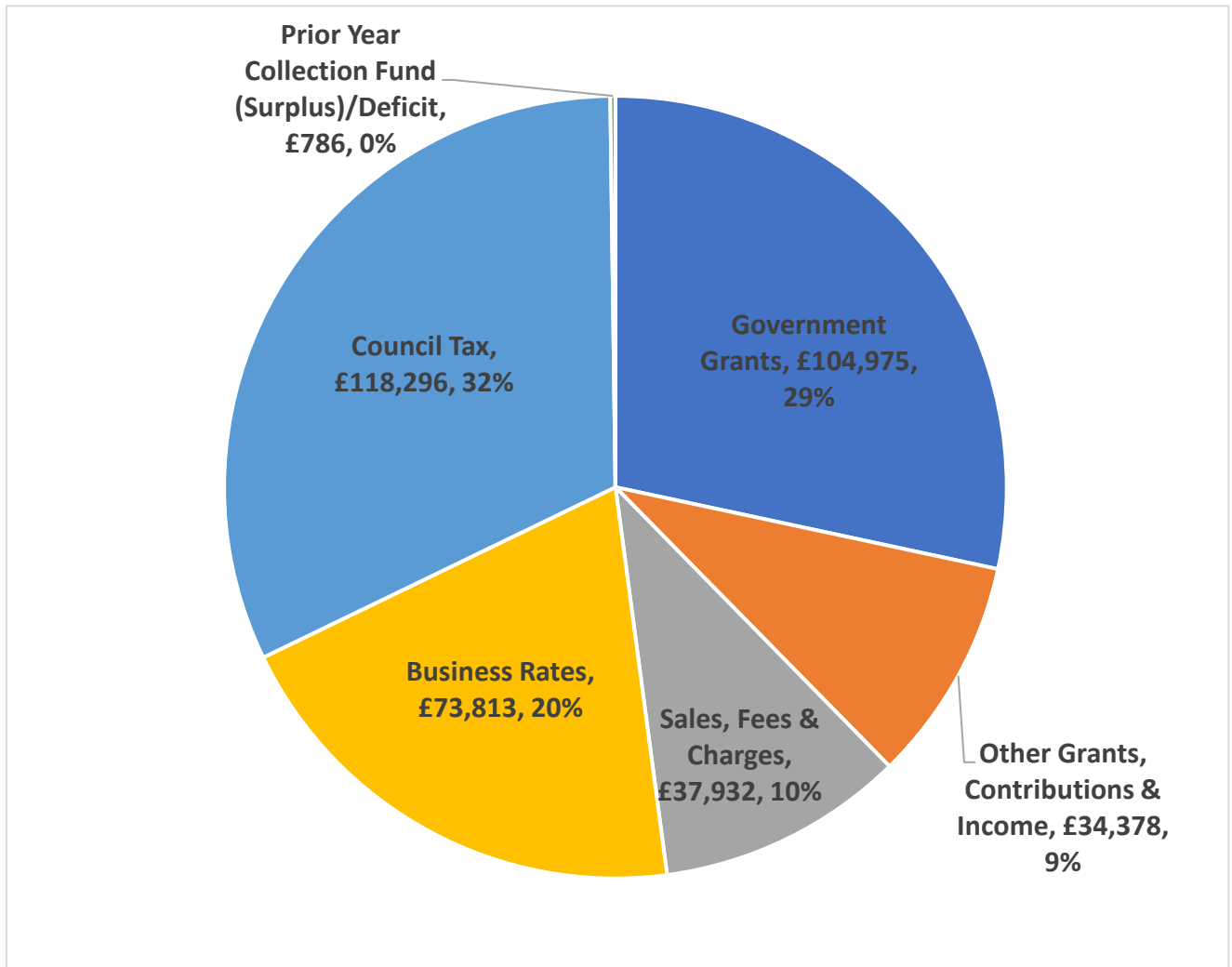


Council Budgets & your Council Tax 2025-26

Bury Council's income for 2025-26

Our income for 2025-26 is **£370.180 million** and our revenue funding comes from:



We also receive a Dedicated Schools Grant of **£133.551million** which funds our Schools Planned Expenditure.

How the budget compares with last year

Bury's net budget requirement has increased by £13.776m from £224.480m to £238.256m.

Prior Year Budget Assumptions	£m
Pay Award	(£1.900)
Total Prior Year Budget Assumptions	(£1.900)
Budget Assumptions	£m
Pay Award	£2.960
Pay Base Movements	£3.314
Employee Vacancy/Scale Factor	(£1.500)
Agency Staff	£0.000
Contractual Inflation	£7.362
Real Living Wage	£3.351
General Inflation	£0.174
Demand/Volume/Activity Base Movements	£10.448
Grants, Contributions & Income Recovery	(£0.715)
Sales, Fees & Charges Levels	(£0.035)
Recharges HRA, School, Capital & Internal	(£0.218)
Service Reserve Movements	£0.000
Housing Benefit	£0.000
Precepts & Levies	(£1.969)
Treasury & Capital	(£1.086)
Provisions & Contingency	£1.024
Other	£2.000
Approved Savings Proposals	(£11.134)
Approved Policy Proposals	£1.700
Total In Year Approved Budget Proposals	£15.676
Total Net Budget Increase	£13.776

Bury Council's spending for 2025-26

Your council tax helps to fund local services, with an element going towards funding the police and fire services along with other mayoral responsibilities. The Mayor of Greater Manchester is responsible for setting these charges.

This is explained in detail at:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/who-we-are/accounts-transparency-and-governance/council-tax/>

How we spend your money

Expenditure	2024-25 Net Budget (£m)	2025-26 Net Budget (£m)
Adult Care Services	£76.533	£82.379
Children's Services	£57.523	£65.350
Waste collection/disposal/recycling	£19.528	£18.795
Transport Charge	£12.397	£12.549
Culture & Leisure (inc. Parks)	£3.207	£3.328
Public Health	£10.558	£10.821
Highways	£5.426	£5.506
Borrowing to support Capital Works	£5.422	£6.336
Other Services (inc. technical adjustments)	£33.886	£33.193
	£224.480	£238.256
Funding	(£m)	(£m)
Business Rates Retained inc. Top Up	(£71.282)	(£73.813)
Government Funding Grants	(£29.851)	(£39.503)
Planned Use of Reserves	(£13.149)	(£5.858)
Prior Year Collection Fund Surplus		(£0.786)
Council Tax Requirement	£110.198	£118.296

How we work out your bill

The amount you have to pay depends on which of the eight Council Tax bands your home is in. A Government body called the Valuation Office Agency decides which band your property is in.

Your bill tells you which band you are in.

You may have to pay the full amount, or you may be able to get money off (for example if you live on your own, people in your household qualify for a discount or exemption, or you are on a low income and qualify for Council Tax Support)

Council Tax bands for 2025-26

Band	2025-26*	Value on 1 April 1991
A	£1,609.72	Up to £40,000
B	£1,877.99	£40,001 - £52,000
C	£2,146.28	£52,001 - £68,000
D	£2,414.58	£68,001 - £88,000
E	£2,951.15	£88,001 - £120,000
F	£3,487.72	£120,001 - £160,000
G	£4,024.30	£160,001 - £320,000
H	£4,829.16	£320,001 and over

* This includes the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)

Example of the breakdown for Council Tax band D

	% change	2025-26
Council	4.99	£2,015.33
Mayoral Police & Crime Commissioner Precept	5.46	£270.30
Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)	14.17	£157.61
Total		£2,414.58

Changes to Council Tax charged for empty properties from 1 April 2025

In most cases, you must still pay the full Council Tax charge if your property is empty. There are some discounts if the property is empty for a specific reason.

In some cases, a higher rate of Council Tax is charged for an empty property. These are called Council Tax Premiums. From 1 April 2025 new Council Tax Premiums will be charged for:

- all empty and furnished properties
- empty and unfurnished properties, which have been empty for more than one year

Council Tax discounts

The full Council Tax bill assumes that two or more adults are living in a property. If only one adult lives there we will reduce your bill by 25%.

We will not count the following people when we count the number of adults living in a property:

- full-time students and some student nurses
- apprentices and youth trainees
- patients who live in hospital
- people who are being looked after in care homes
- people who are severely mentally impaired
- people staying in hostels for the homeless or night shelters
- 18 and 19 year-olds who are in full time education
- care workers on low pay
- people caring for someone with a disability who is not their partner, or a child under 18
- member of visiting forces
- members of religious communities (including monks and nuns)
- people in prison

Council Tax exemptions

Occupied properties are exempt if they are:

- annexes occupied by an elderly or disabled relative
- armed forces accommodation such as barracks
- halls of residence
- visiting forces accommodation

Some properties are exempt because all the people living there are:

- students or school leavers
- people aged under 18
- severely mentally impaired
- diplomats

Care leaver discount

If you have been in care, then you may be entitled to a 100% discount on your Council Tax until you are 25.

Special Constables discount

If you are a Special Constable living in the borough you may be entitled to a 50% discount on your Council Tax

Foster Carer discount

Foster carers living in the borough who are registered with Bury Council may be entitled to a 50% discount on your Council Tax.

Reductions for disabled people

You may also be eligible for a reduced bill if you, or someone who lives with you, is disabled and needs any of the following:

- a room of their own
- an extra bathroom or kitchen
- extra space in your property

If your bill shows that you have a discount or an exemption, you need to tell us if something changes which affects this. If you do not tell us within 21 days, you may have to pay a penalty of £70.

For more information about Council Tax, please visit
www.bury.gov.uk/council-tax

Council Tax Support

We have a scheme to help towards your Council Tax if you have a low income. You can claim whether you own your home or rent, or whether you're working or unemployed.

Find out more about Council Tax Support at
www.bury.gov.uk/counciltaxsupport

Appeals

If you disagree with the band your property has been placed in you have six months to appeal from when:

- you become a new taxpayer at the property
- the Listing Officer or the court changes the band of your property

If more than 6 months have passed you can only appeal against your banding if:

- your property is demolished
- your house is changed into flats
- there are changes to your local area which would affect the value of your property

Appeals should be made to the Valuation Office Agency, who can be contacted at www.gov.uk/contact-voa or phone 03000 501 501

You can also appeal if you think that you should not be responsible for paying Council Tax. This could be because do not live at the address, you believe your property should be exempt, or you think we have made a mistake on your bill.

The logo for Bury Council, featuring the word "Bury" in a large, white, sans-serif font, with the word "Council" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font directly beneath it. The logo is centered on a bright yellow background. There are grey decorative shapes in the top-left and bottom-right corners of the page.

Bury
Council