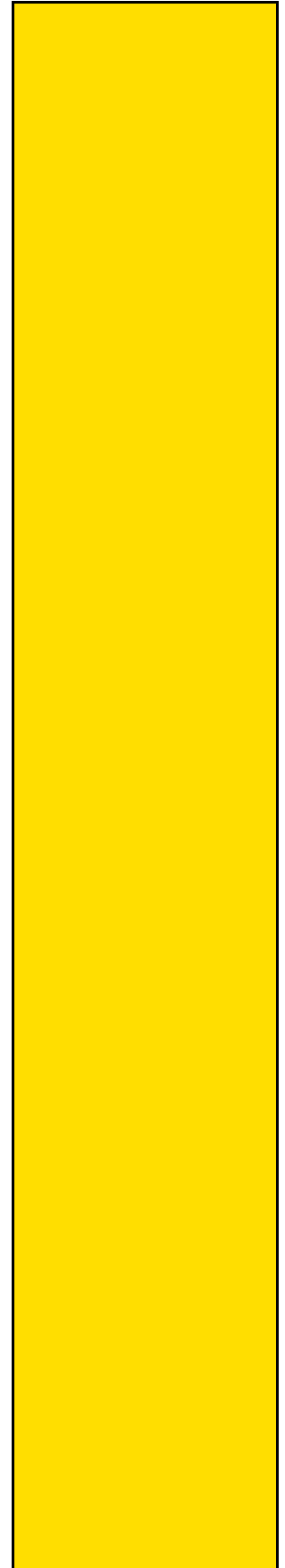


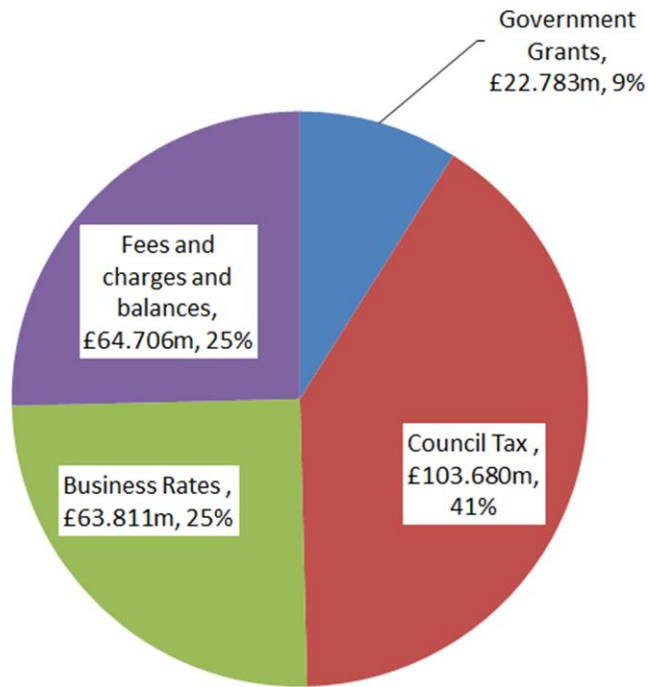


Council Budgets & Your Council Tax 2023-24



Bury Council's income for 2023-24

Our income for 2023-24 is **£254.980 million** and our revenue funding comes from:



We also receive a Dedicated Schools Grant of **£210.431 million** which funds our Schools Planned Expenditure

How the budget compares with last year

Bury's net budget requirement has increased by £12.791m from £177.483m to £190.274m and this is funded by increased resources and planned use of reserves of £4.802m.

	£m
Previously agreed changes	12.860
Pay Award	6.317
Inflation	7.049
Demand	5.516
Reprofiled Savings	1.000
Budget realignment	0.288
Reversal of Income losses	0.300
Refund of Waste Levy	(1.129)
Planned Use of Reserves	(4.802)
Savings	(14.608)
Total net increase	12.791

Bury Council's spending for 2023-24

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	2022-23 Net Budget (£m)	2023-24 Net Budget (£m)
Adult Care Services	68.604	72.946
Children's Services	41.306	51.122
Waste collection/disposal/recycling	19.801	19.430
Transport charge	13.650	13.435
Culture & Leisure (inc. Parks)	2.943	3.034
Public Health	10.957	10.856
Highways	4.852	5.073
Borrowing to support Capital works	10.299	6.238
Other Services (inc. technical adjustments)	13.230	12.943
Planned Use of Reserves	(8.159)	(4.802)
	177.483	190.274

Income		
Business Rates Retained inc. Top Up	(61.209)	(63.811)
Other Grants	(19.432)	(22.783)
Council Tax requirement	96.842	103.680

How we work out your bill

<p>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.</p> <p>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)</p>	Band	2023-24*	Value at 1 April 1991
	A	£1,453.03	Up to £40,000
	B	£1,695.21	£40,001 - £52,000
	C	£1,937.37	£52,001 - £68,000
	D	£2,179.56	£68,001 - £88,000
	E	£2,663.89	£88,001 - £120,000
	F	£3,148.24	£120,001 - £160,000
	G	£3,632.59	£160,001 - £320,000
	H	£4,359.11	£320,001 and over
<p>* This includes the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)</p>			

Example of the breakdown for Council Tax band D

	% change	2023-24
Council	2.99	£1,587.78
Adult Social Care	2.00	£240.53
Mayoral Police & Crime Commissioner Precept	6.57	£243.30
Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)	4.86	£107.95
Total		£2,179.56

Statement concerning adult social care funding

The Secretary of State 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.)

The offer was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its Council Tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

In 2023/24 councils that provide adult social care services have been given the option of adding a precept of 2%, specifically to help fund adult care services. As we have an aging population it is important that we continue to meet the cost. This means that our council tax increase of 4.99% is made up of a 2.99% increase to fund services in general and a 2% increase to specifically fund adult social care.

The Adult Social Care Precept is calculated in the same way as an increase on general council tax i.e. the percentage increase multiplied by the total Council Tax amount for the previous year.

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 (except for those in prison for not paying their Council Tax or a fine)

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

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

For more information about discounts and exemptions, please visit www.bury.gov.uk/helpwithcounciltax

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.

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.

You must pay your Council Tax while your appeal is being looked at. If your appeal is successful, we will pay back any overpayments.

If you want to appeal because you think you should not be responsible for paying the Council Tax please either email counciltax@bury.gov.uk, or write to Council Tax, Bury Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW.