Your Council Tax for 2015/16

This leaflet explains the Oxfordshire County Council budget for this year and how your council tax is spent.

Oxfordshire County Council provides 80% of the local government services in the county. This includes: children's services, some education services, fire and rescue, libraries and museums, roads, social care, trading standards, waste disposal and recycling.

In 2014/15 we:
- Fixed 45,500 highways defects
- Assessed the care needs of 5,543 vulnerable adults
- Allocated 13,500 school places
- Safely disposed of 307,500 tonnes of waste
- Received 11,157 emergency calls to our fire and rescue service resulting in 5,505 incidents attended
...and much more

We need to spend £574.6m on services in 2015/16 (excluding schools)

Schools are funded by a specific government grant of £256.8 million

Oxfordshire County Council has set an overall budget of £831.4m for 2015/16 with a total Council Tax requirement of £288.3m

This will mean a 1.99% increase in your council tax bill for the coming year

How Oxfordshire County Council is funded (excluding the grant for schools)

Council Tax 52%
Central Government Grants 25%
Business Rates 12%
Income from Fees and Charges 11%

What we spend on services (excluding schools)

Adult and Children's Social Care 17%
Education and Early Intervention 11%
Public Health 6%
Capital Borrowing Costs 6%
Highways and Transport 11%
Waste Management 5%
Libraries and Cultural Services 5%
Fire and Rescue and Community Safety 5%
A Thriving Oxfordshire

We work for a Thriving Oxfordshire where local residents, communities and business can flourish. This includes delivering major transport improvements, attracting government funding through the Oxfordshire City Deal and Local Growth Deal, bringing better broadband and improving skills and learning. We also provide a safety net for the county’s most vulnerable residents to ensure they are safe and can easily access the services they need.

Although we have ambitious plans for Oxfordshire we still need to make considerable savings. We have already made £204 million in savings since 2010, including reducing our workforce, improving how we buy goods and services, sharing services with other councils, using volunteers if appropriate, and making services easier to use online.

We are continuing to work hard to hold down costs and find new ways of working as the money we get from the Government is reduced whilst demand for our services increases. To balance our budget we still have a further £85 million worth of annual savings to make.

Council tax bill

Your council tax bill is made up of payments to Oxfordshire County Council, your district council, Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner and your local town or parish council if applicable.

Council Tax Increase for 2015/16

1.99% Due to rounding, this appears as 2% on your bill

Council Tax Band 2015/16 Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>2015/16</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>£821.64</td>
<td>£16.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>£958.58</td>
<td>£18.71</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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<td>E</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>£2,054.10</td>
<td>£40.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>£2,464.92</td>
<td>£48.10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Number of Band D Equivalent Properties 233,884

Average Council Tax (based on Band D properties) is £1,232.46

Oxfordshire County Council pays a Flood Defence Levy of £0.5 million to three Regional Flood Committees of the Environment Agency.

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its flood defence function under the Water Resources Act 1991. Flood defence 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. The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Government, but where there are schemes which do not attract central funding the Agency raises income in the form of a local levy. The local levy is shared on the basis of the equivalent number of Band D dwellings between all contributing bodies within the committee area.