

Council Tax 2018/2019

There is a Council Tax increase for Kirklees Council this year of 5.99%, made up of 2.99% for services in general, and a specific 3% extra allowed by government which will fund adult social care. The West Yorkshire Fire Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the parish councils approve their own annual precept amounts, which are included in the overall household bill.



Thousands of people in Kirklees are now using the My Kirklees Account to save time online and have 24/7 access to Council Tax, benefits, KNH and many other Kirklees council services. With just one password you can access your Council Tax account, KNH rent account, housing benefit account, check your bin collection dates, report a missed bin collection and more, and we'll continue to add services to make it easier than ever to do business with us – all in one place.

Find out more and register today at my.kirklees.gov.uk

Our performance and achievements for 2017/18

- Regeneration of Dewsbury Town Centre is gathering pace with the conversion of Pioneer House as part of the Kirklees College expansion taking centre stage – due to be open for students in September 2019.
- In addition, works to provide a better pedestrian environment along the Halifax Road frontage to the new College campus are due for completion by 2019. Construction for the Dewsbury Station Gateway, an urban realm scheme to improve the streetscape in and around the rail station frontage, is also scheduled for completion in 2019.
- As a result of the £13m Superfast West Yorkshire funding, Kirklees now has superfast-enabled connections for 21,500 homes and businesses across the District.
- The Council has been successful in securing £5.4m of external funding, year to date, for regeneration projects across the District.
- The Council has worked with Community Plus Teams and Denby Dale Centre to develop Kirklees Community Transport Vision, resulting in a bid to the Big Lottery Place Based Social Action fund. The vision aims to reduce loneliness and isolation through the 'Shopper Bus partnership', 'Community Minibus Partnership' and 'Volunteer Car Service'.
- Nearly 1,900 families in Kirklees are benefitting from '30 hours free childcare'.
- The Council supports 36 volunteer led walking groups throughout Kirklees, offering 45 walks per week, with 90% of participants reporting a positive impact on health and wellbeing.
- 70% of participants on the GP physical activity referral scheme (PALS) report that they are more active, 74% feel better about themselves and 74% are going out more or feel more sociable.
- The Council has successfully intervened to prevent homelessness for individuals and families in need on over 2,000 occasions in 2017. This is just over a 1% increase on the target and a 6% increase on the previous year.
- Effectiveness of short term support services in adult social care, where people are helped with reablement after illness or injury, is rated at 88.3%, one of highest in region, despite the complexity of cases and the volume of clients.
- Over 100 unemployed people have been successful in finding employment, year to date, as a result of attending council employment schemes.

Here are some ways we may be able to help you to reduce your bill

These are just a few of the reasons, for a full list of discounts and exemptions visit our website:

www.kirklees.gov.uk/counciltax

Single person discount

You can claim 25% off your bill if you are the only person in your household over 18.

Disabled band reduction

If a disabled person lives in your property you may qualify for a reduction. Visit our website to find out more details.

Other discounts

If you or someone living with you fits into one of the groups below, and there are no other adults living in the property, we may be able to give you a discount:

- full time students, student nurses, apprentices and youth trainees
- you receive child benefit for this person, who is over 18 years of age
- 18 and 19 year olds who are at or have just left school/college
- people who are severely mentally impaired
- people being looked after in care homes or permanently in hospital
- people caring for someone with a disability
- people serving a prison sentence

In certain circumstances you may be exempt from paying Council Tax

This could mean you have no Council Tax to pay. Here are some of the reasons you may get an exemption:

- property left unoccupied because someone has died
- property left unoccupied by someone who is permanently in hospital or a care home
- the property has been repossessed
- the property is occupied by full-time students

Council Tax Reduction

If you're on a low income you may be entitled to some help through the Council Tax Reduction scheme. To qualify you must be:

- responsible for paying Council Tax,
- on a low income, and
- have less than £8,000 in savings unless you are over 60 and receiving the Guaranteed Credit of Pension Credit

Find out if you are entitled and make a claim online at: www.kirklees.gov.uk/newclaim

Make benefits and work pay with BetterOff Kirklees

For more information about benefits, to appeal against a benefit decision, see handy tips to help you back into work and search for jobs, visit: www.betteroffkirklees.org.uk

Have you told us about your changes?

It is your responsibility to tell us straight away about any changes which affect:

- any Council Tax discount or exemption you may be receiving.
- your Council Tax Reduction, including changes in income or capital for you or others in your household, moving home or someone moving into or out of your household.

You can report your Council Tax Reduction changes online at:

www.kirklees.gov.uk/changeircumstance

If you do not tell us about the above changes within 21 days, depending on the circumstances, you may be fined £70 and in some cases could face prosecution.

Moved house? Tell us online!

- For any Council Tax changes visit www.kirklees.gov.uk/counciltax
- Remember to register to vote at your new address at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or it may affect your credit rating

Council Tax Appeals

You can find out more on how to challenge our decisions and those of the Valuation Office Agency at www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals. If you need to talk to us about an appeal call 01484 414900.

How much Council Tax you pay in 2018/19

The total Council Tax for each property in Kirklees, including fire, police and parish precepts, is as follows:

Valuation Band	Denby Dale £	Holme Valley £	Kirkburton £	Meltham £	Mirfield £	All other parts £
A	1152.75	1142.41	1135.87	1152.98	1138.03	1127.62
B	1344.88	1332.81	1325.18	1345.15	1327.70	1315.56
C	1537.01	1523.22	1514.50	1537.31	1517.38	1503.50
D	1729.14	1713.62	1703.81	1729.48	1707.05	1691.44
E	2113.40	2094.43	2082.44	2113.81	2086.40	2067.32
F	2497.66	2475.23	2461.07	2498.15	2465.75	2443.20
G	2881.89	2856.03	2839.68	2882.46	2845.08	2819.06
H	3458.28	3427.24	3407.62	3458.96	3414.10	3382.88

How your Council Tax is calculated

The calculation is:

Basic Council Tax Charge +

Parish precept (if there is one in your area) +

3% Adult Social Care Precept +

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and West Yorkshire Police Authority charges

= Your Council Tax Charge

1. Basic Council Tax charge for 2018/19

Valuation Band	Holme Valley £	All other areas of Kirklees £
A	906.08	906.29
B	1057.09	1057.34
C	1208.11	1208.39
D	1359.12	1359.44
E	1661.15	1661.54
F	1963.17	1963.64
G	2265.20	2265.73
H	2718.24	2718.88

The Holme Valley Parish Council will provide certain services which, elsewhere, will be provided by Kirklees Council. This means that the council tax for band D properties in other areas of Kirklees will be 32p higher than for properties in the Holme Valley Parish Council area. The Council Tax bandings have been adjusted accordingly.

2. Parish precepts

If you live in an area where there is a Parish Council your Council Tax will increase to take into account the parish precepts for those areas:

Valuation Band	Denby Dale £	Holme Valley £	Kirkburton £	Meltham £	Mirfield £
A	25.13	15.00	8.25	25.36	10.41
B	29.32	17.50	9.62	29.59	12.14
C	33.51	20.00	11.00	33.81	13.88
D	37.70	22.50	12.37	38.04	15.61
E	46.08	27.50	15.12	46.49	19.08
F	54.46	32.50	17.87	54.95	22.55
G	62.83	37.50	20.62	63.40	26.02
H	75.40	45.00	24.74	76.08	31.22

The Parish Council budget in areas where there is one is as follows:

	2018/2019 £	2017/2018 £
Denby Dale Parish Council	216,136	216,136
Holme Valley Parish Council	224,132	224,132
Kirkburton Parish Council	109,620	109,620
Meltham Parish Council	105,063	82,047
Mirfield Parish Council	102,991	102,991

Where your Parish Council's money goes

Parish Councils with a budget of £140,000 or more are required to provide information about how it is spent.

Actions of Denby Dale Parish Council include:

- Continued running costs and ownership for Skelmanthorpe Council Building on a Community Asset Transfer in order to allow space for a community library and other community uses. This will include extensive repairs to the roof which we are currently obtaining quotes for.
- Continued employment of a full-time Countryside Officer, a post which was previously half-funded by Kirklees Council.
- Continued provision and maintenance costs for allotments for the parish
- Increase made to the Employment budget line as increased workload may result in increase in employment costs.
- Making provision for any future shortfall in Kirklees Council services which this parish council may be able to assist with. This figure is as yet unclear but will become essential at some point.
- General Data Protection Regulations – The council has had to make provision for the new GDPR which they have set aside £5,000 for. This figure may not cover all the necessary work to be undertaken, but as the act is not yet implemented it is unclear how this new legislation will impact on the council.

Actions of Holme Valley Parish Council include:

- Continue investing in assets that are at risk of loss to the community, e.g Honley Library.
- Secure the future of some of our other key community assets, e.g. Holmfirth Indoor Market (building and/or service) and the Phoenix Centre, Dunford Road; once assets are sold, they are lost forever and we are determined to help save any assets which are much valued by our local community.

There is a slight reduction in precept (to an average of £22.50 per household on a Band D property) which is £0.40 per annum less than the 2017-18 level. The Parish Council is still committed to helping support the long-term future of our community buildings in the Valley. The Parish Council still hopes to be in a position, in years to come, to reduce the precept again

3. Adult social care contribution for all parishes

Valuation Band	£
A	70.89
B	82.70
C	94.52
D	106.33
E	129.96
F	153.59
G	177.22
H	212.66

The Secretary of State for 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).

The offer is the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional “precept” on its council tax for financial years from the financial year beginning in 2016 without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting expenditure on adult social care. Subject to the annual approval of the House of Commons, the Secretary of State intends to offer the option of charging this “precept” at an appropriate level in each financial year up to and including the financial year 2019-20

Kirklees Council have accepted the offer made by the government to increase Council Tax by an extra 3%, without the need for a referendum, on the understanding that all this extra money is used for local adult social care functions.

As we are becoming an aging population the government has recognised a short fall in adult social care and agreed local authorities, such as Kirklees, with responsibility for these services can charge this increase each financial year to support adult social care functions until the end of the financial year 2019/20.

The agreed Kirklees Council Tax rise for council services in 2018/19 is therefore 5.99%; which is made up of 2.99% for services in general and a specific 3% extra which will go to adult social care.

Adult social care services help people who are in need of practical support due to illness, disability or old age. We support people in a wide range of circumstances. Everyone can get information and advice from us, and many people receive further support. Our aim is to help people keep their independence, either in their own home or in their local community.

For information on adult social care see our web information at:

www.kirklees.gov.uk/careandsupport

For more information about adult social care funding go to www.gov.uk and search for ‘adult social care Council Tax’.

4. West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority and West Yorkshire Police Authority charges

Valuation Band	West Yorkshire Fire Civil Defence Authority £	West Yorkshire Police Authority	
		£	
A	41.81	108.63	
B	48.78	126.74	
C	55.75	144.84	
D	62.72	162.95	
E	76.66	199.16	
F	90.60	235.37	
G	104.53	271.58	
H	125.44	325.90	

Where your council's budget comes from

	2018/2019 Net Expenditure £m	2017/2018 Net Expenditure £m
Gross expenditure	829.5	823.1
Income:		
Dedicated schools grant and other school grants	254.7	253.5
Housing related grants	108.8	114.7
Other government grants	43.3	45.1
External income	131.5	115.1
Kirklees approved budget	291.2	294.7
Funded from:		
Government funding allocation	- 2.3	59.4
Local share of Business Rates	99.8	47.6
Unringfenced grants	17.7	16.8
Collection fund balances	3.5	0.1
General fund balances	-	11.2
Council Tax requirement	172.5	159.6
Core Council Tax	160.0	152.2
Adult Social Care precept	12.5	7.4

Where your council's money goes

The amounts that the council intends to spend on the various services that it provides are shown below. The figures are adjusted for capital charges.

Service	2018/19		2017/18	
	Gross £m	Net £m	Gross £m	Net £m
Children & Families	344.4	70.0	331.2	67.9
Adults & Health	171.9	105.4	152.8	101.9
Economy & Infrastructure	89.4	38.1	92.3	44.8
Corporate Services	182.9	37.8	188.5	31.4
Central	41.0	39.9	58.3	48.7
Total expenditure (excluding Precepts)	829.6	291.2	823.1	294.7
Parish Council Precepts	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Total expenditure (including Precepts)	830.4	292.0	823.9	295.5



West Yorkshire Police Council Tax Information 2018/19

Keeping our communities safe and feeling safe

As your Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) I want to make sure our communities are safe and your police service is adequately resourced. This next year I have set a budget to help strengthen neighbourhood policing, protect PCSO numbers and recruit over 140 additional Police Officers and staff to help protect frontline policing and tackle key priority areas such as cyber-crime, safeguarding and investigations.

The new budget sees a £12 increase on the police element of council tax, known as the police precept, which equates to an extra £1 a month for residents in Band D properties. However for most people in West Yorkshire the increase will be less than £10 a year or less than 80 pence per month, given that over 75% of properties are in Bands A,B and C. 79% of people I have surveyed before setting the budget said they would be prepared to pay more a year for policing. I certainly didn't want to put any extra burden on local tax payers but the fact is these new resources just simply wouldn't be available if it wasn't for the support of our communities in helping me raise the additional funds locally in West Yorkshire. The Government has again imposed a further real terms cut to our core budget which equates to over £9m this year alone when inflation and pay costs are taken into account. This is despite already cutting our budget by roughly a third since 2010 at the cost of over 2000 police jobs.

I will continue to work closely with the Chief Constable, West Yorkshire Police, the public and our partners to ensure we invest wisely in key areas of demand, increase collaboration and secure more efficiencies with new technology and transformation to help tackle the various and complex policing challenges in keeping our communities safe and feeling safe.

Mark Burns-Williamson OBE West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner

Summary: There will be a 7.95% increase to the annual police council tax

Where the money comes from 2018/2019		%
Government Grant		60.5
Precept (Police Council Tax)		20.4
Income		15.7
Other		3.3

Budget	2018/2019 £m	2017/2018 £m
Gross expenditure	517.781	496.956
Council tax requirement	104.815	94.945

What the money is spent on 2017/2018		%
Police Officers		50
Running costs		22.4
Police Staff		21.8
PCSOs		3.9
Borrowing		1.6
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner		0.3

Council Tax Band	Total cost per year £	Increase per annum £	Increase in pence per week
A	108.63	8.00	15
B	126.74	9.33	18
C	144.84	10.67	21
D	162.95	12.00	23
E	199.16	14.67	28
F	235.37	17.33	33
G	271.58	20.00	38
H	325.9	24.00	46

Mark is delivering for communities across West Yorkshire by:

- Recruiting more police officers, protecting PCSO numbers and strengthening frontline and neighbourhood policing.
- Since 2014 giving over £2 million of recovered Proceeds of Crime money to community groups and organisations working to keep communities safe.
- Working with key partners to co-ordinate resources to tackle the priorities in the [West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan](#) such as road safety, cyber-crime, child sex exploitation and domestic abuse.
- Continuing the work to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery, furthering the progress of the local and national networks set up to combat it.
- Working with the police and partners to combat serious crime including knife and gun crime and raising awareness of hate crime, the support available, encouraging reporting and awareness raising.
- Investing in vital hand held technology, body worn cameras and in-car systems to ensure officers remain out on the streets where the public want them.
- Continued investment in a team of specialists who investigate financial exploitation and abuse of vulnerable and older victims.
- Improving services for victims and witnesses and the Help for Victims website www.helpforvictims.co.uk.

For more detailed information, visit www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk

West Yorkshire Combined Authority



The West Yorkshire Combined Authority works in partnership with local councils and businesses to ensure that everyone in our region benefits from a strong, successful economy and a modern, accessible transport network. By championing the region's interests nationally and internationally, we secure the investment to deliver better transport and housing, help businesses to grow and create jobs.

We work with the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to help businesses in our region grow and become more productive. We also manage and run the Metro-branded network of bus stations, travel centres and public transport information across West Yorkshire.

Our achievements working in in partnership with local councils have included:

- using our £1 billion Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Growth Deal funding from Government to drive growth and job creation across the Leeds City Region
- supporting over 3,700 local businesses to grow, awarded 430 capital grants with investment totalling over £180m and launched the new Access Innovation and Strategic Business Growth schemes, worth £16.4 million, to support City Region businesses
- funding cycle training, aimed at commuters, employers, jobseekers and apprentices, for over 2,000 people
- through the Bus18 initiative, welcoming £23.5m investment in new, low-emission vehicles by major local bus operators Arriva, First West Yorkshire, approving £1 million investment to ease bus congestion hotspots and removing the need for school pupils to show a half fare bus pass when they are wearing their school uniform
- improving ways in which the 20,000 people using the MCard travel smartcard each day can buy products with the new Android app and new, self-service ticket machines at bus and rail stations
- continuing to press the Government for a commitment to the long-promised upgrade of the existing trans-Pennine rail route connecting Leeds, Dewsbury, Huddersfield and York with Manchester, Liverpool the East Coast and the North East, and the Northern Powerhouse Rail or HS3 route

Work we will be undertaking with our partners over the coming 12 months, includes:

- developing a new Inclusive Industrial Strategy aimed at creating economic growth from which everybody benefits
- delivering a £16.5 million package of new high-quality cycling infrastructure in West Yorkshire
- continuing to make our canals and city centres more accessible for cyclists and walkers by beginning work on resurfacing cycle routes including the Huddersfield Narrow Canal
- continuing to support initiatives that will upskill 1,400 individuals in shortage areas and work with schools and business leaders to provide employability, enterprise and careers education to over 160 schools and 12,000 disadvantaged students
- using the West Yorkshire-plus Transport Fund to continue work on improving road links that are key to economic growth such as the A629 between Halifax and Huddersfield

Funding in 2017/18 and 2018/19	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Change £m
Transport Services			
Subsidised services	19.2	18.7	-0.5
Bus Stations and Passenger Information	7.5	6.7	-0.8
Concessionary Fares & Integrated Ticketing	55.8	56.3	0.5
Transport Services	82.5	81.7	-0.8
Other Services			
Delivery	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Economic services	1.4	0.9	-0.5
Policy, Strategy & Communications	4.2	5.5	1.3
Resources	5.2	5.2	0.0
Corporate	7.3	6.1	-1.2
Other Directorates	17.9	17.4	-0.5

Other	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Change £m
Transport Levy	-95.2	-94.2	1.0
Capitalisation	-1.0	-1.5	-0.5
Enterprise Zone Receipts	-0.7	-2.0	-1.3
Further resources required	-3.5	-1.4	2.1
Income	-100.4	-99.1	1.3

More information is available at www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk or follow @WestYorkshireCA on Twitter

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Small precept rise for Fire and Rescue Services in West Yorkshire

Councillors have agreed a small increase in the charge for fire and rescue services in West Yorkshire.

The precept rise, which equates to 3.5p extra per week for the average council tax payer, will enable West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (WYFRA) to bridge the funding shortfall.

The Fire Authority will lose a further £1.39m of grant in 2018/2019 as part of the four year Central Government settlement, which will see an overall grant reduction of £7.9m by 2019/2020. The Authority will use £1.975m of revenue balances to limit the increased cost to council tax payers to 2.99%.

The long term implications of this increase combined with the planned use of revenue balances means the Authority can continue whole-time firefighter recruitment throughout 2018/2019. The Authority continues to reform and challenge the way it delivers the service.

Chief Fire Officer John Roberts said, "Since 2010 our Fire & Rescue Service has gone through major changes, as we have seen significant reductions in our budgets. This year sees our Service still having to meet financial challenges, whilst providing the very best Fire & Rescue Service to the communities of West Yorkshire that we can afford. We will endeavour to maintain our current level of service provision to our communities, to make people safer in their home, work and during their leisure".

Councillor Judith Hughes, Chair of the Authority added "2018/2019 is a significant year for West Yorkshire Fire Service with the continuation of the whole-time firefighter recruitment. Despite the small precept increase, we are still one of the lowest cost-per-head-of-population fire authorities in the country and are committed to providing the public of West Yorkshire with the high level of service they deserve".

What will the Fire and Rescue Authority cost?			
	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	Per head £
Gross expenditure	82,060	84,686	
Contribution to/from balances	-953	-2,000	
Income	-2,411	-2,774	
Budget requirement	78,696	79,912	35.29
Revenue support grant	-16,751	-14,662	-6.48
Top up grant	-16,325	-17,103	-7.55
Business rates	-6,847	-7,326	-3.24
Collection fund	-471	-480	-2.12
Council tax requirement	38,302	40,341	15.90

What are the changes from last year?		
	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000
Previous year's budget	80,425	78,696
Inflation	1,183	1,366
Government grants	-106	0
Changes in service provision	-2,106	-1,236
Difference in fees and charges	150	-478
Changes in use of reserves	-850	-908
Budget requirement	78,696	79,912

For FREE fire safety advice visit: www.westyorkfire.gov.uk