

Council Tax News BUDGET UPDATE 2013

St. Illtyd's Church, Llanerwit Major



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Since the new Cabinet came into office following the May 2012 elections we have undertaken a fundamental review of the council's budget so that it provides a sustainable budget plan, within predicted future funding levels and aligns with the key objectives of the administration as set out in the new Corporate Plan which covers the years 2014 to 2017.



We have therefore produced a budget which balances the need to provide essential services to the public against the funding pressures and requirement to make significant levels of savings over the next three years. A pragmatic approach has been made on the level of savings that can reasonably be expected to be implemented in 2013/14 and those cost pressures which if not already identified as committed growth would still need to be met in order to maintain essential services. Such a position cannot be achieved without increased funding either from council tax, temporary increased support from use of reserves or a mix of both.

The Cabinet's key priorities in terms of individual services are those associated with Education and Schools; Social Services; those potentially affected by Welfare Reform changes (for example, homelessness, housing benefit and council tax reduction); waste and highways. Feedback from consultation with the Scrutiny Committees has also placed emphasis upon the level of proposed Social Services savings and the impact of Welfare Reform changes.

In arriving at the final revenue budget proposals, the views of the Schools Budget Forum have also been very carefully considered and the schools budget includes the protection set by the Welsh Government.

Even with the proposed increase, the Vale's band D council tax at £985.14 will still be below the average for Wales and the increase of £45.09 per year on a Band D property equates to less than £1 per week. I hope that everyone understands that we have no alternative to make this increase in council tax otherwise services would suffer to an unacceptable level.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

Councillor Neil Moore
Leader of the Council

How is your Council Tax calculated?



The total Council Tax for each community area in Band D is found by adding to the Town/Community Council levy the charges from:

The Vale of Glamorgan Council	£985.14
The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales	£181.28
Total	£1,166.42

BAND D

Most dwellings are subject to Council Tax. There is one bill per dwelling, whether it is a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home, or house boat, and whether it is owned or rented.

Each dwelling has been allocated to one of nine bands according to its open market capital value at 1 April 2003. The Band your dwelling is in will determine the Council Tax you pay as follows:

For Example:

The total Band D Council Tax for the Barry Town area is £1,216.22
 This is found by adding the Town/Community Council levy (**£49.80**) to the charges for the Vale of Glamorgan (**£985.14**) and the South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner (**£181.28**).

The National Assembly for Wales sets a **Standard Spending Assessment (SSA)** for each Council. This figure is used to distribute Revenue Support Grant to Councils.

This year our SSA is **£219,212,245** and our Net Budget is **£217,746,454** (after adjusting for discretionary rate relief and Council Tax Support Grant). This represents a Band D equivalent for Council Tax of **£985.14** after all grants etc.

Your Council Tax Bill shows the band for your dwelling...

Valuation Band	Range of Values	Council Tax Payments
A	not exceeding £44,000	6/9 of Band D
B	Over £44,000 but not exceeding £65,000	7/9 of Band D
C	Over £65,000 but not exceeding £91,000	8/9 of Band D
D	Over £91,000 but not exceeding £123,000	9/9 of Band D
E	Over £123,000 but not exceeding £162,000	11/9 of Band D
F	Over £162,000 but not exceeding £223,000	13/9 of Band D
G	Over £223,000 but not exceeding £324,000	15/9 of Band D
H	Over £324,000 but not exceeding £424,000	18/9 of Band D
I	Over £424,000	21/9 of Band D

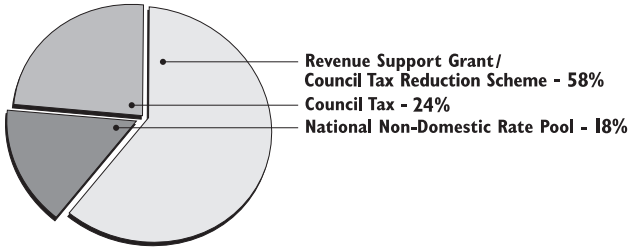
What will I pay?



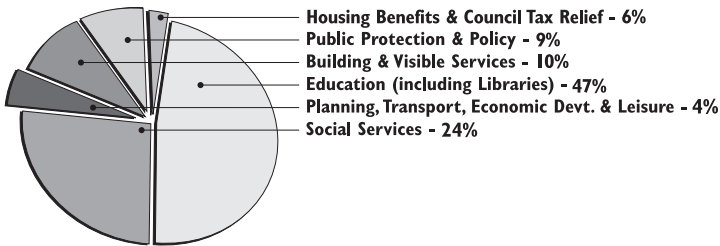
Level Of Town/Community Council Precept and Total Council Tax For Band D 2013/2014

Town/Community Council Precept 2012/2013 £	Council Tax In Respect Of	Town/Community Council Precept 2013/2014 £	Town/Community Council Levy Band D 2013/2014 £	Total Tax Levy Band D 2013/2014 £
911,040	Barry	913,080	49.80	1,216.22
3,288	Colwinston	4,097	15.23	1,181.65
131,862	Cowbridge with Llanblethian	132,050	54.23	1,220.65
91,170	Dinas Powys	89,754	25.52	1,191.94
11,779	Ewenny	13,000	30.95	1,197.37
4,500	Llancarfan	5,000	11.24	1,177.66
37,727	Llandough	37,727	42.39	1,208.81
6,800	Llandow	6,800	16.39	1,182.81
3,437	Llanfair	3,437	9.57	1,175.99
9,984	Llangan	10,260	27.00	1,193.42
7,241	Llan-Maes	7,532	31.92	1,198.34
214,590	Llantwit Major	216,475	55.03	1,221.45
5,292	Michaelston	5,450	25.59	1,192.01
529,270	Penarth	531,824	49.96	1,216.38
6,000	Pendoylan	6,000	19.67	1,186.09
9,000	Penllyn	9,000	9.39	1,175.81
8,000	Peterston-S-Ely	10,000	18.83	1,185.25
0	Rhose	0	0	1,166.42
24,516	St Athan	25,365	19.00	1,185.42
12,000	St Brides Major	12,000	10.99	1,177.41
3,247	St Donats	3,264	17.00	1,183.42
3,000	St Georges & St Brides-S-Ely	3,500	15.28	1,181.70
6,372	St Nicholas & Bonvilston	7,620	15.00	1,181.42
81,955	Sully	83,200	34.41	1,200.83
5,000	Welsh St Donats	5,000	16.50	1,182.92
25,500	Wenvoe	25,500	25.65	1,192.07
3,254	Wick	3,254	8.75	1,175.17
2,155,824	Total Precept	2,170,189		

Where the Council's money comes from...



What the Council spends your money on...



Am I registered to vote?

If you pay Council Tax you are not **automatically** on the Electoral Register.

Electoral registration is a separate process performed by the elections office. Any person who is 18 years and over and is a British, Commonwealth, Irish Republic or European Union member state citizen can register. To register to vote, you need to complete an electoral registration form. Fill it in, sign it personally and return it to your local electoral registration office.

For more information please contact: Electoral Services at the Civic Offices or call our helpline: 01446 709748 or 709570. Email: electoralregistration@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

**£1 Billion lost nationally every year due to Housing Benefit fraud now...
the Council's money is YOUR money**

...don't let the

Cheats get away with it...

If you know of someone who's cheating the Council **PHONE the**
Fill in our on-line Benefit Fraud Form **FRAUD**
at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

It's **FREE & CONFIDENTIAL 0800**

Alternatively write to: **Freepost, Beat a Cheat**

**24 hour
HOTLINE
73 12525**

or email BeataCheat@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

How is Your Money Spent?

Estimated Expenditure and Income

2012/2013			Vale Council Services	2013/2014		
Gross Exp. £'000	Income £'000	Net Exp. £'000		Gross Exp. £'000	Income £'000	Net Exp. £'000
18,469	18,469	0	Housing Revenue Account	25,404	25,404	0
4,408	1,341	3,067	Other Housing	4,696	1,524	3,172
38,860	38,518	342	Housing Benefits	41,080	40,466	614
9,270	8,941	329	Council Tax Relief	10,027	230	9,797
117,947	19,981	97,966	Education (including Libraries)	120,613	18,247	102,366
57,739	8,682	49,057	Social Services	60,722	8,842	51,880
6,543	3,428	3,115	Planning & Transportation	6,685	3,670	3,015
9,641	4,188	5,453	Economic Development & Leisure	7,299	2,042	5,257
25,073	3,949	21,124	Building & Visible Services	26,792	4,678	22,114
3,550	976	2,574	Public Protection & Registrars	3,501	993	2,508
20,054	3,282	16,772	Policy	20,249	3,233	17,016
13,231		13,231	Capital and Other Expenditure met from Revenue	7,826		7,826
324,785	111,755	213,030		334,894	109,329	225,565
2,156		2,156	Town & Community Council Precepts	2,170		2,170
1,978	12,102	(10,124)	Transfer to/from General & Specific Reserves	500	7,531	(7,031)
328,919	123,857	205,062	TOTAL (*Budget Requirement)	337,564	116,860	*220,704
	(150)	150	Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Reliefs		(200)	200
	117,668	(117,668)	Revenue Support Grant		125,547	(125,547)
	0	0	Council Tax Reduction Scheme		788	(788)
	33,507	(33,507)	National Non-Domestic Rate Pool		38,832	(38,832)
	54,037	(54,037)	Council Tax		55,737	(55,737)
Included in the total are the following levies and payments to outside bodies:						
	£'000			£'000		
	6,117		South Wales Fire Authority	6,193		
	17		Cardiff Port Health Authority	17		Total Expenditure 337,064
	3		Swansea Port Health Authority	3		Less: Income 100,878
	117		Glamorgan Record Office	91		Net Transfer from Reserves 236,186
	6,254			6,304		(15,482)
	31/3/2013	Estimated Financial Reserves as at:		31/3/2014		220,704
	£'000			£'000		
	10,018		General Fund	8,518		
	13,049		Housing Revenue Account	4,598		
	32,881		Reserves for Specific Purposes	27,350		

Capital Programme 2013/2014

Programme	£'000	How Financed	£'000
Housing - Council Properties	15,854	Loans	7,791
Housing - Grants and Loans	1,700	Grants	22,442
Education (including Libraries)	25,369	Capital Receipts	5,679
Social Services	783	Revenue Contribution,	
Economic Development and Leisure	853	Renewal etc.	19,063
Planning and Transportation	581		
Visible Services	8,136		
Resources	1,699		
	54,975		54,975

Are you entitled to Housing and/or Council Tax Reductions? Find out if you can cut your Council Tax and rent liability.

From April 2013 Council Tax Benefit will be replaced by a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Most of the rules are the same as Council Tax Benefits but there are some differences. There will be no need for those people already claiming Council Tax Benefit to apply for a Council Tax Reduction unless they have been notified their Council Tax Benefit has been stopped.

Are you on a low income (with savings of less than £16,000, unless you are on Guarantee Pension Credit), having difficulty paying some of your bills and using your capital to support your living standards? Council Tax Reduction could help pay towards your Council Tax bill and Housing Benefit could help towards your rent. The Council would like to assist our residents to apply for help - why not apply today? To find out if you qualify, we need to take into account your circumstances, including income, savings, age and how many people live with you.

Some examples follow (Housing Benefit does not cover utility or other amenity charges):

A single pensioner over 65 whose rent is £90 a week with Council Tax of £900 per year (£17.30 per week) and a weekly income of £163.50 per week. Council Tax Reduction could be about £90 (£17.30 per week) and Housing Benefit about £90 per week.

A couple with two children aged under 16, rent of £130 per week, Council Tax of £1,153 per year (£22.11 per week) and a total weekly household income of £295 per week. Council Tax Reduction could be £798.20 (£15.35 per week) and Housing Benefit about £108.03 per week.

Don't delay, apply today, as in most cases benefit can only be paid from the Monday following the receipt of a valid application form. If you claim Pension Credit, Income Support or Job Seekers' Allowance, you should have received a form to claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction in with your application.

For Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction, telephone 01446 709244.

E-mail: benefits@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Recycling and Refuse 2013/14



Thank you! In the Vale of Glamorgan we are now recycling and composting more than 50 per cent of our waste.

As usual, we will be collecting refuse and recycling on all bank holidays. Christmas arrangements can be found in your recycling calendar that will be delivered at the end of March/April 2013.

PLEASE RECYCLE MORE

Weekly kerbside recycling collections

Paper, glass, cans, cardboard, plastic, foil, juice cartons and drained aerosols can all be mixed together in your kerbside box and for collection weekly. Either put this in a free kerbside box or buy a blue co-mingled bag with a weighted base and Velcro secured lid for £1 - The Alps Depot, Wenvoe and Civic Office, Barry stock both. Don't forget they also have £1 elasticated nets available, which may be neatly tied and fit over your kerbside box.

Alternate week garden waste collection

Our popular alternate week kerbside collection for garden waste is available for even more weeks of the year during 2013 and 2014. Our 'ring & request' service runs from 2 December 2013 to 21 February 2014. Reusable bags cost £1 or disposable bags three for a £1, available from Council offices and all Vale libraries.

Weekly kitchen waste recycling

Food items such as: peelings, meat, bones, dairy products and leftovers can be disposed of weekly. Replacement corn-starch biodegradable bags can be obtained by tying a bag or a piece of cloth to the handle of your caddy to signal to our crew to leave you another roll on their round. Alternatively, call into your local library, or Alps reception to collect a roll.

Household Waste Recycling Centres

Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry (CF63 3RF) and Llandow (CF71 7PB) are open seven days a week – closing only for Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day. Summer opening times operate from 31 March - 26 October 2013.

	Summer	Winter
Barry	08:00 – 18:00	10:00 - 16:00
Llandow	10:00 – 17:00	10:00 – 16:00

Recycle so much more, including: clothes, china, hard plastics, oil and batteries on site.

For further information on any of the above please call Visible Services on 01446 700111, e-mail visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

Pay your Council Tax or Business Rates monthly by Direct Debit by completing a direct debit online, or download a mandate for postal return from www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or call 01446 700111.