

# Council Tax 2025/26

The average household will pay around 14p more a week to the District Council in tax for 2025/26. This small increase helps protect services to you.



See just some of the services we provide for £4.83 a week.\*

As well as the long list of key services that we deliver to the community - we have ambitious plans to regenerate Cannock town centre and bring more investment into the area.

You will know that the multi-storey car park in the centre of the town, which has long been an eye-sore for residents, visitors, and shoppers, is coming down. Work is well under way this year on the demolition which will also include the empty shop units - creating a huge footprint that would be perfectly placed for a major residential and commercial offer.



We have received positive feedback from investors and developers who are interested in coming to Cannock Chase so we are preparing the groundwork with sites that are ready to build on.

And that's not all. To demonstrate our confidence in delivering an exciting vision for Cannock - we will be regenerating the northern gateway to the town centre, getting rid of an outdated subway and improving the car park to make an attractive entrance.



Over the last 12 months we have made significant improvements to local parks which are so important for the health and wellbeing of our community. Flaxley Road Play Area in Rugeley was reopened after a refurbishment costing just over £140,000. Laburnum Avenue Park has undergone a significant upgrade and a new play area is coming to Cannock Park with further site improvements - such as better pathways as well as substantial investment in safety with enhanced lighting and CCTV.

Small and medium sized businesses are the lifeblood of the economy and we have recognised that by rolling out schemes worth hundreds of thousands of pounds to provide financial support and expert advice.



**Tony Johnson** 

#### Here are just some of the services we provide for £4.83 a week:

## **Recycling and Waste**

69,000 bins emptied each week. We recycle around 40% of the waste collected from 46,000 households.



#### **Planning and Building Control**

We manage development in the district and ensure that buildings are safely constructed. Nearly 300 planning applications were received in 2024.



### **Community Safety**

The council monitors

106 CCTV cameras and partner
the police and other agencies in
initiatives to reduce crime and
make people feel safer.



# **Street Cleaning**

We clean more than 4,000 miles of roads and pavements each year and empty over 600 litter bins.



# Housing

Our work has helped reduce the number of people sleeping rough. We prevented more than 200 people becoming homeless over the last year working with partners.

#### Parks and Open Spaces

We look after nearly **2650 hectares** of park and open spaces - including 6 which have won national **'Green Flag' awards.** 



# **Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support**

We make sure people get the help they are entitled to as soon as possible and regularly review claims to identify any changes in circumstances. Nearly 8,000 households received our help towards their rent or council tax.



#### **Environmental Health**

Last year we investigated **3,160** complaints including noise, fly tipping, dog fouling, licensing and private rented housing, and carried out **450** food hygiene inspections.



## **Bereavement Services**

We manage **five cemeteries** - and have a **'Silver Gilt'** award from the Institute of Cemeteries and Crematorium Management.



## Local Council Tax Reduction Banded **Discount Scheme**

If you are on a low income and need help paying your Council Tax you may be entitled to a reduction in the amount you have to pay. For those people of pensionable age we must operate a national rebate scheme, however for working age people we operate a local scheme whereby a percentage discount, based on the income of the household, is deducted from the council tax bill. This is called a Banded Discount Scheme, Most Banded Discount Scheme claims will need to be made online: for people who may find this difficult our Benefits Team are available to help.

#### Discounts and premiums

Some unoccupied and unfurnished properties attract a discount for limited periods. Properties that have been empty for more than one year pay additional premiums. From 1 April 2025, a premium will be payable for unoccupied and furnished properties (second homes). Please see our website for details of exceptions which may apply to these premiums or contact us for further details. Other discounts depend on the number of adults in your house and their circumstances. If you are the only adult living in your property, you can apply for a 25% discount. Some people are not counted when looking at the number of adults in a property. These people include students and young people for whom child benefit is paid, people receiving or providing personal care, severely mentally impaired people and prisoners. The Council will consider applications for discretionary discounts based on individual circumstances.

# **Exempt properties**

Some properties are exempt from Council Tax such as those occupied only by students or unoccupied properties which were previously occupied by persons who are now in residential care.

# Reduction for people with disabilities

Your bill may be reduced if you (or someone who lives with you) need a room, an extra bathroom or kitchen, or extra space in your property to meet the required needs arising from a disability.

## **Council Tax Valuation Bands**

The Valuation Office Agency which is part of HM Revenue and Customs (not your local Council) has put every property into one of eight valuation bands. A full list of valuation bands is available online at www.voa.gov.uk

Band	Range of values (based on 1991 prices)	*
Α	Up to £40,000	6/9
В	£40,001 to £52,000	7/9
С	£52,001 to £68,000	8/9
D	£68,001 to £88,000	1
Е	£88,001 to £120,000	11/9
F	£120,001 to £160,000	13/9
G	£160,001 to £320,000	15/9
Н	Over £320,000	18/9

<sup>\*</sup> Proportion of Band D Council Tax Payable

# **Banding appeal**

You may be able to appeal against the banding if you have just moved to a property, if the property has been structurally altered, or if the area in which your property is situated has changed. Any gueries about appeals and bandings should be made direct to the Valuation Office Agency on 03000 501501

## What do I do if I think I am paying too much Council Tax?

If you believe your bill to be incorrect, you can write to the Council to appeal. If you still believe the decision to be wrong, you can then appeal to the Valuation Tribunal Service, Please contact the Council Tax team on 01543 464285, who will be happy to discuss this with you.



