



Winchester City Council

Local Taxes Section
City Offices
Colebrook Street
Winchester SO23 9LJ

Tel: 01962 848 288
For Council Tax enquires

Tel: 01962 840 222
For all other enquires
E-mail:
counciltax@winchester.gov.uk
www.winchester.gov.uk



Hampshire County Council

Budget and Council Tax
www.hants.gov.uk/finance/budget
For questions on our budget contact:
County Treasurer's Department
Hampshire County Council
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UB
E-mail: budget@hants.gov.uk
For information on our services, go to
www.hants.gov.uk

Tel: 0845 603 5638*
Textphone: 0845 603 5625*
E-mail: info@hants.gov.uk
* Calls to 0845 numbers are free on some BT call plans but will cost between 4p (local rate) and 6p (national rate) per minute for BT customers not on a plan. Calls made using other service providers or mobiles may cost more. Alternatively call 01329 225398 - standard and local call rates may apply to this number.



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Hampshire Police Authority

Westgate Chambers, Staple Gardens
Winchester SO23 8AW
Tel: 01962 871595
E-mail: police.authority@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
www.hampshirepoliceauthority.org



Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Tel: 023 8064 4000
E-mail:
reception@hantsfire.gov.uk
www.hantsfire.gov.uk

Budget questions
Financial Services
Hampshire Fire and Rescue
Service Headquarters
Leigh Road
Eastleigh SO50 9SJ
Tel: 023 8062 6867
E-mail: finance@hantsfire.gov.uk



This information is available in a text-only large-print format for anyone who has difficulties reading this publication.

your guide
to your **council tax**
2009|2010



Welcome to **your guide to Council Tax** for 2009/10

We all use public services. Some are provided by authorities covering the whole of Hampshire, while others are provided by local borough or district councils. Some of the funding for these services comes from government grants which include contributions from business rates. The rest is paid for by your Council Tax and income generated by, for example, rents, investments and service charges.

Information about the authorities funded by your Council Tax is



included in this leaflet to give you an overview of the services provided.

Part of your Council Tax funds services such as waste collection and kerbside recycling, street cleaning, housing, community and leisure

services, provided by **Winchester City Council**.

Your annual Council Tax payment provides funding for services from



Hampshire County Council, such as care for the elderly, vulnerable children and people with physical disabilities. The County Council also provides education, libraries, registration services, maintains roads, disposes of

domestic waste and runs the household waste recycling centres.

The Police Authority, which together with Hampshire Constabulary provides for the efficient and effective policing of Hampshire and the Isle of



Wight, is also funded from Council Tax.

Hampshire's Fire and Rescue Authority also receives a proportion of Council Tax to prevent fires and other risks, to protect life and property and to respond to fires and other emergencies.



COUNCIL TAX BAND D
£1,344.⁹⁶

The Council Tax Band D this year is **£1,344.96**. A summary of **how your Council Tax is divided** between these organisations is shown on your Council Tax bill and as follows.



1 Winchester City Council
£124.³⁸



2 Hampshire County Council
£1,018.¹⁷



3 Police Authority
£142.¹¹



4 Fire and Rescue Authority
£60.³⁰

The figures above exclude parish precepts which are shown separately on pages 4 and 5.

Council Tax banding information

Most homes are subject to Council Tax whether a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home or houseboat and whether owned or rented.

Properties are placed in one of eight bands (A to H) according to the open market value at 1 April 1991. Your Council Tax bill states which band applies to your home.

A	up to £40,000
B	£40,001 – £52,000
C	£52,001 – £68,000
D	£68,001 – £88,000
E	£88,001 – £120,000
F	£120,001 – £160,000
G	£160,001 – £320,000
H	£320,001 and over



2008/09 DEMAND/ PRECEPT * £	COUNCIL TAX AMOUNTS 2009/10	2009/10 DEMAND/ PRECEPT * £	TAX BASE**	BAND D £
5,695,063	Winchester City Council	5,880,903	47,282.09	124.38
47,000,063	Hampshire County Council	48,141,206	47,282.09	1,018.17
6,376,765	Hampshire Police Authority	6,719,258	47,282.09	142.11
2,739,553	Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority	2,851,110	47,282.09	60.30
PARISHES				
27,000	Badger Farm	27,600	985.06	28.02
0	Beauworth	0	53.38	0.00
2,250	Bighton	2,750	167.15	16.45
3,565	Bishops Sutton	3,750	212.05	17.68
301,893	Bishops Waltham	319,950	2,682.03	119.29
11,250	Boarhunt	13,000	246.59	52.72
5,000	Bramdean & Hinton Ampner	5,000	216.09	23.14
8,500	Cheriton	8,500	301.16	28.22
0	Chilcomb	0	56.30	0.00
105,730	Golden Common	112,495	1,571.42	71.59
26,272	Compton & Shawford	27,057	792.81	34.13
8,800	Corhampton & Meonstoke	9,200	378.16	24.33
12,250	Crawley	12,500	214.03	58.40
18,000	Curdrige	18,000	623.02	28.89
309,747	Denmead	318,240	2,669.09	119.23
8,000	Droxford	8,000	324.38	24.66
14,500	Durley	14,500	458.80	31.60
203	Exton	1,300	131.86	9.86
12,000	Hambledon	12,000	498.33	24.08
3,500	Headbourne Worthy	3,500	232.05	15.08
26,000	Hursley	30,000	422.29	71.04
2,200	Itchen Stoke & Ovington	2,200	124.38	17.69
13,355	Itchen Valley	14,040	725.85	19.34
3,750	Kilmeston	3,750	136.45	27.48
102,375	Kings Worthy	107,490	1,805.56	59.53
58,750	Littleton & Harestock	58,750	1,492.38	39.37
36,000	Micheldever	36,000	621.36	57.94
250,000	New Alresford	247,000	2,295.90	107.58

2008/09 DEMAND/ PRECEPT * £	COUNCIL TAX AMOUNTS 2009/10	2009/10 DEMAND/ PRECEPT * £	TAX BASE**	BAND D £
3,280	Northington	3,280	123.84	26.49
8,700	Old Alresford	8,787	260.90	33.68
23,300	Olivers Battery	23,300	752.11	30.98
26,601	Otterbourne	26,325	705.48	37.32
15,000	Owslebury	16,000	377.56	42.38
97,875	Shedfield	99,331	1,613.50	61.56
21,000	Soberton	17,000	819.48	20.74
57,876	South Wonston	59,585	1,144.33	52.07
10,300	Southwick & Widley	10,650	283.70	37.54
5,500	Sparsholt	5,775	302.38	19.10
108,000	Swanmore	108,000	1,290.81	83.67
3,350	Tichborne	3,475	82.23	42.26
39,000	Twyford	44,000	702.57	62.63
9,750	Upham	10,750	318.65	33.74
950	Warnford	950	108.14	8.78
19,500	West Meon	20,500	373.89	54.83
26,252	Whiteley	40,495	1,261.79	32.09
82,545	Wickham	90,139	1,717.90	52.47
26,000	Wonston	26,000	599.52	43.37
770,700	Winchester Town	807,857	14,005.38	57.68

* Demand/Precept – the amount of money to be collected by the council for its own purposes and for Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Police Authority and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority and parish councils.

** Tax Base – the total number of banded properties equated to Band D.

The Council Tax level

Winchester City Council has set a Band D Council Tax of £124.38 for 2009/10 to meet the estimates of expenditure for services administered by the council. This is an increase of 2.75% over the previous year.

The council is proud of the wide range of services it provides for you, as well as being committed to keeping Council Tax increases as low as possible.

This means that we constantly review how our services are delivered to make them more efficient. Since 2005/06 the council's efficiency drive has generated cash savings of £1,536,000. It is expected that the council will have made further efficiency savings of £420,000 between April 2008 and March 2009 which is 1.4% of the baseline expenditure in 2007/08. In real terms it means that £9 from each Band D property's Council Tax can now make a difference to more vital services, providing you better value for money. The average predicted saving for all district authorities is £22.

The cost of services

2008/09			SERVICE	2009/10		
GROSS COST £'000	INCOME £'000	NET COST £'000		GROSS COST £'000	INCOME £'000	NET COST £'000
21,962	21,962	-	Council Housing	23,365	23,365	-
19,007	18,520	487	Housing Benefits	20,704	20,174	530
2,578	147	2,431	Other Housing Services	2,870	270	2,600
5,695	5,557	138	Highways and Transport	5,845	5,605	240
5,172	2,077	3,095	Planning and Economic Development	5,577	2,088	3,489
5,602	556	5,046	Culture, Recreation and Related Services	5,453	533	4,920
7,150	736	6,414	Environmental Services	7,196	702	6,494
			Central Services to the Public:			
3,049	4	3,045	Corporate and Democratic Core	2,719	4	2,715
5,057	4,710	347	Council Tax Benefits	5,528	5,145	383
1,174	314	860	Council Tax and Rate Collection	1,175	354	821
1,284	392	892	Other Central Services to the Public	1,460	331	1,129
-3,522	5,290	-8,812	Interest and Other Operating Income & Expenditure	-4,861	3,935	-8,796
74,208	60,265	13,943	Total Operational Expenditure	77,031	62,506	14,525
			Contributions to and from General Fund Reserves and Contingencies			
-	541	-541		-	878	-878
74,208	60,806	13,402	TOTALS	77,031	63,384	13,647
		1,956	Parish Precepts			2,031
		15,358	Budget Requirement			15,678
			Financed by:			
			Government support			
		-6,095	National business rates			-5,669
		-849	Government general grant			-1,308
		7	(Surplus)/deficit on Collection Fund			19
			Council Tax			
		-771	Winchester Town charge			-808
		-1,955	Precepts levied by parishes			-2,031
		-5,695	Winchester District charge			-5,881
		-15,358	Budget Requirement			-15,678

Why is spending different from last year?

Net revenue expenditure on services provided by the council will increase next year by £245,000, as shown below:

	£'000
Net expenditure 2008/09	13,402
Growth - increased expenditure	430
Growth - reduced income	379
Savings - reduced expenditure	-1,219
Savings - increased income	-550
Reduced net income from interest	827
Inflation on gross expenditure	681
Increased contributions from reserves	-418
Other	115
Net expenditure 2009/10	13,647

Parish council revenue budgets

A parish council whose precept exceeds £140,000 must publish details of its expenditure plans.

The following information has been supplied by the relevant parish councils:

		2008/09	2009/10
Bishops Waltham Parish Council	Gross expenditure	£383,096	£407,135
	Precept	£301,893	£319,950
	Tax Band D equivalent	£113.86	£119.29
Denmead Parish Council	Gross expenditure	£326,186	£337,141
	Precept	£309,747	£318,240
	Tax Band D equivalent	£116.18	£119.23
New Alresford Town Council	Gross expenditure	£270,000	£238,095
	Precept	£250,000	£247,000
	Tax Band D equivalent	£112.13	£107.58

If you would like any further information on parish precepts please contact the relevant parish council. Contact details are shown on the council's website – www.winchester.gov.uk



Flood defence

Under the provisions of the 1989 Water Act, the Environment Agency issues a levy on Hampshire County Council.

Appeals

Council Tax valuations are based on the value of a property if it had been sold on 1 April 1991. You may appeal against the valuation if:

- you believe there has been a material increase or reduction in the value (see below);
- you start or stop using part of your home for business, or the balance between business and domestic use changes;
- the Listing Officer has altered the banding;
- you become the new Council Tax payer for a property.

You must appeal within six months, but if the same appeal has already been heard by a Valuation Tribunal it will not be considered again.

A material increase in value may result from building, engineering, or other work, carried out on the property. Revaluation takes place after a sale, so the appellant would usually be the new owner or resident.

A material reduction in value may be caused by demolition of any part of the property, any change in the physical state of the local area or an adaptation to make the dwelling suitable for someone with a disability. Revaluation should take place as soon as possible.

Appeals should be sent to:

Listing Officer, Valuation Office Agency, Ground Floor, The Square, Basing View, Basingstoke RG21 4EB.

You may also appeal to Winchester City Council if you believe:

- you are not liable to pay Council Tax because your property is exempt;
- there has been a mistake in calculating your bill.

You must still pay Council Tax while an appeal is pending. If the appeal is successful you will receive a full refund.



People with disabilities

You may be entitled to a reduction if you, or someone who lives with you, needs a room, an extra bathroom, kitchen or extra space to meet special needs because of a disability. The bill will be reduced to the band immediately below your property's band. Band A properties also qualify for this reduction which will be equal to one-sixth of the Band A charge.

If special fixtures have been added for a disabled resident and reduce the value of your home contact the Listing Officer.

Exempt properties

Some dwellings, including empty properties and those occupied only by students, are exempt. These include empty properties that are:

- Class A** undergoing or in need of structural alteration or major repair (exempt for up to twelve months)
- Class B** owned by a charity (exempt for six months)
- Class C** unfurnished (exempt for six months)
- Class D** left empty by someone who has been sent to prison
- Class E & I** left empty by someone who is receiving care in a hospital, residential home or elsewhere
- Class F** waiting for probate or letters

of administration to be granted (and for up to six months afterwards)

- Class G** empty because occupation is prohibited by law
- Class H** waiting to be occupied by a Minister of Religion
- Class J** left empty by someone who is caring for another person
- Class K** left empty by students
- Class L** repossessed
- Class Q** the responsibility of a bankrupt's trustee
- Class R** empty caravan pitches or boat moorings
- Class T** empty granny annexes

Properties can also be exempt when occupied:

- Class M & N** only by students, including halls of residence
- Class O** as Armed Forces barracks and married quarters. These are also exempt, but occupants will contribute to the cost of local services through a special arrangement
- Class P** by visiting forces
- Class S** only by persons under eighteen
- Class U** by persons who are severely mentally impaired
- Class V** by diplomats
- Class W** and it forms part of a single property and is occupied by a dependent relative of a person who is resident in that property

You must advise Winchester City Council of any change in circumstance that affects your entitlement to an exemption. If you fail to do so you may be fined.

Discounts

The full Council Tax bill is based on two adults (18 years and over) living in a property. If one adult lives alone they will be entitled to a reduction of 25%.

If a property is empty (no one's main home and unfurnished) the bill will be reduced by 50%. If a property is a second home (no one's main home and furnished) the bill will be reduced by 10%. If the dwelling is job-related then please contact the Local Taxes



Section of the council for further information.

Some people will be disregarded when counting the number of resident adults:

- full-time students, student nurses, apprentices and those on various government training schemes;
- patients resident in hospital;
- residents of care homes;
- people who are severely mentally impaired;
- people staying in certain hostels or night shelters;
- 18 and 19 year olds who are at, or have just left, school;
- care workers on low pay, usually charity workers;
- people caring for someone with a disability, who is not a spouse, partner or child under 18;
- members of visiting forces and certain international institutions;
- members of religious communities (monks and nuns);
- prisoners (except those in jail for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine).

You must advise Winchester City Council of any change in circumstance that affects your entitlement to a discount. If you fail to do so you may be fined.

Council Tax Benefits

There are two main forms of Council Tax Benefit.

Main Council Tax Benefit is normally available to people on low incomes and there are extra allowances (up to 100% reduction) for:

- one-parent families;
- families with children;
- pensioners;
- people with disabilities.

Second Adult Rebate applies if you are the only liable person for Council Tax in a household, but share the home with one or more persons. You may be able to claim a rebate if someone over 18 shares the home and is:

- not paying you rent;
- not your spouse or partner;
- not liable for Council Tax;
- on a low income.

If you would like to apply for benefit, please ask for an application form and complete and return it as soon as possible.

