

Councillors met on 23 February 2022 and agreed the budget for the coming year and the indicative Medium Term Financial plan for the following three years up until 2026.

The budget was set through our carefully planned and managed approach in the context of significant budget pressures and a one year financial settlement from the Government which brings significant uncertainty.

Given the financial pressures facing the Council over the medium term we have reluctantly agreed to

increase Council Tax by 2.9 per cent which includes the Government's Adult's Social Care Levy at 2 per cent, to protect social care services as best we can.

We have a strong track record of sound financial management and adopting a managed approach to plan ahead, even during these challenging periods of such uncertainty. This means we can protect front-line services wherever possible and target services to the areas and people most in need while continuing to invest in the long term future of our Borough in our schools, roads, housing and town centres.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's Spending Plans Compared With Last Year

2021/22	2021/22	2021/22		2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Gross Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Gross Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
98,823	-22,141	76,682	Adults & Health	100,961	-21,703	79,258
134,838	-95,197	39,641	Children's Services and Schools Funding	144,778	-99,245	45,533
57,323	-15,798	41,525	Community Services & Transport	58,303	-16,574	41,729
13,707	-3,335	10,372	Environment, Culture, Leisure & Events	13,700	-3,453	10,247
2,972	-4,606	-1,634	Town Centre Investment	5,226	-6,255	-1,029
61,783	-49,443	12,340	Finance, Development & Business Services and Housing Benefits	59,391	-46,447	12,944
5,680	-520	5,160	HR, Legal & Communications	5,814	-542	5,272
16,035	-6,297	9,738	Admin, Democratic Services & Xentrall	16,932	-7,138	9,794
9,690	-3,064	6,626	Corporate Areas	16,126	-3,067	13,059
1,800	0	1,800	Council Tax Support Payments	0	0	0
402,651	-200,401	202,250	SubTotal	421,231	-204,424	216,807
22		22	Port Health Levy	22		22
190		190	Environment Agency Levy	194		194
402,863	-200,401	202,462	Total	421,447	-204,424	217,023
		-56,103	Government Funding			-63,464
		-46,697	Business Rates 50% Retained Share			-48,312
		-1,495	Use Of Council Balances			-3,550
		98,167	Council Tax Requirement			101,697

Adult Social Care Levy Statement

The Secretary of State 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 was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its council tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

Support For Energy Prices - The Council Tax Rebate

The Government is providing a £150 one-off Energy Bills Rebate for most households in council tax bands A-D.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's funds are spent on providing services for residents and visitors to the Borough in accordance with the Council Plan (available on the Council website www.stockton.gov.uk)