Cambridge in full

The council tax bill and who receives it, spending by service, payments over £500, senior pay, the report card and how the council compares.

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Executive summary

The key figures from each part of this report, with the change on a year earlier where the source gives one.

Cambridge: your area

£2,467
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£112 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£6.7m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

7%
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25 (county)

Council tax in Cambridge

£2,467
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£112 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,645
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£56
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

Where your council tax goes in Cambridge

£2,467.02
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£239.07
Goes to Cambridge itself (10%)
As of 6 April 2026

£749.08
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

Parking income in Cambridge

£6.75m
Parking surplus
+£0.64m (+10.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£12.51m
Parking income
+£2.94m (+30.6%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£5.76m
Spending on parking
+£2.30m (+66.3%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

Cambridge: spending over £500

£130.7m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

7,762
Payments

1,364
Suppliers

Cambridge: senior pay and councillor allowances

£177,055
Chief Executive, 2025-26

0
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£615,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

Cambridge: your area

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/your-area/cambridge/

Cambridge sets a Band D council tax of **£2,467** for 2026-27, 122 of 296 councils in England from the highest. Police: Cambridgeshire. Fire and rescue: Cambridgeshire. Health: NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board. This page links to everything the site holds on the area; the full bill, the report card and parking each have a page of their own.

Key figures

£2,467
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£112 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£6.7m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

7%
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25 (county)

436%
Reserves as a share of spending, 2025-26

What is the council tax in Cambridge?

Band D is **£2,467** a year for 2026-27, and Band A, the lowest, **£1,645**. That is £56 above the England average of £2,411, 122 of 296 in England from the highest.

Of a Band D bill, **£239** goes to Cambridge.

Every band, who gets the money and how Cambridge compares

Where your council tax goes: from your bill to each service

Every payment over £500 that Cambridge publishes

Cambridge: senior pay and councillors' allowances

How does the council compare?

- Council tax rise this year 4.7% Lower than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £766 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (2 of 2) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 436% Higher than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £4,898 Higher than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2025-26 Unsigned 6% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services (county) Requires improvement to be good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care (county) Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 7% Higher than the England figure of 5%
- Major planning decisions on time 89.5% Lower than the England figure of 91.0%

Each figure is set against the figure for England as a whole. They are plain comparisons, one measure at a time: there is no overall score and no ranking of councils. Higher is not always better or worse; what each measure does and does not show is on the methodology page.

The full report card: complaints, finances, audit, pay and services

Roads, bins and planning

Roads, recycling and planning in Cambridge

Measure	Figure	Period
A roads where maintenance should be considered (Cambridgeshire County Council)	7%	2024-25
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered	16%	2024-25
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	22%	2024-25
Major planning decisions made on time	89.5%	24 months to end of June 2026

Road condition is from the Department for Transport; each figure is compared with England as a whole in the report card.

What does the council make from parking?

Parking income and surplus for Cambridge

Authority	Year	Income	Surplus
Cambridge	2025-26	£12.5m	£6.7m
Cambridgeshire CC (county)	2025-26	£8.5m	£3.6m

What the law lets a council spend a parking surplus on is on parking fines and council parking income.

Who is your MP?

A council area can span several constituencies, so your MP depends on your address. Enter your postcode in the box at the top of this page to see your MP and what their office cost, find any MP by name or constituency , or see every constituency and its MP on the MP map.

How much crime is recorded here?

In the 12 months to August 2026, police recorded **94.3 crimes per 1,000 residents** in Cambridge, excluding anti-social behaviour, against 82.5 across England.

Cambridge on the crime map, down to streets of a few hundred homes

Your police precept

A Band D home in Cambridge pays **£314.37** police precept in 2026-27. It funds **Cambridgeshire**, which has £223m in all for 2026-27. The precept is set once for the whole force area and spent across the whole force area, so the crime figures above for Cambridge are not what its precept bought.

Cambridgeshire: funding, precept and results for the whole force

Who runs police, fire, health and ambulances here?

The bodies that serve Cambridge, and their latest money

Service	Body	Latest	Per resident
Police	Cambridgeshire	£223m (2026-27)	£236
Fire and rescue	Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service	£40m (2025-26)	£42.04
Ambulance	East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£494m (2024-25)	£75.17
NHS	NHS Central East Integrated Care Board	£9.3bn (2028-29)	£2,877
Roads	Cambridgeshire County Council	£37m (2025-26)	£51.33
Schools	Cambridgeshire	£545m (2026-27)	£759
Council spending	Cambridge	£31m (2025-26)	£209
Social care	Cambridgeshire	£461m (2024-25)	£647
Housing	Cambridge	£16m (2025-26)	£107
Waste and recycling	Cambridge	not published	—

Each body serves a wider area than Cambridge, and its money is for the whole of that area. Its page has its funding over time and what is recorded alongside it; public services near you looks them up for any postcode. Water is not covered yet: see Discover Water.

Which bodies cover Cambridge: ONS lookups of local authorities to police force areas, fire and rescue authorities, integrated care boards and local health boards (Open Government Licence v3.0); where an area is split between integrated care boards, the one covering most residents is named.

How does Cambridge look against other councils?

See Cambridge on the council map, alongside every other council on council tax, complaints, reserves, audit and inspections, or browse every council.

Common questions

- **How much is council tax in Cambridge?** Band D is £2,467 a year for 2026-27. Every band.
- **Which police force covers Cambridge?** Cambridgeshire police force area. Fire and rescue: Cambridgeshire.

Council tax in Cambridge

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/cambridge/

Council tax in **Cambridge** for 2026-27 is **£2,467 a year for a Band D home**, £1,645 for Band A and £4,934 for the top band. That is £56 above the England average of £2,411. It ranks 122 of 296 billing areas in England. Figures are the council's own set rates.

Key figures

£2,467
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£112 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,645
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£56
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

122 of 296
Rank in England, highest first
As of 6 April 2026

What is the bill for each band?

Council tax by band in Cambridge, bands A to H

Band	A year	A month
Band A	£1,644.68	£137.06
Band B	£1,918.79	£159.90
Band C	£2,192.91	£182.74
Band D	£2,467.02	£205.59
Band E	£3,015.25	£251.27
Band F	£3,563.47	£296.96
Band G	£4,111.70	£342.64
Band H	£4,934.04	£411.17

Who gets the money?

Band D bill in Cambridge by receiving body

Who receives it	Band D	Share
Cambridge	£239	10%
Other precepting bodies	£2,228	90%

Each body sets its own precept and the council simply collects them together. The council that sends the bill keeps only its own share.

Where your council tax goes: from your bill to each service

How does it compare?

Band D here is **£56 above** the England average, 122 of 296 councils from the highest.

Cambridge among the England councils nearest it, Band D 2026-27



Ranked highest first. Every council is in the full table.

How does Cambridge compare? The report card

Official figures on complaints, finances, audit, pay and services for Cambridge, each from the body that published it and set against the figure for England. See every council on the council map.

- Council tax rise this year 4.7% Lower than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £766 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (2 of 2) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 436% Higher than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £4,898 Higher than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2025-26 Unsigned 6% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services (county) Requires improvement to be good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care (county) Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 7% Higher than the England figure of 5%
- Major planning decisions on time 89.5% Lower than the England figure of 91.0%

Each figure is set against the figure for England as a whole. They are plain comparisons, one measure at a time: there is no overall score and no ranking of councils. Higher is not always better or worse; what each measure does and does not show is on the methodology page.

What do complaints to the ombudsman show?

Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman: Cambridge, 2025-26

Measure	Cambridge	For comparison
Complaints and enquiries received	30	—
Complaints and enquiries decided	24	15 in 2024-25
Detailed investigations	2	—
Upheld	2	—
Uphold rate	100%	86% for every body the Ombudsman covers; 74% for similar councils
Upheld cases where the council had already offered a satisfactory remedy	0%	13% for every body the Ombudsman covers
Ombudsman's recommendations the council complied with	—	99.9% for every body the Ombudsman covers

An uphold rate depends on how many complaints reach a detailed investigation. With few investigations, one decision moves it a long way.

Source: Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, Annual review of local government complaints, 2025-26.

The Housing Ombudsman, which handles complaints from council tenants, made **0** findings of severe maladministration against Cambridge City Council in 2025-26, out of 6 findings in 3 determinations. Its maladministration rate for this landlord was 83%.

Source: Housing Ombudsman Service, Annual complaints review: landlord tables, 2025-26.

How healthy are its finances?

Reserves, spending and borrowing: Cambridge

Measure	Cambridge	For comparison
Net revenue spending, 2025-26	£17.6m	—
Reserves at the end of 2025-26	£76.6m	—
Reserves as a share of net spending	436%	50% for England; 328% in 2024-25
Outstanding borrowing at 30 June 2026	£298.6m	—
Borrowing per home on the valuation list	£4,898	£3,474 across English billing authorities

Earmarked and unallocated revenue reserves at the end of the year, excluding schools and public health, as a share of net revenue expenditure. Much of any council's reserves is set aside for particular purposes. Borrowing is total outstanding loans of every kind; councils borrow mainly to pay for buildings, roads and housing, and the figure does not show what the borrowing was for.

Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: revenue outturn time series, 2025-26; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Local authority borrowing and investment live table, 30 June 2026; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Council Taxbase statistics, 2025.

What have the auditors said?

Audit of the accounts: Cambridge

Accounts year	Status recorded by PSAA	Opinion signed
2025-26	Unsigned	Not yet
2024-25	Delivered by backstop	24 February 2026

"Delivered by backstop" means the auditor gave an opinion by the statutory backstop date. Many opinions given that way were disclaimed or qualified because the deadline cut the audit short; PSAA publishes which type of opinion each council received only as national totals, so it is not shown here. Auditors' value-for-money findings are in each auditor's annual report on the council's website.

Source: Public Sector Audit Appointments, Monthly audit opinion data, 2025-26.

What are senior staff and councillors paid?

Pay and allowances: Cambridge, from the statement of accounts

Measure	2025-26	2024-25
Employees paid £50,000 or more	127	108
Councillors' allowances	£615,000	£534,000

The count is up 19 on the year before. 'The Council's other employees (excluding the senior employees disclosed separately above) receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer pension contributions)'. No band at or above £95,000 is printed and no total row. Cambridge is a district council and does not employ school staff (includesSchools recorded false on that basis, not from the note). The accounts describe the allowances figure as "The total of members' allowances and expenses paid in the year was £615,000 (2024/25: £534,000).". These are draft accounts and may change at audit. Thresholds are not adjusted for inflation, so more staff cross them each year as pay rises.

Source: Cambridge, Cambridge City Council Unaudited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026, PDF page 51, Note 26. Checked 24 September 2026.

How are its services rated?

Service ratings and performance: Cambridge

Measure	Cambridge	For comparison
Children's services, Ofsted overall effectiveness	Requires improvement to be good (Cambridgeshire County Council)	16 May 2024. 73% of English councils judged good or outstanding
Adult social care, CQC assessment	Good (Cambridgeshire County Council)	20 August 2025. 63% of assessed councils rated good or outstanding
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	7% (Cambridgeshire County Council)	5% in England
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	16% (Cambridgeshire County Council)	7% in England
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	22% (Cambridgeshire County Council)	17% in England
Major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of june 2026	89.5%	91.0% for England
Non-major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	93.5%	90.7% for England

Cambridgeshire County Council runs children's services, adult social care and most roads here, so those rows are the county council's. Inspections happen at different times, so a rating can be several years old; the date is shown with each. Planning figures are measured differently in each nation: share of decisions made within the statutory time (13 weeks for major, 8 for non-major) or an agreed extension, over 24 months.

Source: Ofsted, Children's social care: local authority inspection outcomes, as at 31 March 2026; Care Quality Commission, Local authority assessments, latest assessment; Department for Transport, Road condition statistics: data tables (RDC), 2024-25; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Live tables on planning application statistics (P151, P153), 24 months to end of June 2026.

What about the county council, Cambridgeshire County Council?

Cambridgeshire County Council sets its own share of the council tax bill here and runs social care, children's services, most roads and waste disposal. Its own figures:

Cambridgeshire County Council: its own figures

Measure	Cambridgeshire County Council	Detail
Ombudsman uphold rate	96%	141 complaints decided, 2025-26
Reserves as a share of net spending	26%	2025-26
Outstanding borrowing	£867.8m	at 30 June 2026
Accounts, 2025-26	Unsigned	Not yet signed

Official events for Cambridgeshire County Council:

1. 28 February 2025 Audit backstop Listed by MHCLG as not meeting the audit backstop requirements for 2023-24 Draft accounts published by the deadline: yes. Audit opinion delivered by the backstop date: yes. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
2. 28 July 2023 Ombudsman Ombudsman report: upheld, other Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 22-010-218. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
3. 7 April 2022 Ombudsman Ombudsman report: upheld, special educational needs Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 20-013-354. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

Source: Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, Annual review of local government complaints, 2025-26; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: revenue outturn time series, 2025-26; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Local authority borrowing and investment live table, 30 June 2026; Public Sector Audit Appointments, Monthly audit opinion data, 2025-26.

What has happened recently?

Decisions and publications by official bodies about Cambridge, newest first. Each links to the body that made or published it. News reports are not included.

1. 7 May 2026 Election Local election: 15 seats won Green Party 7, Labour Party 4, Liberal Democrats 4 Democracy Club

2. 1 April 2026 Council tax Council tax for 2026-27: Band D £2,467, up 4.7% on the year before Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
3. 28 February 2025 Audit backstop Listed by MHCLG as not meeting the audit backstop requirements for 2023-24 Draft accounts published by the deadline: no. Audit opinion delivered by the backstop date: no. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
4. 2 May 2024 Election Local election: 14 seats won Labour Party 8, Liberal Democrats 3, Green Party 2, Labour and Co-operative Party 1 Democracy Club
5. 4 May 2023 Election Local election: 16 seats won Labour Party 8, Liberal Democrats 4, Green Party 2, Labour and Co-operative Party 2 Democracy Club
6. 5 May 2022 Election Local election: 16 seats won Labour Party 12, Liberal Democrats 3, Green Party 1 Democracy Club

Does the council think something here is wrong?

If you represent Cambridge and think a figure here is wrong, out of date or unfairly presented, email hello@whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk with this page's address and the source you would point to. Every correction is logged, with its date, on the corrections page.

How much of the council's spending does this cover?

Council tax paid for **8.9%** of the money Cambridge had to spend in 2025-26. The rest came from government grants (27.8%), business rates (10.2%) and fees, charges and other income (53.0%). That is why a grant cut can raise your bill even when the council has not changed what it does. See where it goes.

Where can I find out more?

What council tax is and why it works this way, including why the bands are still based on 1991 property values in England and Scotland, and how every area compares, everything else on Cambridge: parking, roads, your MP and local services, and Cambridge on the council map.

Common questions

- **How much is council tax in Cambridge?** Band D is £2,467 a year for 2026-27. Band A is £1,645 and the top band £4,934.
- **Is council tax in Cambridge higher than average?** Yes. Band D here is £56 above the England average of £2,411.

Where your council tax goes in Cambridge

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/cambridge/where-it-goes/

A Band D council tax bill in **Cambridge** is **£2,467.02** for 2026-27, split between Cambridge £239.07, Cambridgeshire County Council £1,751.41, Cambridgeshire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase £34.01, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable £314.37, Cambridgeshire Combined Fire and Rescue Authority £92.16, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority £36.00. Shared out in proportion to what each body spends, the largest single line is adult social care at Cambridgeshire County Council: **£749.08** of the bill. Council tax pays for 9% of the council's own spending; the rest is government grant, business rates and fees.

Key figures

£2,467.02
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£239.07
Goes to Cambridge itself (10%)
As of 6 April 2026

£749.08
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

8.9%
Of the council's money that comes from council tax, 2025-26
As of 28 September 2026

Who gets your bill

Figures are for a **Band D** home. Bands A to H pay a fixed fraction of this, set in law.

And where does that bit go?

Choose any part of the bill to see how it divides, then keep going as far as the published returns allow. Every level has its own link you can share.

An interactive map or explorer appears here on the live page.

Parks, street cleaning and roads here

What Cambridge and Cambridgeshire County Council spent, net of income, on the lines readers ask about most. Roads and street cleaning are also shown per mile of road the council looks after, where it is the highway authority. Gully cleaning and verge cutting are inside routine maintenance; no return splits them out.

Cambridge, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£3.0m	£20	£8.33	—	up 30.4% on 2024-25
Street cleaning	£3.5m	£23	£11	—	up 18.8% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£367k	£2.45	£0.22	—	up 64.6% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£367k	£2.45	£0.21	—	up 64.6% on 2024-25

Cambridgeshire County Council, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£130k	£0.18	£2.33	—	—
Road and bridge maintenance	£24.3m	£34	£22	£8,679 (similar: £5,441)	up 876.2% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£17.7m	£25	£17	£6,332 (similar: £3,942)	up 1461.4% on 2024-25
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	£6.6m	£9.15	£3.54	£2,348 (similar: £845)	up 385.5% on 2024-25
Winter service (gritting)	£3.5m	£4.89	£4.34	£1,254 (similar: £966)	down 17.7% on 2024-25
Street lighting (including energy)	£9.0m	£13	£5.90	£3,220 (similar: £1,408)	down 10.1% on 2024-25

Miles of road: Department for Transport road lengths, 2025; locally managed major roads and all minor roads. More on what council tax does and doesn't pay for.

What it adds up to

Cambridge: net spending per resident by service, 2025-26, against the median for district councils in England

Service	Per resident	Median
Housing (not council homes)	£107	£24
Environment and regulation	£70	£56
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£59	£23
Planning and development	£43	£22
Running the council	£-26.03	£41
Roads and transport	£-42.58	£-4.18

- Cambridge spent **40.7**% of its gross service spending on its own staff in 2025-26 (median for district councils in England: 39.3%); the rest went on suppliers, contractors, grants, benefits and other running costs.
- Its published payments of £500 or more came to **£130.7m** between 2025-11 and 2026-10. These include capital and council housing spending, so they are not a share of the figures above.
- Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **30.6**% of its staff costs (median among the 4 other district councils in England whose £500 data is read: 10.0%). The two come from different sources and periods, so this is a guide to scale, not an exact share.

Cambridgeshire County Council: net spending per resident by service, 2025-26, against the median for county councils

Service	Per resident	Median
Education	£675	£736
Adult social care	£398	£457
Children's social care	£188	£242
Environment and regulation	£67	£57
Public health	£49	£53
Roads and transport	£35	£68
Running the council	£30	£21
Housing (not council homes)	£9.88	£2.98
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£9.80	£17
Planning and development	£2.56	£5.56

- Cambridgeshire County Council spent **25.6**% of its gross service spending on its own staff in 2025-26 (median for county councils: 28.8%); the rest went on suppliers, contractors, grants, benefits and other running costs.

What this data does and doesn't show

- These are each body's own figures, as reported to government in its revenue outturn return. Net spending is after the fees, charges and grants a service brings in.
- Your bill is for 2026-27; it is shared out using the latest published return, which covers an earlier year. The mix of spending changes little from one year to the next, but it does change.
- Council tax is not ring-fenced: this shows your bill in proportion to spending, not what your money bought. Where a precept is set aside for adult social care, it is shown against adult social care.
- No council publishes spending at street or property level, so nothing here says what was spent near you.
- Sub-service lines are the ones the national returns itemise. Councils describe their own budgets differently; their budget books and statements of accounts have more detail.

Sources

- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England: Table 10, local authority level data, published 25 March 2026. Open Government Licence v3.0.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: Revenue Outturn multi-year data set, published 28 September 2026. Open Government Licence v3.0.

How the split is worked out, and how the three nations' returns are matched to one list of services, is on the methodology page. The dataset is on the data page. See also council tax in Cambridge and everything else about Cambridge.

Common questions

- **What does council tax pay for in Cambridge?** A Band D bill of £2,467.02 is split between Cambridge, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Combined Fire and Rescue Authority, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. In proportion to spending, the largest line is adult social care, £749.08.
- **Is council tax ring-fenced for particular services?** No. Council tax is pooled with grants, business rates and fees. The adult social care precept is the exception: councils raise it for adult social care.

Parking income in Cambridge

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/parking/cambridge/

In 2025–26 Cambridge took **£12.5m** in parking income and spent £5.8m, a **surplus of £6.7m** against £6.1m in 2024–25 (+10%), the 47th largest of 290 councils in England. Figures are from the council's own return to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Key figures

£6.75m
Parking surplus
+£0.64m (+10.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£12.51m
Parking income
+£2.94m (+30.6%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

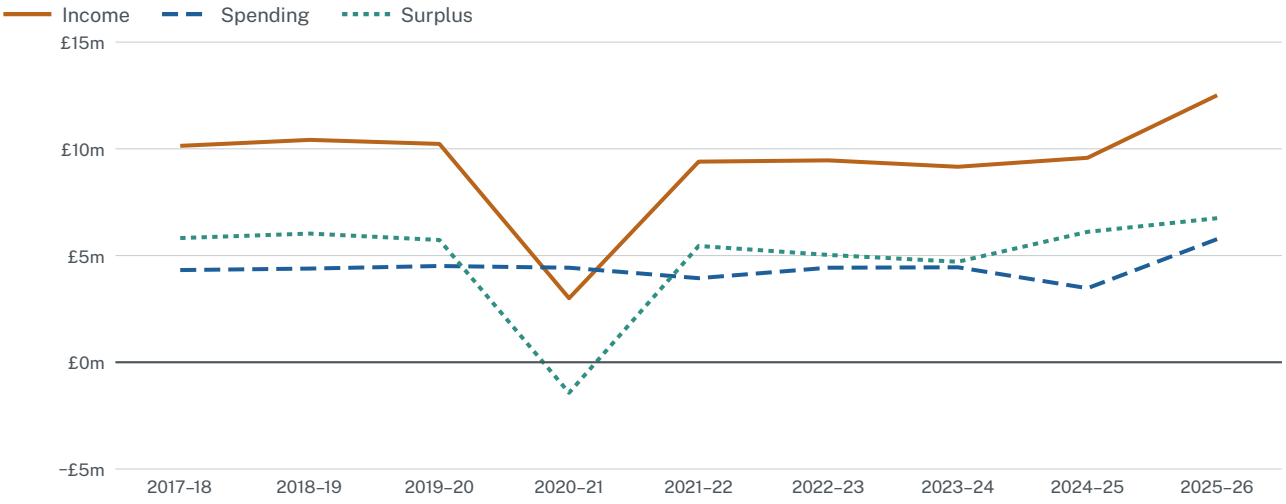
£5.76m
Spending on parking
+£2.30m (+66.3%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£0.00m
Penalty charge income
no change vs 2024–25
2025–26

47 of 290
Rank in England, largest surplus first
2025–26

How much has Cambridge made from parking each year?

Cambridge: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million



Cambridge: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million. Income: £10.14m in 2017–18, £12.51m in 2025–26. Spending: £4.32m in 2017–18, £5.77m in 2025–26. Surplus: £5.82m in 2017–18, £6.75m in 2025–26.

Cambridge: on-street and car park accounts

Year	On-street income	On-street spending	Car park income	Car park spending	Penalty income
2017–18	£0.00m	£0.00m	£10.14m	£4.32m	£0.00m
2018–19	£0.00m	£0.00m	£10.42m	£4.39m	£0.00m
2019–20	£0.00m	£0.00m	£10.23m	£4.51m	£0.00m
2020–21	£0.00m	£0.00m	£3.00m	£4.43m	£0.00m
2021–22	£0.00m	£0.00m	£9.40m	£3.94m	£0.00m
2022–23	£0.00m	£0.00m	£9.46m	£4.43m	£0.00m
2023–24	£0.00m	£0.00m	£9.16m	£4.45m	£0.00m
2024–25	£0.00m	£0.00m	£9.58m	£3.47m	£0.00m
2025–26	£0.00m	£0.00m	£12.51m	£5.76m	£0.00m

All figures are cash, in the council's own return. The most recent year is a first release and may be revised. Cambridge is recorded as: Shire District.

What can Cambridge spend a surplus on?

On-street parking charges and all council parking penalty charges (England and Wales)

Ring-fenced by law a ring-fenced parking account. A surplus may only be spent on parking, public transport, highway and environmental improvements and similar purposes; a deficit is made good from the general fund.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s55, as applied in England by SI 2022/71, regs 25 and 27

Council car park (off-street) tariffs

Kept by the body that collects it the council's general fund. Section 55 covers on-street parking and enforcement income, not car park fees. Not verified

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s55(1), and DfT statutory guidance on civil parking enforcement

How does Cambridge compare with other councils?

Cambridge among the England councils nearest it, parking surplus 2025–26



Ranked largest surplus first; a negative figure is a deficit. Every council is in the full tables.

Every council's parking surplus, penalty charge levels and the national trend.

Cambridge: spending over £500

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/spending-over-500/cambridge/

Cambridge published **7,762 payments** of £500 or more between November 2025 and October 2026, worth **£130.7m** in all, to 1,364 suppliers. The largest total went to Cambridge Investment Partnership LLP: £22.2m across 41 payments. These are the council's own published records; the gaps in them are listed below.

Key figures

£130.7m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

7,762
Payments

1,364
Suppliers

12 of 12
Months with payments published

What the council published

1. Novpublished
2. Decpublished
3. Janpublished
4. Febpublished
5. Marpublished
6. Aprpublished
7. Maypublished
8. Junpublished
9. Julpublished
10. Augpublished
11. Septpublished
12. Octpublished

Gaps and problems in the data, as published:

- 3 payments are dated after the day this was read, which cannot be right; they are left out.

Top 50 suppliers by value

Cambridge: the 50 suppliers paid most, November 2025 to October 2026

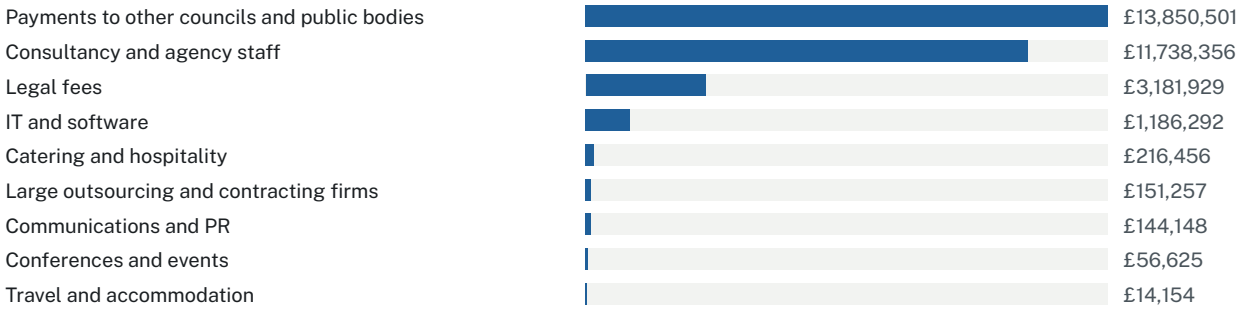
Supplier	Paid	Payments
Cambridge Investment Partnership LLP	£22,248,009	41
Hill Partnerships Limited	£13,712,559	37
TSG Building Services PLC	£7,534,239	148
South Cambridgeshire District Council	£7,471,913	73
Foster Property Maintenance Ltd	£7,208,103	199
Huntingdonshire District Council	£5,125,702	65
Aran Insulation Limited	£5,003,641	56
Comensura Ltd	£4,374,142	49
Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL)	£3,392,643	34

Supplier	Paid	Payments
Cartwright Pickard Architects Ltd	£2,881,257	15
CWRP Relocation Ltd	£2,616,427	2
Macbrook Gas Ltd	£2,454,417	127
Total Gas & Power Ltd	£1,991,404	39
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	£1,789,621	3
Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd	£1,541,284	19
Thomson Webb & Corfield	£1,449,572	19
Freeths LLP	£1,447,870	29
Lawtech Group Ltd	£1,341,843	9
Oak Construction & Maintenance Ltd	£1,091,540	52
Cambridge Social Investments Limited	£1,069,720	6
Chas Berger Ltd	£914,352	11
Cambridgeshire County Council	£709,650	28
Total Clean Cambridge	£707,667	75
ESPO	£649,552	11
City Group Security Ltd	£562,914	76
University of Cambridge	£522,719	10
David Powell t/a D J Kitchens	£519,294	164
JGPS Consulting LLP	£491,071	12
Potter Raper Partnership	£423,401	61
Bowsers Solicitors	£415,458	8
Goshen Multi-Services Ltd	£383,171	16
Woodgrange Solicitors LLP	£370,109	5
Birketts LLP	£369,661	5
Eastfield Guest House Ltd	£363,431	49
Warwick Estates Property Management Ltd	£340,435	19
Fraser Dawbarns LLP	£332,101	6
R J Warren Ltd	£316,398	57
Industrial Site Maintenance Ltd	£316,058	38
Modern Democracy Ltd	£311,239	2
Alliance Asbestos Services Ltd	£307,537	126
Axis Europe plc	£297,704	7
Absolute Electrical & Renewables Ltd	£297,434	75
Ashtons Legal LLP - Client Account	£296,348	4
PHS Home Solutions Ltd	£292,533	23
Tanner & Hall Roofing & Solar Systems Ltd	£288,630	12
Huws Gray Ltd	£277,956	58
Barr Ellison LLP	£277,039	7
Cambridge & District Citizen's Advice Bureau	£276,178	6
Poole Alcock LLP	£275,400	5
Edmondson Hall Solicitors	£273,778	4

Spending by category (our classification)

Payments this site classifies into each category from the supplier and the council's description; most payments fall into none. The rules are on the methodology page.

Cambridge: payments by category (our classification)



The supplier is another council, a police, fire or NHS body, a government department or agency, or a pension fund.

1. South Cambridgeshire District Council: £7,471,913 (73 payments)
2. Huntingdonshire District Council: £5,125,702 (65 payments)
3. Cambridgeshire County Council: £709,650 (28 payments)
4. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust: £136,500 (3 payments)
5. Cambs & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust: £116,508 (4 payments)
6. HM Revenue & Customs (SDLT): £114,930 (7 payments)
7. Department for Energy Security and Net Zero - DESNZ: £89,454 (1 payment)
8. East Cambridgeshire District Council: £30,347 (3 payments)
9. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority: £26,000 (1 payment)
10. Fenland District Council: £12,444 (2 payments)

The supplier is one of a named list of large firms that run council services under contract. A payment to one is often a routine instalment on a long contract.

1. VWS (UK) Limited t/a Veolia Water Technologies: £106,394 (51 payments)
2. Veolia ES (UK) Limited: £43,813 (10 payments)
3. Serco Limited: £1,050 (1 payment)

The supplier is a law firm or chambers, or the council describes the payment as legal fees, counsel or court fees.

1. Freeths LLP: £1,447,870 (29 payments)
2. Bowsers Solicitors: £415,458 (8 payments)
3. Woodgrange Solicitors LLP: £370,109 (5 payments)
4. Edmondson Hall Solicitors: £273,778 (4 payments)
5. Sharpe Pritchard LLP: £158,242 (36 payments)
6. Trowers & Hamlins LLP: £78,028 (10 payments)
7. Francis Taylor Building: £65,798 (8 payments)
8. JGPS Consulting LLP: £58,273 (3 payments)
9. Morgan Has Solicitors Ltd Client Account: £55,000 (1 payment)
10. Cornerstone Barristers: £39,350 (13 payments)

The supplier is a recruitment agency or consultancy on a named list, or the council describes the payment as consultancy, agency or interim staff, or professional fees.

1. Comensura Ltd: £4,374,142 (49 payments)
2. Cartwright Pickard Architects Ltd: £2,881,257 (15 payments)
3. Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd: £1,356,988 (15 payments)
4. Potter Raper Partnership: £420,151 (60 payments)
5. Ernst & Young LLP: £238,509 (4 payments)
6. Hays Specialist Recruitment Limited: £212,931 (77 payments)
7. The Sustainability Company Ltd: £204,500 (11 payments)
8. Calfordseaden LLP: £188,255 (17 payments)

9. Buro Happold Ltd: £126,423 (6 payments)
10. Savills (UK) Ltd: £79,588 (13 payments)

The supplier is on a named list of IT and telecoms firms, or the council describes the payment as software, licences, IT, hardware, hosting or telephony.

1. Modern Democracy Ltd: £311,239 (2 payments)
2. Idox Software Limited: £263,789 (5 payments)
3. IEG4 Ltd: £104,000 (1 payment)
4. Voicescape Ltd: £97,133 (1 payment)
5. Civica UK Ltd: £67,297 (5 payments)
6. REEN Technologies Ltd: £41,940 (1 payment)
7. Locata (Housing Services) Ltd: £30,000 (2 payments)
8. Proactis Limited: £22,550 (1 payment)
9. Built Intelligence Ltd: £18,791 (13 payments)
10. Fluent Technology Ltd: £18,360 (1 payment)

The council describes the payment as advertising, marketing, publicity or public relations. Recruitment and statutory notices are left out.

1. County Life Ltd: £15,975 (3 payments)
2. D2D Distribution Ltd: £13,284 (3 payments)
3. Jotform Ltd: £11,970 (1 payment)
4. Bauer Radio Ltd: £9,508 (5 payments)
5. Earthsense Systems Ltd: £7,950 (1 payment)
6. Claire Horton PR Ltd: £7,500 (2 payments)
7. Linkedin Ireland ULC: £7,325 (1 payment)
8. Rightmove Group Ltd: £6,930 (10 payments)
9. Ten4 Design Ltd: £6,300 (1 payment)
10. The Audience Agency: £5,000 (1 payment)

The council describes the payment as a conference, seminar, exhibition, event or venue hire.

1. The Performance Improvement People Ltd t/a LEEWAY: £16,406 (3 payments)
2. Safety Stars Ltd: £7,200 (2 payments)
3. Gower Consultants Ltd: £6,112 (1 payment)
4. Professional Development Group t/a MyPD: £4,338 (1 payment)
5. Ocean Media Group Ltd: £3,380 (4 payments)
6. CIPP: £2,997 (3 payments)
7. PPMA: £2,580 (1 payment)
8. IDEA - Improvement & Development Agency For Local Government: £2,250 (1 payment)
9. LABC: £2,250 (1 payment)
10. Anglia Ruskin University: £1,500 (1 payment)

The council describes the payment as travel, fares, flights, subsistence or hotels. Homeless and temporary accommodation, and home to school and client transport, are left out.

1. The Universal Gift Card Company Ltd: £12,812 (5 payments)
2. Arundel House Hotel (Cambridge) Ltd: £1,342 (1 payment)

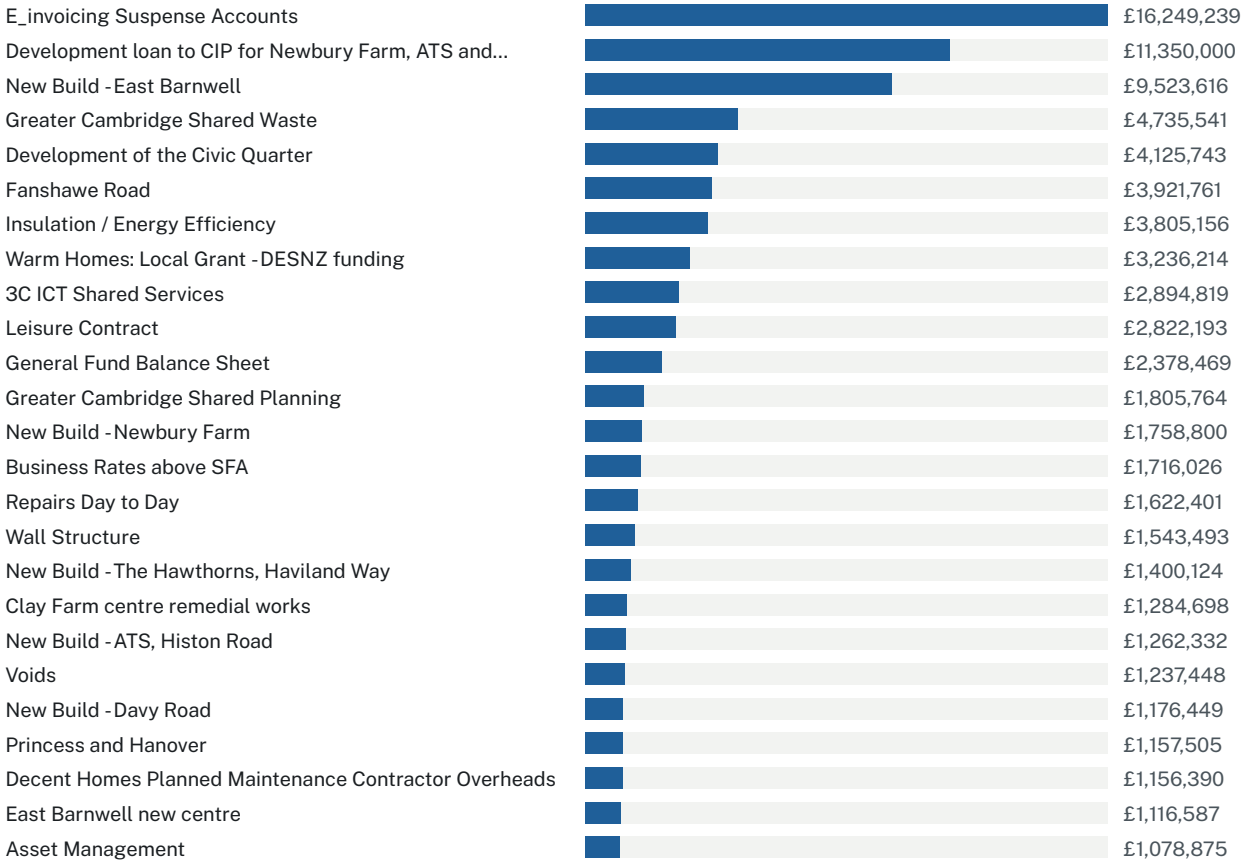
The council describes the payment as catering, hospitality or refreshments. School meals are left out.

1. ABM Catering Ltd: £197,895 (9 payments)
2. Tower Leasing Ltd: £12,930 (12 payments)
3. Puddini Ltd: £2,379 (2 payments)

4. The Vending People Ltd: £1,064 (1 payment)
5. Proton (Southern) Ltd: £862 (1 payment)
6. King Street Cellar: £700 (1 payment)
7. Lemonthyme Ltd: £626 (1 payment)

Spending by the council's own service areas

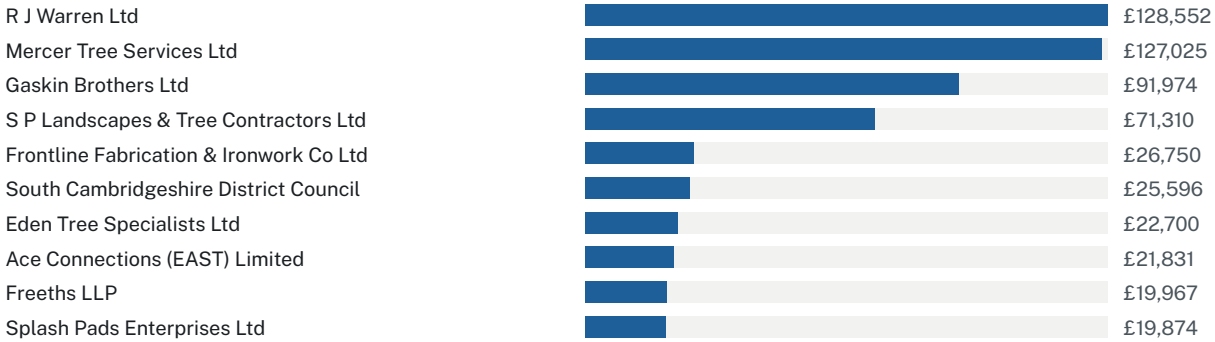
Cambridge: payments by service area, as the council labels them



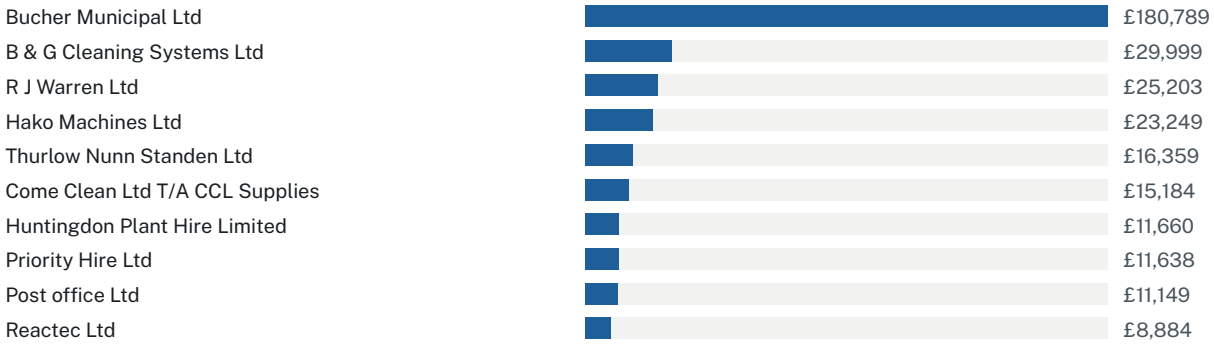
Who is paid for grounds, street cleaning, roads and bins?

The suppliers paid most for each kind of work, where the council's own labels say what the payment was for (our matching). A council that does the work with its own staff pays mostly wages, which are not in this data, so a short list here can mean the work is done in-house.

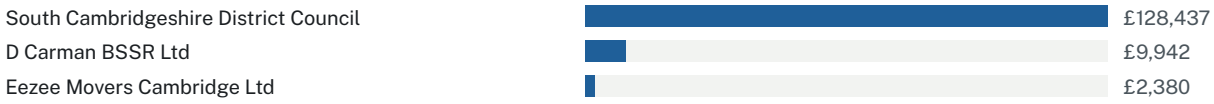
Parks and open spaces (including play areas): largest suppliers



Street cleaning: largest suppliers



Waste collection: largest suppliers



Consultancy and agency against the pay bill

Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **30.6%** of Cambridge's own staff costs in its 2025-26 revenue return, against a median of 10.0% for the other district councils in England read so far. The payments and the staff costs come from different sources and periods, so this is a guide to scale.

Search every payment

Searching needs JavaScript. Every payment is in one JSON file.

Every payment, as the council published it, is in one JSON file; the search can download any selection as CSV.

What this data does and doesn't show

- It is the council's own record of payments of £500 or more. It leaves out salaries, most staff costs and many internal costs, so it is not the council's whole spending.
- Descriptions are the council's own and vary in quality; some are codes, some are blank, and some supplier names are withheld to protect individuals.
- A large payment to one supplier is often a routine instalment on a long contract that was tendered openly.
- The categories and the matching to services are this site's classification from keywords, not the council's. The rules are on the methodology page.

Sources

Cambridge, spending over £500, published here. Licence as the council states it: not stated. Checked 2026-09-24; files read 2026-11-18.

- Payments to suppliers: April 2026 onwards [CSV, 0.8MB] (2026-04), file dated 2026-11-05: 4,491 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-18.
- Payments to suppliers: April 2025 to March 2026 [CSV, 1.5MB] (2025-04), file dated 2026-04-15: 9,073 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-18.
- Payments to suppliers: April 2024 to March 2025 [CSV, 1MB] (2024-04), file dated 2025-07-30: 9,076 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-18.

Cambridge: senior pay and councillor allowances

Your area · Last updated 18 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/pay-and-allowances/cambridge/

In its draft statement of accounts for 2025-26, Cambridge reports total remuneration of **£177,055** for its chief executive (including employer pension contributions), **0** employees paid £100,000 or more, and **£615,000** paid in members' allowances.

Key figures

£177,055
Chief Executive, 2025-26

0
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£615,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

£8,069
Basic allowance per councillor, 2026-27

Chief Executive

Total remuneration of **£177,055** in 2025-26, including employer pension contributions. Excluding pension contributions: £150,557. That is up 7.2% on 2024-25 (£165,155). The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £175,269.

From the accounts: Robert Pollock, Chief Executive. 2025/26: salary, fees, allowances 150,557; pension 26,498; total 177,055. 2024/25: 140,438; 24,717; termination 0; total 165,155. totalExclPension is the printed 'Salary, fees, allowances' column.

PDF page 51, Note 26

Employees paid £50,000 or more

127 employees in 2025-26, up 17.6% on 2024-25 (108). 0 were paid £100,000 or more, 0.0 per 100,000 residents. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is 1.4 per 100,000.

Cambridge: employees by pay band, as printed

Band	2025-26	2024-25
£50,000 to £54,999	57	52
£55,000 to £59,999	36	32
£60,000 to £64,999	20	9
£65,000 to £69,999	0	3
£70,000 to £74,999	5	5
£75,000 to £79,999	3	2
£80,000 to £84,999	2	2
£85,000 to £89,999	3	3
£90,000 to £94,999	1	0

Excludes schools staff. Senior officers listed separately are not in these counts. From the accounts: 'The Council's other employees (excluding the senior employees disclosed separately above) receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer pension contributions)'. No band at or above £95,000 is printed and no total row. Cambridge is a district council and does not employ school staff (includesSchools recorded false on that basis, not from the note).

Source: Cambridge, Cambridge City Council Unaudited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 (draft), PDF page 51, Note 26. Read by hand; checked 2026-09-24.

Councillors' allowances

£615,000 in 2025-26, up 15.2% on 2024-25 (£534,000), or £4.10 per resident. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £3.24 per resident.

Cambridge: allowances paid, 2025-26, from its published list

Paid as	Total
Basic allowances	£323,093
Special responsibility allowances	£292,430
Expenses	£150
All	£615,674

The basic allowance for each councillor is £8,069 a year (2026-27).

From the accounts: "The total of members' allowances and expenses paid in the year was £615,000 (2024/25: £534,000)." (PDF page 51, Note 25)

Published allowances: Councillor allowances received 2025/26 (notice under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, April 2025 – March 2026).

What this data does and doesn't show

- Every figure is as Cambridge printed it, in accounts that have not yet been audited. Counts in the £100,000 figure are our sum of the council's bands.
- Comparisons are with the other district councils read so far; no national figure is published for England.
- Published notice Grand Total row: Basic Allowances 323,093.44; SRA 292,430.23; Transport/Subsistence 150.40; Grand Total 615,674.07. Basic rate from 'Members' Allowances Scheme, May 2026 – March 2027': 'Each Councillor will receive an annual allowance of £8069.'

Sources and licences

Every dataset behind the figures in this document, with its publisher, the date its figures are as of, and the licence they are used under.

Source	Publisher	Figures as of	Licence	Used in
Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	the 2026–27 financial year	Open Government Licence v3.0	Cambridge: your area; Council tax in Cambridge; Where your council tax goes in Cambridge
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/council-tax-statistics				
Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: revenue outturn multi-year data set (RO2 parking)	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	the 2025–26 financial year	Open Government Licence v3.0	Cambridge: your area; Parking income in Cambridge
https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing-england-revenue-outturn-multi-year-data-set				
Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: Revenue Outturn multi-year data set	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	28 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where your council tax goes in Cambridge
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6ab26ffffe72ed1e2b02ee74/Revenue_Outturn_time_series_data_v4.csv				
legislation.gov.uk and official guidance, provision by provision	legislation.gov.uk	22 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0 (legislation.gov.uk)	Parking income in Cambridge
https://www.legislation.gov.uk/				

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Generated on 18 November 2026. The live version, which may have newer figures, is at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-cambridge.