

Cheltenham 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.

Figures as of: 22 September 2026

Generated on: 27 September 2026

Version: 27 September 2026. Earlier versions stay available at <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/>

Live version: <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-cheltenham>

This is a snapshot. It was generated on 27 September 2026 and does not change. The figures may have been updated since: the live version is at <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-cheltenham>.

Published by [Tekstak Ltd](#). Our words, analysis and charts are licensed under CC BY 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), credit Tekstak Ltd. Figures from other bodies are used under each source's own licence, listed in the sources appendix.

This site takes no side. Every figure is quoted from the body that publishes it, with its date and source; views are attributed to the people and organisations who hold them. Our neutrality policy: <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/neutrality/>

Contents

Executive summary	3
Cheltenham: your area	4
Council tax in Cheltenham	7
Where your council tax goes in Cheltenham	12
Parking income in Cheltenham	15
Cheltenham: spending over £500	17
Cheltenham: senior pay and councillor allowances	23
Sources and licences	25

Executive summary

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

Cheltenham: your area

£2,370

Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£111 (+4.9%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£3.8m

Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

48.4%

Household waste recycled,
2024-25

Council tax in Cheltenham

£2,370

Band D a year, 2026-27
+£111 (+4.9%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,580

Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

-£41

Band D against the England
average of £2,411
Below average
As of 6 April 2026

Where your council tax goes in Cheltenham

£2,369.52

Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£252.11

Goes to Cheltenham itself (11%)
As of 6 April 2026

£605.32

Largest line: adult social care
As of 17 September 2026

Parking income in Cheltenham

£3.75m

Parking surplus
+£0.64m (+20.4%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

£5.34m

Parking income
+£0.56m (+11.8%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

£1.59m

Spending on parking
-£0.07m (-4.4%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

Cheltenham: spending over £500

£69.1m

Paid in payments of £500 or more,
latest year

5,513

Payments

724

Suppliers

Cheltenham: senior pay and councillor allowances

£157,959

Chief Executive Officer, 2024-25

1

Staff paid £100,000 or more,
2024-25

£457,144

Members' allowances, 2024-25

Cheltenham: your area

[Your area](#) · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/your-area/cheltenham/>

Cheltenham sets a Band D council tax of **£2,370** for 2026-27, 197 of 296 councils in England from the highest. Police: Gloucestershire. Fire and rescue: Gloucestershire. Health: NHS Gloucestershire 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

£2,370

Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£111 (+4.9%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£3.8m

Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

48.4%

Household waste recycled,
2024-25

1%

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

34%

Reserves as a share of spending,
2025-26

What is the council tax in Cheltenham?

Band D is **£2,370** a year for 2026-27, and Band A, the lowest, **£1,580**. That is £41 below the England average of £2,411, 197 of 296 in England from the highest.

Of a Band D bill, **£252** goes to Cheltenham.

[Every band, who gets the money and how Cheltenham compares](#)

[Where your council tax goes: from your bill to each service](#)

[Every payment over £500 that Cheltenham publishes](#)

[Cheltenham: senior pay and councillors' allowances](#)

How does the council compare?

- Council tax rise this year 4.9% The same as the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £878 Higher than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (1 of 1) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 34% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £3,749 Higher than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2024-25 Post backstop opinion delivered 92% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services (county) Good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care (county) Requires improvement 62% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 1% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 48.4% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 88.5% 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 Cheltenham

Measure	Figure	Period
A roads where maintenance should be considered (Gloucestershire County Council)	1%	2024-25
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered	4%	2024-25
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	24%	2024-25
Household waste reused, recycled or composted	48.4%	2024-25
Major planning decisions made on time	88.5%	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 Cheltenham

Authority	Year	Income	Surplus
Cheltenham	2025-26	£5.3m	£3.8m
Gloucestershire CC (county)	2025-26	£7.1m	£2.1m

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, or [find any MP by name or constituency](#).

How much crime is recorded here?

police.uk has no records from this force for some months of this period, so a rate would be too low. No figure is shown rather than a wrong one.

[Cheltenham on the crime map](#)

Your police precept

A Band D home in Cheltenham pays **£340.58** police precept in 2026-27. It funds Gloucestershire, which has £178m 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 Cheltenham are not what its precept bought.

[Gloucestershire: funding, precept and results for the whole force](#)

Who runs police, fire, health and ambulances here?

The bodies that serve Cheltenham, and their latest money

Service	Body	Latest	Per resident
Police	Gloucestershire	£178m (2026-27)	£265
Fire and rescue	Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service	£34m (2025-26)	£51.00
Ambulance	South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£435m (2024-25)	£73.85
NHS	NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	£1.9bn (2028-29)	£2,861
Roads	Gloucestershire County Council	£36m (2025-26)	£54.17
Schools	Gloucestershire	£545m (2026-27)	£811
Council spending	Cheltenham	£21m (2025-26)	£172
Social care	Gloucestershire	£474m (2024-25)	£710
Housing	Cheltenham	£1m (2025-26)	£10.23
Waste and recycling	Cheltenham	not published	—

Each body serves a wider area than Cheltenham, 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 Cheltenham: 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 Cheltenham look against other councils?

See Cheltenham 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 Cheltenham? Band D is £2,370 a year for 2026-27. [Every band](#).
- Which police force covers Cheltenham? Gloucestershire police force area. Fire and rescue: Gloucestershire.

Council tax in Cheltenham

Your area · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/cheltenham/>

Council tax in Cheltenham for 2026-27 is **£2,370** a year for a **Band D** home, £1,580 for Band A and £4,739 for the top band. That is £41 below the England average of £2,411. It ranks 197 of 296 billing areas in England. Figures are the council's own set rates.

Key figures

£2,370

Band D a year, 2026-27
+£111 (+4.9%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,580

Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

-£41

Band D against the England
average of £2,411
Below average
As of 6 April 2026

197 of 296

Rank in England, highest first
As of 6 April 2026

What is the bill for each band?

Council tax by band in Cheltenham, bands A to H

Band	A year	A month
Band A	£1,579.68	£131.64
Band B	£1,842.96	£153.58
Band C	£2,106.24	£175.52
Band D	£2,369.52	£197.46
Band E	£2,896.08	£241.34
Band F	£3,422.64	£285.22
Band G	£3,949.20	£329.10
Band H	£4,739.04	£394.92

Who gets the money?

Band D bill in Cheltenham by receiving body

Who receives it	Band D	Share
Cheltenham	£252	11%
Other precepting bodies	£2,117	89%

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 **£41** below the England average, 197 of 296 councils from the highest.

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

Cannock Chase	£2,376
Dartford	£2,375
Wychavon	£2,373
Milton Keynes	£2,372
Cheltenham (Cheltenham)	£2,370
Halton	£2,367
Bexley	£2,366
Rochford	£2,363
Birmingham	£2,363

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

How does Cheltenham compare? The report card

Official figures on complaints, finances, audit, pay and services for Cheltenham, 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 4.9% The same as the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £878 Higher than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (1 of 1) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 34% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £3,749 Higher than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2024-25 Post backstop opinion delivered 92% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services (county) Good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care (county) Requires improvement 62% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 1% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 48.4% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 88.5% 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: Cheltenham, 2025-26

Measure	Cheltenham	For comparison
Complaints and enquiries received	11	—
Complaints and enquiries decided	9	12 in 2024-25
Detailed investigations	1	—
Upheld	1	—
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	100%	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.

This council is not in the Housing Ombudsman's landlord tables for 2025-26, which list landlords with five or more findings. Most councils without their own homes are not.

How healthy are its finances?

Reserves, spending and borrowing: Cheltenham

Measure	Cheltenham	For comparison
Net revenue spending, 2025-26	£16.9m	—
Reserves at the end of 2025-26	£5.7m	—
Reserves as a share of net spending	34%	50% for England; 29% in 2024-25
Outstanding borrowing at 30 June 2026	£215.9m	—
Borrowing per home on the valuation list	£3,749	£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: Cheltenham

Accounts year	Status recorded by PSAA	Opinion signed
2024-25	Post backstop opinion delivered	10 June 2026
2023-24	Delivered by backstop	27 February 2025

“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](#), 2024-25.

What are senior staff and councillors paid?

Pay and allowances: Cheltenham, from the statement of accounts

Measure	2024-25	2023-24
Employees paid £50,000 or more	35	26
Councillors’ allowances	£457,144	£428,009

The count is up 9 on the year before. Current = 2024/25, previous = 2023/24. ‘The number of other employees whose remuneration, excluding employer’s pension contributions, was £50,000 or more in bands of £5,000’ follows the senior officers table. Totals 35 (2024/25) and 26 (2023/24). Cheltenham is a district council and does not employ school staff (includes Schools recorded false on that basis, not from the note). The second band is printed ‘£55,000 -£59,999’. The accounts describe the allowances figure as “In 2024/25 the council paid £457,144 (2023/24 £428,009) in allowances to its 40 members.”. Thresholds are not adjusted for inflation, so more staff cross them each year as pay rises.

Source: [Cheltenham, Cheltenham Borough Council Statement of Accounts 2024/25](#), PDF pages 45-46, Note 11. Checked 24 September 2026.

How are its services rated?

Service ratings and performance: Cheltenham

Measure	Cheltenham	For comparison
Children's services, Ofsted overall effectiveness	Good (Gloucestershire County Council)	4 August 2025. 73% of English councils judged good or outstanding
Adult social care, CQC assessment	Requires improvement (Gloucestershire County Council)	62% of assessed councils rated good or outstanding
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	1% (Gloucestershire County Council)	5% in England
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	4% (Gloucestershire County Council)	7% in England
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	24% (Gloucestershire County Council)	17% in England
Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, 2024-25	48.4%	42.0% for England
Major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	88.5%	91.0% for England
Non-major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	95.8%	90.7% for England

Gloucestershire 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. Recycling rates are measured differently in England, Scotland and Wales, so compare within a nation.

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; [Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Local authority collected waste management: annual results](#), 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, Gloucestershire County Council?

Gloucestershire 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:

Gloucestershire County Council: its own figures

Measure	Gloucestershire County Council	Detail
Ombudsman uphold rate	90%	90 complaints decided, 2025-26
Reserves as a share of net spending	33%	2025-26
Outstanding borrowing	£236.3m	at 30 June 2026
Accounts, 2024-25	Delivered by backstop	Signed 24 November 2025

Official events for Gloucestershire County Council:

- 24 November 2025 Audit [Auditor's opinion on the 2024-25 accounts signed](#) PSAA records the status as "Delivered by backstop"; auditor KPMG LLP. Public Sector Audit Appointments
- 22 October 2021 Ombudsman [Ombudsman report: upheld, domiciliary care](#) Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 19-014-556. 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](#), 2024-25.

What has happened recently?

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

- 10 June 2026 Audit [Auditor's opinion on the 2024-25 accounts signed](#) PSAA records the status as "Post backstop opinion delivered"; auditor Bishop Fleming Audit Limited. Public Sector Audit Appointments

2. 7 May 2026 Election [Local election: 20 seats won](#) Liberal Democrats 17, Green Party 2, Reform UK 1 Democracy Club
3. 1 April 2026 Council tax [Council tax for 2026-27: Band D £2,370, up 4.9% on the year before](#) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
4. 27 February 2026 Audit backstop [Listed by MHCLG as not meeting the audit backstop requirements for 2024-25](#) Draft accounts published by the deadline: no. Audit opinion delivered by the backstop date: no. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
5. 2 May 2024 Election [Local election: 40 seats won](#) Liberal Democrats 36, Green Party 3, People Against Bureaucracy Group 1 Democracy Club
6. 5 May 2022 Election [Local election: 21 seats won](#) Liberal Democrats 18, Conservative and Unionist Party 1, Green Party 1, People Against Bureaucracy Group 1 Democracy Club

Does the council think something here is wrong?

If you represent Cheltenham 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 17.8% of the money Cheltenham had to spend in 2025-26. The rest came from government grants (33.1%), business rates (10.1%) and fees, charges and other income (39.0%). 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 [Cheltenham: parking, roads, your MP and local services](#), and [Cheltenham on the council map](#).

Common questions

- How much is council tax in Cheltenham? Band D is £2,370 a year for 2026-27. Band A is £1,580 and the top band £4,739.
- Is council tax in Cheltenham higher than average? No. Band D here is £41 below the England average of £2,411.

Where your council tax goes in Cheltenham

Your area · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/cheltenham/where-it-goes/>

A Band D council tax bill in **Cheltenham** is **£2,369.52** for 2026-27, split between Cheltenham £252.11, Gloucestershire County Council £1,729.87, Gloucestershire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase £33.59, Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable £340.58, Parish and town councils (average for the area) £13.37. Shared out in proportion to what each body spends, the largest single line is adult social care at Gloucestershire County Council: **£605.32** of the bill. Council tax pays for 18% of the council's own spending; the rest is government grant, business rates and fees.

Key figures

£2,369.52

Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£252.11

Goes to Cheltenham itself (11%)
As of 6 April 2026

£605.32

Largest line: adult social care
As of 17 September 2026

17.8%

Of the council's money that comes
from council tax, 2025-26
As of 17 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.

Parish precepts differ from parish to parish; this is the average across the area, and a home outside any parish pays none.

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 Cheltenham and Gloucestershire 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.

Cheltenham, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£2.1m	£17	£15	—	up 18.5% on 2024-25
Street cleaning	£1.6m	£13	£9.41	—	up 17.6% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£108k	£0.89	£1.40	—	up 12.5% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£108k	£0.89	£1.40	—	up 12.5% on 2024-25

Gloucestershire 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)	£1.0m	£1.55	£1.48	—	up 0.3% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£28.0m	£42	£23	£8,153 (similar: £5,441)	down 8.9% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£26.5m	£39	£17	£7,708 (similar: £3,942)	up 1.7% on 2024-25
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	£1.5m	£2.28	£4.86	£445 (similar: £1,248)	down 67.6% on 2024-25
Winter service (gritting)	£3.7m	£5.49	£4.67	£1,075 (similar: £1,059)	up 8.9% on 2024-25
Street lighting (including energy)	£4.7m	£7.06	£5.90	£1,382 (similar: £1,453)	down 13.7% 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

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

Service	Per resident	Median
Running the council	£100	£41
Environment and regulation	£49	£56
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£38	£23
Housing (not council homes)	£10	£24
Planning and development	£4.08	£22
Roads and transport	£-28.68	£-4.18

- Cheltenham spent **33.5%** 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 **£69.1m** between 2025-08 and 2026-07. 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 **6.7%** of its staff costs (median among the 4 other district councils in England whose £500 data is read: 18.1%). The two come from different sources and periods, so this is a guide to scale, not an exact share.

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

Service	Per resident	Median
---------	--------------	--------

- Gloucestershire County Council spent **33.8%** of its gross service spending on its own staff in 2025-26 (median for county councils: 28.1%); 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 17 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 Cheltenham](#) and [everything else about Cheltenham](#).

Common questions

- **What does council tax pay for in Cheltenham?** A Band D bill of £2,369.52 is split between Cheltenham, Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase, Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, Parish and town councils (average for the area). In proportion to spending, the largest line is adult social care, £605.32.
- **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 Cheltenham

Your area · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/parking/cheltenham/>

In 2025–26 Cheltenham took **£5.3m** in parking income and spent **£1.6m**, a **surplus of £3.8m** against **£3.1m** in 2024–25 (+20%), the 80th 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

£3.75m

Parking surplus
+£0.64m (+20.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£5.34m

Parking income
+£0.56m (+11.8%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£1.59m

Spending on parking
-£0.07m (-4.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£0.00m

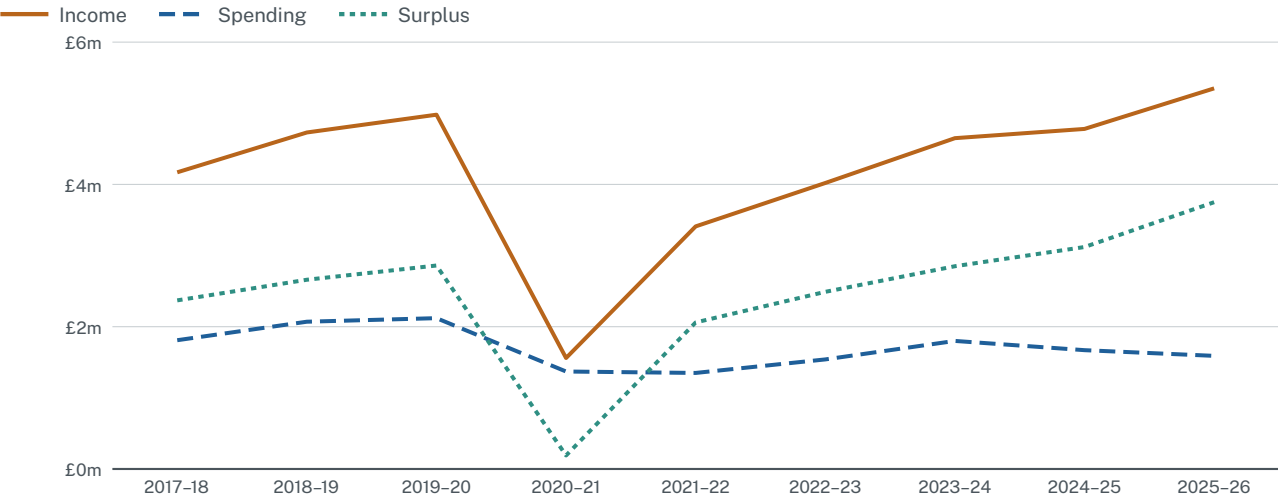
Penalty charge income
no change vs 2024–25
2025–26

80 of 290

Rank in England, largest surplus
first
2025–26

How much has Cheltenham made from parking each year?

Cheltenham: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million



Cheltenham: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million. Income: £4.17m in 2017–18, £5.35m in 2025–26. Spending: £1.81m in 2017–18, £1.59m in 2025–26. Surplus: £2.37m in 2017–18, £3.75m in 2025–26.

Cheltenham: 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	£4.17m	£1.80m	£0.00m
2018–19	£0.00m	£0.00m	£4.73m	£2.07m	£0.00m
2019–20	£0.00m	£0.00m	£4.98m	£2.12m	£0.00m
2020–21	£0.00m	£0.00m	£1.55m	£1.37m	£0.00m
2021–22	£0.00m	£0.00m	£3.41m	£1.35m	£0.00m
2022–23	£0.00m	£0.00m	£4.02m	£1.54m	£0.00m
2023–24	£0.00m	£0.00m	£4.65m	£1.80m	£0.00m
2024–25	£0.00m	£0.00m	£4.78m	£1.67m	£0.00m
2025–26	£0.00m	£0.00m	£5.34m	£1.59m	£0.00m

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

What can Cheltenham 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 Cheltenham compare with other councils?

Cheltenham 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.

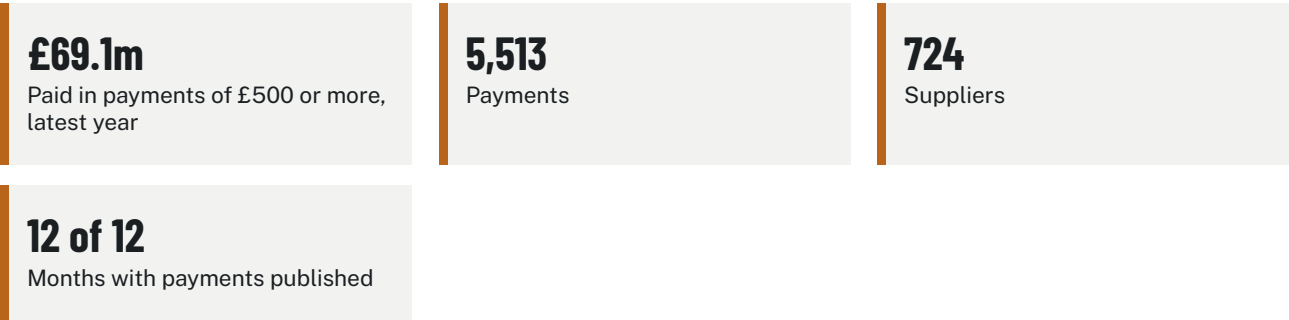
[Every council's parking surplus](#), penalty charge levels and the national trend.

Cheltenham: spending over £500

Your area · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/spending-over-500/cheltenham/>

Cheltenham published 5,513 payments of £500 or more between August 2025 and July 2026, worth £69.1m in all, to 724 suppliers. The largest total went to Ubico Limited: £12.3m across 84 payments. These are the council's own published records; the gaps in them are listed below.

Key figures



What the council published

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

Gaps and problems in the data, as published:

- 7.9% of payments (£6,930,674) have the supplier name withheld or redacted by the council, usually because the payee is an individual.
- 59 credits and refunds (negative amounts, £367,492 in all) are included, so totals are net.

Top 50 suppliers by value

Cheltenham: the 50 suppliers paid most, August 2025 to July 2026

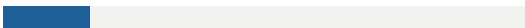
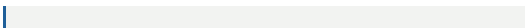
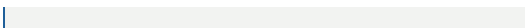
Supplier	Paid	Payments
Ubico Limited	£12,285,179	84
Persimmon Homes South Midlands	£7,249,651	4
Names withheld by the council	£6,930,674	434
Lovell Partnerships Limited	£4,746,297	42
Ian Williams Limited	£4,648,923	134
Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd	£2,017,277	10
Romaquip UK	£1,667,784	9
HBD Golden Valley Limited	£1,659,146	1

Supplier	Paid	Payments
Joyner P A Ltd	£1,630,233	32
Tewkesbury Borough Council	£1,358,944	34
Bryt Energy Limited	£1,149,689	265
Publica Group (Support) Limited	£1,145,359	13
British Gas Social Housing Ltd t/a PH Jones	£1,010,772	205
Travis Perkins Trading Co. Limited	£956,010	109
Marsh Limited	£618,654	4
Cheltenham Bid Limited	£588,944	11
The Cheltenham Trust	£587,156	21
Newland Homes Limited	£564,274	5
LivGreen Futures Limited	£506,210	4
Allhands Limited T/A Harrold Jones Services	£492,872	36
Totalenergies Gas & Power Limited	£488,515	181
James A Cuthbertson Ltd	£482,933	3
Snape Contracting Services Limited	£462,765	70
Stock Sweepers Limited	£423,405	2
Shield Electrical Services Ltd	£421,914	32
Trustmarque Solutions Limited	£398,044	12
Gloucestershire County Council	£351,336	27
Ardagh Management Limited	£325,920	19
Civica UK Limited	£321,911	4
Longlevens Building & Roofing Limited	£314,177	22
Amelio Utilities (Gloucester) Ltd T/A 3 Counties Drain Services	£269,484	38
Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish council CIL payment	£243,776	1
MD Building Services Limited	£215,446	8
R F Gardiner Limited T/as Gardiners	£202,509	84
S3k Ltd	£184,833	4
Smith's (Gloucester) Limited	£182,270	135
Water Plus	£177,549	201
EDF ENERGY	£177,137	13
BPE SOLICITORS LLP	£174,006	13
Bishop Fleming Audit Limited	£173,134	4
Idox Software Limited	£170,514	8
Petersfield Grant Payment 3rd installment	£167,290	3
Sanderson Weatherall LLP	£160,603	5
Aareon UK Ltd	£155,320	16
Woods Building Services Ltd t/a A A Woods	£151,642	90
The Surveying Practice Limited - Business Account	£148,608	45
South West Audit Partnership Limited (SWAP)	£144,165	4
Prospect Builders Services	£143,380	10
FPWC Ltd	£142,910	5
Groves Building Services Ltd	£140,015	13

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](#).

Cheltenham: payments by category (our classification)

Payments to other councils and public bodies		£2,127,103
IT and software		£1,522,070
Consultancy and agency staff		£1,007,121
Legal fees		£358,743
Communications and PR		£350,846
Conferences and events		£10,013
Catering and hospitality		£1,375

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

1. Tewkesbury Borough Council: £1,358,944 (34 payments)
2. Gloucestershire County Council: £351,336 (27 payments)
3. Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish council CIL payment: £243,776 (1 payment)
4. Gloucester City Council: £99,855 (10 payments)
5. Charlton Kings Parish Council (Treasurers Account): £49,159 (1 payment)
6. Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council: £39,429 (1 payment)
7. Prestbury Parish Council: £25,389 (1 payment)
8. Gloucestershire Rural Community Council: £24,130 (4 payments)
9. West Oxfordshire District Council: £16,034 (3 payments)
10. Bromsgrove District Council: £10,081 (5 payments)

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

1. BPE SOLICITORS LLP: £174,006 (13 payments)
2. Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP: £76,699 (18 payments)
3. Trowers & Hamlins LLP: £49,222 (11 payments)
4. Sharpe Pritchard LLP: £29,175 (11 payments)
5. First Dispute Management Ltd t/a FDM Solicitors: £13,500 (2 payments)
6. Grass Roots Planning Ltd: £4,986 (1 payment)
7. Geldards LLP: £3,518 (2 payments)
8. Ashfords LLP: £2,500 (1 payment)
9. Pinsent Masons LLP: £2,008 (2 payments)
10. Redmans Ltd T/A Redmans Solicitors: £750 (1 payment)

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. South West Audit Partnership Limited (SWAP): £144,165 (4 payments)
2. Bloom Procurement Services Limited: £67,632 (2 payments)
3. Names withheld by the council: £57,463 (13 payments)
4. Education Host Ltd: £45,801 (11 payments)
5. GCHQ: £44,316 (1 payment)
6. Severn Signs Ltd: £42,462 (18 payments)
7. Penna plc: £41,930 (7 payments)
8. Savills (UK) Limited: £38,516 (2 payments)
9. Greenacre Recruitment Ltd: £38,269 (13 payments)
10. Pennington Choices: £35,240 (7 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. Trustmarque Solutions Limited: £398,044 (12 payments)
2. Civica UK Limited: £321,911 (4 payments)

3. Idox Software Limited: £170,514 (8 payments)
4. Aareon UK Ltd: £155,320 (16 payments)
5. Phoenix Software Limited: £118,556 (7 payments)
6. Dell Corporation Limited: £79,060 (9 payments)
7. LinchPin Networks Limited: £42,704 (24 payments)
8. Connexica Limited: £27,661 (1 payment)
9. BRITISH TELECOM: £26,496 (3 payments)
10. Zurich Insurance plc (Zurich Municipal): £22,282 (2 payments)

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

1. S3k Ltd: £184,833 (4 payments)
2. John F Hunt Power Ltd: £41,626 (8 payments)
3. Names withheld by the council: £25,687 (13 payments)
4. Tetra Tech Ltd: £22,050 (3 payments)
5. Grassform Plant Hire Limited: £12,345 (5 payments)
6. Global Media Group Services Limited: £11,167 (6 payments)
7. TFN Landscapes Limited: £7,395 (1 payment)
8. Artworks Design Consultants (Cheltenham) Limited: £6,813 (6 payments)
9. Tetra Tech Environment Planning Transport Limited: £6,775 (1 payment)
10. Keep Britain Tidy: £5,715 (2 payments)

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

1. Lloyds Corporate Credit Card - Cyber UK conference: £2,048 (2 payments)
2. Cheltenham Education Partnership: £2,000 (1 payment)
3. Lloyds Corporate Credit card - Premier Inn - Cyber UK: £1,785 (1 payment)
4. Local Government Association (LGA): £1,647 (1 payment)
5. Bournemouth Convention Bureau Limited: £1,323 (2 payments)
6. Names withheld by the council: £659 (1 payment)
7. Midlands Parks Forum: £552 (1 payment)

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

1. Cheltenham Leisure and Culture Limited: £1,375 (1 payment)

Spending by the council's own service areas

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

Household Waste		£12,206,134
Development costs - S106 Swindon Farm		£7,898,207
Internal Improvements		£3,427,793
Vehicles & recycling equipment		£3,035,546
Social Housing Decarbonisation 1		£2,911,961
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Collection Account		£2,772,972
Response Repairs		£2,339,972
Development costs - 320 Swindon Road		£2,078,848
External Improvements		£2,069,727
CAH100 - Property Acquisitions		£1,915,688
GV Innovation Centre		£1,659,146
Repairs and Maintenance		£1,589,807
Publica Business Support Contract		£1,145,359
Disabled Facility Grants		£991,034
Recreation Centre Repairs & Maintenance		£918,234
Kitchen Improvements		£911,739
Supervision and Management		£818,250
Adaptations for the Disabled (CBC)		£777,884
Fire Protection		£720,772
Cemetery, Crematorium and Churchyards		£704,488
Legal		£619,266
Major Voids		£614,816
Community Welfare Grants		£607,236
Sustainability Measures		£595,402
Big Local Project		£577,670

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

Names withheld by the council		£58,621
Greenfields Garden Services Limited		£37,508
Home Farm Nurseries (Pinvin) Limited		£33,467
Watkins Iles Limited		£32,332
R F Gardiner Limited T/as Gardiners		£29,955
Dean Martin Contractors Limited		£28,206
Cheltenham Surfacing Co Limited		£23,260
J. Matthews Landscapes Ltd		£22,995
Easy-Gate Ltd		£19,630
Cotswold Conservation Board		£16,375

Street cleaning: largest suppliers

Broxap Limited (Street Furniture)		£32,000
-----------------------------------	--	---------

Waste collection: largest suppliers

Gloucestershire County Council		£239,358
P W Commercial Co Limited T/A Printwaste		£2,291

Consultancy and agency against the pay bill

Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **6.7%** of Cheltenham's own staff costs in its 2025-26 revenue return, against a median of 18.1% 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

Cheltenham, spending over £500, [published here](#). Licence as the council states it: not stated. Checked 2026-09-24; files read 2026-09-27.

- [July 2026 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 126 Kb](#) (2026-07), file dated 2026-08-27: 487 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [June 2026 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 114 Kb](#) (2026-06), file dated 2026-08-03: 411 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [May 2026 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 133 Kb](#) (2026-05), file dated 2026-08-07: 503 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [April 2026 Bank Payments \(CSV\) - csv - 109 Kb](#) (2026-04), file dated 2026-06-05: 395 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [March 2026 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 119 Kb](#) (2026-03), file dated 2026-05-05: 456 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [February 2026 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 116 Kb](#) (2026-02), file dated 2026-04-01: 413 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [January 2026 Bank Payments \(CSV\) - csv - 130 Kb](#) (2026-01), file dated 2026-03-05: 488 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [December 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 117 Kb](#) (2025-12), file dated 2026-02-09: 411 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [November 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 124 Kb](#) (2025-11), file dated 2026-02-09: 448 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [October 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 148 Kb](#) (2025-10), file dated 2026-02-09: 547 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [September 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 133 Kb](#) (2025-09), file dated 2026-02-09: 528 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [August 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 126 Kb](#) (2025-08), file dated 2026-02-09: 429 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.
- [July 2025 bank payments \(CSV\) - csv - 116 Kb](#) (2025-07), file dated 2026-02-09: 387 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-09-27.

Cheltenham: senior pay and councillor allowances

Your area · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/pay-and-allowances/cheltenham/>

In its statement of accounts for 2024-25, Cheltenham reports total remuneration of **£157,959** for its chief executive officer (including employer pension contributions), 1 employees paid £100,000 or more, and **£457,144** paid in members' allowances.

Key figures

£157,959

Chief Executive Officer, 2024-25

1

Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2024-25

£457,144

Members' allowances, 2024-25

Chief Executive Officer

Total remuneration of **£157,959** in 2024-25, including employer pension contributions. Excluding pension contributions: £131,600. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £178,074.

From the accounts: 2024/25: salary 131,140; expenses/allowances 390; other payments 70; total excluding pension 131,600; pension 26,359; total including pension 157,959. The table header shows 2024/25 and 2023/24 but only one set of figures is printed, so no 2023/24 chief executive figure was read. The note says 'Senior Officer' means Executive Directors whose salary is between £50,000 and £160,000.

PDF page 45, Note 11

Employees paid £50,000 or more

35 employees in 2024-25, up 34.6% on 2023-24 (26). 1 were paid £100,000 or more, 0.8 per 100,000 residents. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is 1.0 per 100,000.

Cheltenham: employees by pay band, as printed

Band	2024-25	2023-24
£50,000 to £54,999	11	10
£55,000 to £59,999	3	8
£60,000 to £64,999	11	3
£65,000 to £69,999	2	2
£70,000 to £74,999	3	1
£75,000 to £79,999	0	0
£80,000 to £84,999	2	2
£85,000 to £89,999	2	0
£90,000 to £94,999	0	0
£95,000 to £99,999	0	0
£100,000 to £104,999	0	0
£105,000 to £109,999	1	0

Excludes schools staff. Senior officers listed separately are not in these counts. From the accounts: Current = 2024/25, previous = 2023/24. 'The number of other employees whose remuneration, excluding employer's pension contributions, was £50,000 or more in bands of £5,000' follows the senior officers table. Totals 35 (2024/25) and 26 (2023/24). Cheltenham is a district council and does not employ school staff (includesSchools recorded false on that basis, not from the note). The second band is printed '£55,000 - £59,999'.

Source: Cheltenham, [Cheltenham Borough Council Statement of Accounts 2024/25](#) (audited), PDF pages 45-46, Note 11. Read by hand; checked 2026-09-24.

Councillors' allowances

£457,144 in 2024-25, up 6.8% on 2023-24 (£428,009), or £3.76 per resident. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £3.24 per resident.

From the accounts: "In 2024/25 the council paid £457,144 (2023/24 £428,009) in allowances to its 40 members." (PDF page 44, Note 10)

Published allowances: .

What this data does and doesn't show

- Every figure is as Cheltenham printed it. 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.
- No 2025/26 statement of accounts was found on the council website or democracy portal at the time of checking, so the 2024/25 statement is used. The auditor (Bishop Fleming) issued a disclaimer of opinion on the 2024/25 financial statements under the backstop arrangements ("We do not express an opinion on the financial statements"); status is recorded as 'audited' in that sense. The council's Members' Allowances page lists summaries by year but the documents could not be retrieved in the time available.

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	Cheltenham: your area; Council tax in Cheltenham; Where your council tax goes in Cheltenham
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	Cheltenham: your area; Parking income in Cheltenham
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	17 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where your council tax goes in Cheltenham
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 Cheltenham
https://www.legislation.gov.uk/				

How to use and cite this document

Published by [Tekstak Ltd](https://tek-stak.co.uk) (<https://tek-stak.co.uk>). Our words, analysis and charts are licensed under CC BY 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), credit Tekstak Ltd. Figures from other bodies are used under each source's own licence, listed in the sources appendix. You may reuse our words and charts with credit.

This site takes no side. Every figure is quoted from the body that publishes it, with its date and source; views are attributed to the people and organisations who hold them. Our neutrality policy: <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/neutrality/>

Generated on 27 September 2026. The live version, which may have newer figures, is at <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-cheltenham>.