# 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:** 28 September 2026

**Generated on:** 14 November 2026

**Version:** 14 November 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 14 November 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 28 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

**£70.6m**
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

**5,574**
Payments

**706**
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 14 November 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, 2025-26 Unsigned 4% 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 63% 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, find any MP by name or constituency , or see every constituency and its MP on the MP map.

## 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 14 November 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




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, 2025-26 Unsigned 4% 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 63% 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 |
|---|---|---|
| **2025-26** | Unsigned | Not yet |
| **2024-25** | Post backstop opinion delivered | 10 June 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: 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 (includesSchools 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) | 63% 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, 2025-26** | Unsigned | Not yet signed |

Official events for Gloucestershire County Council:

1. 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, 2025-26.

## 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.

1. 7 May 2026 Election Local election: 20 seats won Liberal Democrats 17, Green Party 2, Reform UK 1 Democracy Club
2. 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

3. 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
4. 2 May 2024 Election Local election: 40 seats won Liberal Democrats 36, Green Party 3, People Against Bureaucracy Group 1 Democracy Club
5. 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 14 November 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 28 September 2026

**17.8%**
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.

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 **£70.6m** between 2025-10 and 2026-09. 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 **6.5**% of its staff costs (median among the 4 other district councils in England whose £500 data is read: 18.3%). 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 |
|---|---|---|
| Education | £791 | £714 |
| Adult social care | £397 | £457 |
| Children's social care | £281 | £239 |
| Roads and transport | £86 | £65 |
| Fire and rescue | £51 | £47 |
| Public health | £44 | £53 |
| Running the council | £37 | £21 |
| Environment and regulation | £26 | £58 |
| Parks, leisure, libraries and culture | £19 | £16 |
| Planning and development | £3.55 | £5.56 |
| Housing (not council homes) | £0.32 | £3.07 |

- 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 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 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 14 November 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

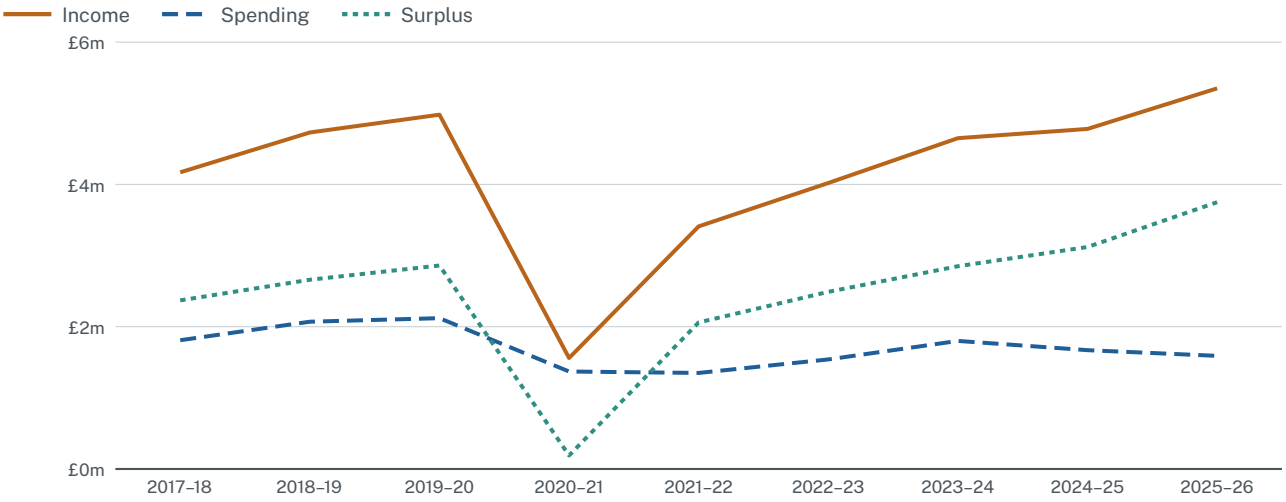
**£1.59m**
Spending on parking
−£0.07m (−4.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

**£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 14 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/spending-over-500/cheltenham/

Cheltenham published **5,574 payments** of £500 or more between October 2025 and September 2026, worth **£70.6m** in all, to 706 suppliers. The largest total went to Ubico Limited: £12.3m across 81 payments. These are the council's own published records; the gaps in them are listed below.

## Key figures

**£70.6m**
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

**5,574**
Payments

**706**
Suppliers

**12 of 12**
Months with payments published

## What the council published

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

**Gaps and problems in the data, as published:**

- 6.9% of payments (£5,857,108) have the supplier name withheld or redacted by the council, usually because the payee is an individual.
- 55 credits and refunds (negative amounts, £367,410 in all) are included, so totals are net.

## Top 50 suppliers by value

**Cheltenham: the 50 suppliers paid most, October 2025 to September 2026**

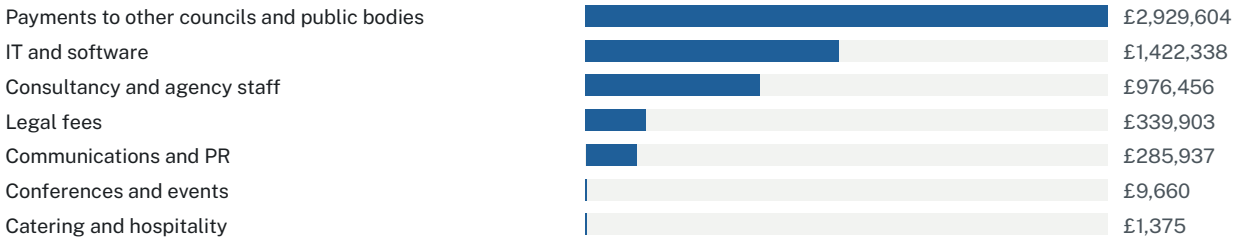
| Supplier | Paid | Payments |
|---|---|---|
| Ubico Limited | £12,330,788 | 81 |
| Persimmon Homes South Midlands | £7,249,651 | 4 |
| Names withheld by the council | £5,857,108 | 385 |
| Ian Williams Limited | £5,685,816 | 167 |
| Lovell Partnerships Limited | £4,501,180 | 45 |
| HBD Golden Valley Limited | £2,568,904 | 2 |
| Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd | £2,453,954 | 12 |
| Joyner P A Ltd | £1,729,172 | 34 |

| Supplier | Paid | Payments |
|---|---|---|
| Tewkesbury Borough Council | £1,467,648 | 31 |
| Bryt Energy Limited | £1,336,617 | 322 |
| Publica Group (Support) Limited | £1,249,183 | 15 |
| Travis Perkins Trading Co. Limited | £1,060,438 | 119 |
| British Gas Social Housing Ltd t/a PH Jones | £961,489 | 197 |
| Cardo (Wales & West) Limited | £705,549 | 16 |
| The Cheltenham Trust | £685,802 | 23 |
| Cheltenham Bid Limited | £624,039 | 12 |
| Marsh Limited | £618,654 | 4 |
| Gloucestershire County Council | £580,226 | 28 |
| Newland Homes Limited | £550,774 | 4 |
| Gloucester City Council | £540,586 | 10 |
| Snape Contracting Services Limited | £523,872 | 76 |
| LivGreen Futures Limited | £506,210 | 4 |
| James A Cuthbertson Ltd | £482,933 | 3 |
| Totalenergies Gas & Power Limited | £477,730 | 191 |
| Stock Sweepers Limited | £423,405 | 2 |
| Trustmarque Solutions Limited | £402,788 | 13 |
| Allhands Limited T/A Harrold Jones Services | £394,177 | 32 |
| Civica UK Limited | £381,011 | 5 |
| Longlevens Building & Roofing Limited | £378,540 | 23 |
| Romaquip UK | £368,843 | 2 |
| Ardagh Management Limited | £301,620 | 15 |
| MD Building Services Limited | £270,666 | 10 |
| Amelio Utilities (Gloucester) Ltd T/A 3 Counties Drain Services | £249,600 | 31 |
| Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish council CIL payment | £243,776 | 1 |
| Shield Electrical Services Ltd | £234,237 | 24 |
| R F Gardiner Limited T/as Gardiners | £207,596 | 76 |
| Water Plus | £196,889 | 213 |
| EDF ENERGY | £192,141 | 14 |
| Smith's (Gloucester) Limited | £187,617 | 131 |
| Groves Building Services Ltd | £177,555 | 17 |
| Bishop Fleming Audit Limited | £173,134 | 4 |
| Prospect Builders Services | £172,170 | 12 |
| Petersfield Grant Payment 3rd installment | £167,290 | 3 |
| Idox Software Limited | £164,689 | 8 |
| Sanderson Weatherall LLP | £160,603 | 5 |
| BPE SOLICITORS LLP | £159,372 | 13 |
| The Surveying Practice Limited - Business Account | £157,902 | 46 |
| South West Audit Partnership Limited (SWAP) | £144,165 | 4 |
| Cheltenham Flooring Services | £142,808 | 34 |
| Woods Building Services Ltd t/a A A Woods | £131,016 | 79 |

## 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)




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

1. Tewkesbury Borough Council: £1,467,648 (31 payments)
2. Gloucestershire County Council: £580,226 (28 payments)
3. Gloucester City Council: £540,586 (10 payments)
4. Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish council CIL payment: £243,776 (1 payment)
5. Charlton Kings Parish Council (Treasurers Account): £49,159 (1 payment)
6. Stroud District Council: £43,333 (3 payments)
7. Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council: £39,429 (1 payment)
8. Prestbury Parish Council: £25,389 (1 payment)
9. Gloucestershire Rural Community Council: £20,880 (3 payments)
10. West Oxfordshire District Council: £13,420 (2 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: £159,372 (13 payments)
2. Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP: £62,126 (17 payments)
3. Trowers & Hamlins LLP: £53,140 (11 payments)
4. Sharpe Pritchard LLP: £36,178 (13 payments)
5. First Dispute Management Ltd t/a FDM Solicitors: £13,500 (2 payments)
6. Ashfords LLP: £6,156 (3 payments)
7. Grass Roots Planning Ltd: £4,986 (1 payment)
8. Pinsent Masons LLP: £2,008 (2 payments)
9. Geldards LLP: £1,689 (1 payment)
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: £52,632 (1 payment)
3. Savills (UK) Limited: £52,630 (3 payments)
4. Education Host Ltd: £45,826 (11 payments)
5. GCHQ: £44,316 (1 payment)
6. Names withheld by the council: £43,833 (15 payments)
7. Severn Signs Ltd: £38,122 (15 payments)
8. Purcell Architecture Ltd: £35,000 (2 payments)
9. Greenacre Recruitment Ltd: £34,069 (11 payments)
10. Budden Consultancy Ltd: £30,000 (1 payment)

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: £402,788 (13 payments)
2. Civica UK Limited: £381,011 (5 payments)

3. Idox Software Limited: £164,689 (8 payments)
4. Aareon UK Ltd: £113,908 (14 payments)
5. Dell Corporation Limited: £70,311 (9 payments)
6. LinchPin Networks Limited: £44,950 (25 payments)
7. Conscia Group UK Ltd T/A Conscia: £28,423 (5 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: £92,417 (2 payments)
2. John F Hunt Power Ltd: £41,626 (8 payments)
3. Tetra Tech Ltd: £27,615 (4 payments)
4. Names withheld by the council: £25,687 (13 payments)
5. MOTIVE PICTURES: £18,090 (2 payments)
6. Grassform Plant Hire Limited: £12,345 (5 payments)
7. Global Media Group Services Limited: £11,167 (6 payments)
8. TFN Landscapes Limited: £7,395 (1 payment)
9. Tetra Tech Environment Planning Transport Limited: £6,775 (1 payment)
10. Artworks Design Consultants (Cheltenham) Limited: £6,272 (5 payments)

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

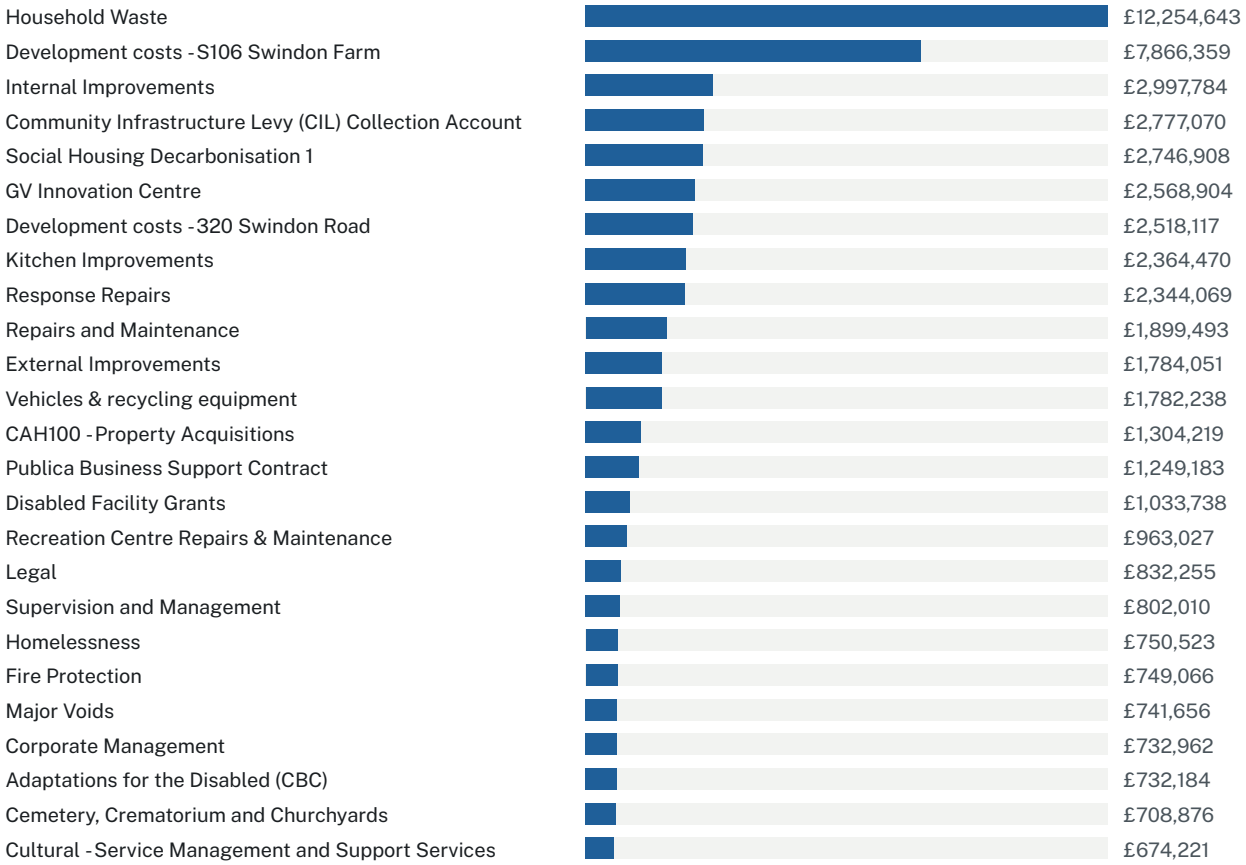
1. Local Government Association (LGA): £3,294 (2 payments)
2. Lloyds Corporate Credit Card - Cyber UK conference: £2,048 (2 payments)
3. Lloyds Corporate Credit card - Premier Inn - Cyber UK: £1,785 (1 payment)
4. Bournemouth Convention Bureau Limited: £1,323 (2 payments)
5. Names withheld by the council: £659 (1 payment)
6. 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




## 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 **6.5%** of Cheltenham's own staff costs in its 2025-26 revenue return, against a median of 18.3% 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 2026-11-14.

- September 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 147 Kb (2026-09), file dated 2026-11-03: 565 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- August 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 132 Kb (2026-08), file dated 2026-09-28: 451 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- July 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 126 Kb (2026-07), file dated 2026-08-27: 487 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- June 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 114 Kb (2026-06), file dated 2026-08-03: 411 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- May 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 133 Kb (2026-05), file dated 2026-08-07: 503 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- April 2026 Bank Payments (CSV) - csv - 109 Kb (2026-04), file dated 2026-06-05: 395 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- March 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 119 Kb (2026-03), file dated 2026-05-05: 456 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- February 2026 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 116 Kb (2026-02), file dated 2026-04-01: 413 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- January 2026 Bank Payments (CSV) - csv - 130 Kb (2026-01), file dated 2026-03-05: 488 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- December 2025 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 117 Kb (2025-12), file dated 2026-02-09: 411 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- November 2025 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 124 Kb (2025-11), file dated 2026-02-09: 448 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- October 2025 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 148 Kb (2025-10), file dated 2026-02-09: 547 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.
- September 2025 bank payments (CSV) - csv - 133 Kb (2025-09), file dated 2026-02-09: 528 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-14.

# Cheltenham: senior pay and councillor allowances

Your area · Last updated 14 November 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 | 28 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). 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 14 November 2026. The live version, which may have newer figures, is at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-cheltenham.