Oxford 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: 21 November 2026

Version: 21 November 2026. Earlier versions stay available at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/

Live version: https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-oxford

This is a snapshot. It was generated on 21 November 2026 and does not change. The figures may have been updated since: the live version is at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-oxford.

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
Oxford: your area	4
Council tax in Oxford	7
Where your council tax goes in Oxford	12
Parking income in Oxford	15
Oxford: spending over £500	17
Oxford: 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.

Oxford: your area

£2,678
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£121 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£4.5m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

48.2%
Household waste recycled, 2024-25

Council tax in Oxford

£2,678
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£121 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,786
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£267
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

Where your council tax goes in Oxford

£2,678.40
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£367.38
Goes to Oxford itself (14%)
As of 6 April 2026

£752.32
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

Parking income in Oxford

£4.49m
Parking surplus
+£0.28m (+6.5%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£8.00m
Parking income
−£0.98m (−10.9%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£3.51m
Spending on parking
−£1.26m (−26.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

Oxford: spending over £500

£169.3m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

21,843
Payments

954
Suppliers

Oxford: senior pay and councillor allowances

£197,217
Chief Executive, 2025-26

6
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£418,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

Oxford: your area

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/your-area/oxford/

Oxford sets a Band D council tax of **£2,678** for 2026-27, 11 of 296 councils in England from the highest. Police: Thames Valley. Fire and rescue: Oxfordshire. Health: NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West 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

£2,678
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£121 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£4.5m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

48.2%
Household waste recycled, 2024-25

5%
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25 (county)

243%
Reserves as a share of spending, 2025-26

What is the council tax in Oxford?

Band D is **£2,678** a year for 2026-27, and Band A, the lowest, **£1,786**. That is £267 above the England average of £2,411, 11 of 296 in England from the highest.

Of a Band D bill, **£367** goes to Oxford.

Every band, who gets the money and how Oxford compares

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

Every payment over £500 that Oxford publishes

Oxford: senior pay and councillors' allowances

How does the council compare?

- Council tax rise this year 4.7% Lower than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £786 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (3 of 3) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 243% Higher than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £4,477 Higher than the England figure of £3,447
- Accounts, 2025-26 Unsigned 6% 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) Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 5% The same as the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 48.2% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 96.3% Higher 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 Oxford

Measure	Figure	Period
A roads where maintenance should be considered (Oxfordshire County Council)	5%	2024-25
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered	9%	2024-25
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	20%	2024-25
Household waste reused, recycled or composted	48.2%	2024-25
Major planning decisions made on time	96.3%	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 Oxford

Authority	Year	Income	Surplus
Oxford	2025-26	£8.0m	£4.5m
Oxfordshire CC (county)	2025-26	£12.3m	£1.1m

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?

In the 12 months to August 2026, police recorded **97.3 crimes per 1,000 residents** in Oxford, excluding anti-social behaviour, against 82.5 across England.

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

Your police precept

A Band D home in Oxford pays **£298.28** police precept in 2026-27. It funds **Thames Valley**, which has £658m 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 Oxford are not what its precept bought.

Thames Valley: funding, precept and results for the whole force

Who runs police, fire, health and ambulances here?

The bodies that serve Oxford, and their latest money

Service	Body	Latest	Per resident
Police	Thames Valley	£658m (2026-27)	£247
Fire and rescue	Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	£34m (2025-26)	£44.53
Ambulance	South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£382m (2024-25)	£83.72
NHS	NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board	£6.4bn (2028-29)	£2,716
Roads	Oxfordshire County Council	£34m (2025-26)	£43.91
Schools	Oxfordshire	£575m (2026-27)	£746
Council spending	Oxford	£53m (2025-26)	£319
Social care	Oxfordshire	£541m (2024-25)	£707
Housing	Oxford	£12m (2025-26)	£69.55
Waste and recycling	Oxford	not published	—

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

See Oxford 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 Oxford?** Band D is £2,678 a year for 2026-27. Every band.
- **Which police force covers Oxford?** Thames Valley police force area. Fire and rescue: Oxfordshire.

Council tax in Oxford

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/oxford/

Council tax in **Oxford** for 2026-27 is **£2,678 a year for a Band D home**, £1,786 for Band A and £5,357 for the top band. That is £267 above the England average of £2,411. It ranks 11 of 296 billing areas in England. Figures are the council's own set rates.

Key figures

£2,678
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£121 (+4.7%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,786
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£267
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

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

What is the bill for each band?

Council tax by band in Oxford, bands A to H

Band	A year	A month
Band A	£1,785.60	£148.80
Band B	£2,083.20	£173.60
Band C	£2,380.80	£198.40
Band D	£2,678.40	£223.20
Band E	£3,273.60	£272.80
Band F	£3,868.80	£322.40
Band G	£4,464.00	£372.00
Band H	£5,356.80	£446.40

Who gets the money?

Band D bill in Oxford by receiving body

Who receives it	Band D	Share
Oxford	£367	14%
Other precepting bodies	£2,311	86%

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 **£267 above** the England average, 11 of 296 councils from the highest.

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



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

How does Oxford compare? The report card

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

- Council tax rise this year 4.7% Lower than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £786 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 100% (3 of 3) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 243% Higher than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £4,477 Higher than the England figure of £3,447
- Accounts, 2025-26 Unsigned 6% 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) Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered (county) 5% The same as the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 48.2% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 96.3% Higher 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: Oxford, 2025-26

Measure	Oxford	For comparison
Complaints and enquiries received	60	—
Complaints and enquiries decided	33	25 in 2024-25
Detailed investigations	3	—
Upheld	3	—
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	33%	13% for every body the Ombudsman covers
Ombudsman's recommendations the council complied with	100%	99.9% for every body the Ombudsman covers
Uphold rate in 2024-25	50%	—

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

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

The Housing Ombudsman, which handles complaints from council tenants, made **0** findings of severe maladministration against Oxford City Council in 2025-26, out of 25 findings in 10 determinations. Its maladministration rate for this landlord was 54%.

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

How healthy are its finances?

Reserves, spending and borrowing: Oxford

Measure	Oxford	For comparison
Net revenue spending, 2025-26	£26.8m	—
Reserves at the end of 2025-26	£65.2m	—
Reserves as a share of net spending	243%	50% for England; 0% in 2024-25
Outstanding borrowing at 30 June 2026	£288.5m	—
Borrowing per home on the valuation list	£4,477	£3,447 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, 2026.

What have the auditors said?

Audit of the accounts: Oxford

Accounts year	Status recorded by PSAA	Opinion signed
2025-26	Unsigned	Not yet
2024-25	Delivered by backstop	27 February 2026

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

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

What are senior staff and councillors paid?

Pay and allowances: Oxford, from the statement of accounts

Measure	2025-26	2024-25
Employees paid £50,000 or more	171	127
Councillors' allowances	£418,000	£410,000

The count is up 44 on the year before. 'The Council's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions)', following the senior employees table. Totals 171 (2025/26) and 127 (2024/25). Dashes recorded as 0. Oxford is a district council and does not employ school staff (includesSchools recorded false on that basis, not from the note). The accounts describe the allowances figure as "Members' Allowances: Allowances 417 (2024/25 408); Expenses 1 (2); Total Payments 418 (410) £'000". These are draft accounts and may change at audit. Thresholds are not adjusted for inflation, so more staff cross them each year as pay rises.

Source: Oxford, Statement of Accounts 2025-26 DRAFT, PDF pages 71-72 (printed pages 69-70), Note 32. Checked 24 September 2026.

How are its services rated?

Service ratings and performance: Oxford

Measure	Oxford	For comparison
Children's services, Ofsted overall effectiveness	Good (Oxfordshire County Council)	9 April 2024. 73% of English councils judged good or outstanding
Adult social care, CQC assessment	Good (Oxfordshire County Council)	5 September 2025. 63% of assessed councils rated good or outstanding
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	5% (Oxfordshire County Council)	5% in England
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	9% (Oxfordshire County Council)	7% in England
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	20% (Oxfordshire County Council)	17% in England
Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, 2024-25	48.2%	42.0% for England
Major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of june 2026	96.3%	91.0% for England
Non-major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	91.4%	90.7% for England

Oxfordshire 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, Oxfordshire County Council?

Oxfordshire 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:

Oxfordshire County Council: its own figures

Measure	Oxfordshire County Council	Detail
Ombudsman uphold rate	80%	92 complaints decided, 2025-26
Reserves as a share of net spending	49%	2025-26
Outstanding borrowing	£260.9m	at 30 June 2026
Accounts, 2025-26	Unsigned	Not yet signed

Official events for Oxfordshire County Council:

1. 5 December 2022 Ombudsman Ombudsman report: upheld, special educational needs Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 21-009-723. 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 Oxford, newest first. Each links to the body that made or published it. News reports are not included.

1. 7 May 2026 Election Local election: 24 seats won Green Party 9, Labour Party 7, Liberal Democrats 4, Labour and Co-operative Party 3, Independent 1 Democracy Club

2. 1 April 2026 Council tax Council tax for 2026-27: Band D £2,678, up 4.7% on the year before Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
3. 2 May 2024 Election Local election: 25 seats won Labour Party 9, Liberal Democrats 5, Green Party 4, Independent Oxford Alliance 4, Labour and Co-operative Party 2, Independent 1 Democracy Club
4. 5 May 2022 Election Local election: 24 seats won Labour Party 12, Green Party 4, Liberal Democrats 4, Labour and Co-operative Party 3, Independent 1 Democracy Club

Does the council think something here is wrong?

If you represent Oxford 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 **11.5%** of the money Oxford had to spend in 2025-26. The rest came from government grants (28.3%), business rates (9.2%) and fees, charges and other income (50.9%). 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 Oxford: parking, roads, your MP and local services, and Oxford on the council map.

Common questions

- **How much is council tax in Oxford?** Band D is £2,678 a year for 2026-27. Band A is £1,786 and the top band £5,357.
- **Is council tax in Oxford higher than average?** Yes. Band D here is £267 above the England average of £2,411.

Where your council tax goes in Oxford

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/oxford/where-it-goes/

A Band D council tax bill in **Oxford** is **£2,678.40** for 2026-27, split between Oxford £367.38, Oxfordshire County Council £1,968.55, Oxfordshire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase £38.23, Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable £298.28, Parish and town councils (average for the area) £5.96. Shared out in proportion to what each body spends, the largest single line is adult social care at Oxfordshire County Council: **£752.32** of the bill. Council tax pays for 12% of the council's own spending; the rest is government grant, business rates and fees.

Key figures

£2,678.40
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£367.38
Goes to Oxford itself (14%)
As of 6 April 2026

£752.32
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

11.5%
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 Oxford and Oxfordshire 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.

Oxford, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£4.7m	£28	£14	—	up 18.0% on 2024-25
Street cleaning	£7.6m	£46	£14	—	up 18.5% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£154k	£0.93	£0.12	—	—
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	£154k	£0.93	£0.04	—	—
Street lighting (including energy)	£19k	£0.11	£0.14	—	—

Oxfordshire 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)	£3.1m	£4.02	£2.33	—	up 5.1% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£26.1m	£34	£22	£8,977 (similar: £5,441)	down 1.1% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£15.2m	£20	£17	£5,241 (similar: £4,193)	up 20.8% on 2024-25
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	£10.9m	£14	£3.54	£3,735 (similar: £894)	down 21.2% on 2024-25
Winter service (gritting)	£3.0m	£3.92	£4.67	£1,038 (similar: £985)	down 5.1% on 2024-25
Street lighting (including energy)	£4.7m	£6.06	£6.40	£1,605 (similar: £1,408)	up 34.7% 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

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

Service	Per resident	Median
Environment and regulation	£116	£56
Housing (not council homes)	£70	£24
Running the council	£58	£41
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£54	£23
Planning and development	£48	£22
Roads and transport	£-26.73	£-4.18

- Oxford spent **45.4%** 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 **£169.3m** 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 **13.6%** of its staff costs (median among the 4 other district councils in England whose £500 data is read: 14.8%). The two come from different sources and periods, so this is a guide to scale, not an exact share.

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

Service	Per resident	Median
Education	£656	£736
Adult social care	£411	£457
Children's social care	£238	£242
Roads and transport	£75	£65
Public health	£53	£52
Environment and regulation	£47	£58
Fire and rescue	£45	£48
Running the council	£23	£21
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£19	£16
Housing (not council homes)	£4.65	£2.98
Planning and development	£4.10	£5.56

- Oxfordshire County Council spent **24.2%** of its gross service spending on its own staff in 2025-26 (median for county councils: 28.8%); the rest went on suppliers, contractors, grants, benefits and other running costs.

What this data does and doesn't show

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

Sources

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

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

Common questions

- **What does council tax pay for in Oxford?** A Band D bill of £2,678.40 is split between Oxford, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire County Council: adult social care precept, this year's increase, Thames Valley 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, £752.32.
- **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 Oxford

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/parking/oxford/

In 2025–26 Oxford took **£8.0m** in parking income and spent £3.5m, a **surplus of £4.5m** against £4.2m in 2024–25 (+7%), the 68th 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

£4.49m
Parking surplus
+£0.28m (+6.5%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£8.00m
Parking income
−£0.98m (−10.9%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

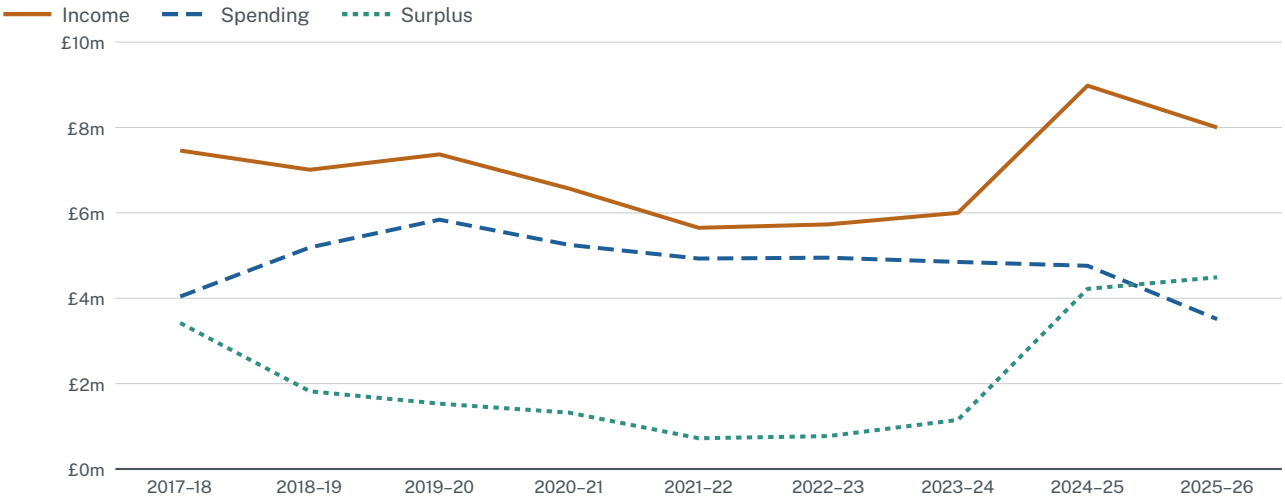
£3.51m
Spending on parking
−£1.26m (−26.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

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

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

How much has Oxford made from parking each year?

Oxford: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million



Oxford: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million. Income: £7.46m in 2017–18, £8m in 2025–26. Spending: £4.04m in 2017–18, £3.51m in 2025–26. Surplus: £3.42m in 2017–18, £4.49m in 2025–26.

Oxford: 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	£7.46m	£4.04m	£0.00m
2018–19	£0.00m	£0.00m	£7.01m	£5.19m	£0.00m
2019–20	£0.00m	£0.00m	£7.37m	£5.84m	£0.00m
2020–21	£0.00m	£0.00m	£6.57m	£5.25m	£0.00m
2021–22	£0.00m	£0.00m	£5.65m	£4.93m	£0.00m
2022–23	£0.00m	£0.00m	£5.73m	£4.95m	£0.00m
2023–24	£0.00m	£0.00m	£6.00m	£4.85m	£0.00m
2024–25	£0.00m	£0.00m	£8.98m	£4.76m	£0.00m
2025–26	£0.00m	£0.00m	£8.00m	£3.51m	£0.00m

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

What can Oxford 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 Oxford compare with other councils?

Oxford 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.

Oxford: spending over £500

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/spending-over-500/oxford/

Oxford published **21,843 payments** of £500 or more between October 2025 and September 2026, worth **£169.3m** in all, to 954 suppliers. The largest total went to OXFORD DIRECT SERVICES LTD: £34.0m across 608 payments. These are the council's own published records; the gaps in them are listed below.

Key figures

£169.3m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

21,843
Payments

954
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:

- 2.2% of payments (£1,720,790) have the supplier name withheld or redacted by the council, usually because the payee is an individual.

Top 50 suppliers by value

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

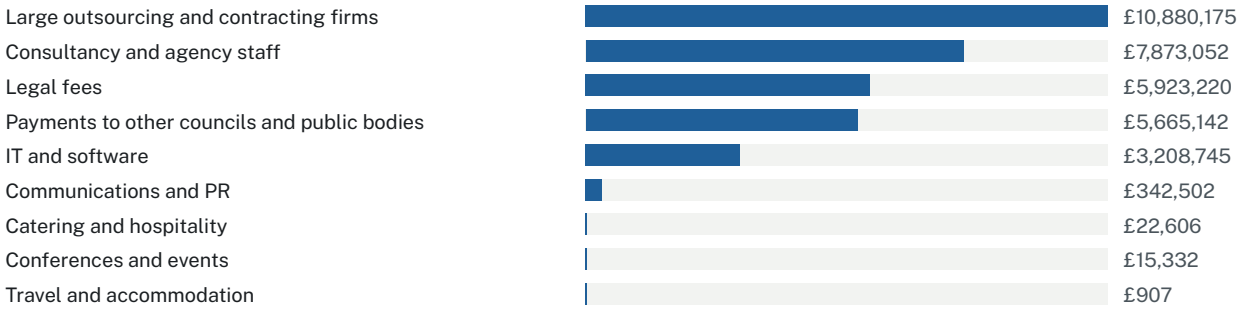
Supplier	Paid	Payments
OXFORD DIRECT SERVICES LTD	£34,022,138	608
OXFORD DIRECT SERVICES LTD - (QL ONLY)	£33,380,419	10,314
EQUANS REGENERATION LTD	£9,449,779	18
BROWNE JACOBSON LLP	£5,557,040	32
OXFORD CITY HOUSING (DEVELOPMENT) LTD	£5,190,641	36
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	£4,802,710	109
HILL RESIDENTIAL LTD	£4,670,923	9
ZURICH MUNICIPAL	£2,776,101	16

Supplier	Paid	Payments
BLAKE MORGAN LLP	£2,662,230	14
REED SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT LTD	£2,362,597	140
MARICK REAL ESTATE LTD	£2,291,756	3
SCC (SPECIALIST COMPUTER CENTRES PLC)	£2,064,946	127
GENERAL EXPENSES	£1,844,948	177
LIFE BUILD SOLUTIONS LTD	£1,835,775	11
Names withheld by the council	£1,720,790	487
SHARED SERVICES CONNECTED LTD	£1,657,690	5
NPOWER	£1,641,745	698
HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT LTD	£1,622,694	854
DENNIS EAGLE LTD	£1,525,284	6
JACKSON CIVIL ENGINEERING LTD	£1,464,568	4
FUSION LETS LIMITED	£1,308,050	266
CBRE LTD	£1,289,268	9
GRAHAM ROSE LTD	£1,154,171	516
SERCO LEISURE OPERATING LTD	£898,566	13
PEABODY TRUST	£882,820	7
HOMELESS OXFORDSHIRE LTD	£874,533	21
CONNECTION SUPPORT	£866,515	21
EASY HOTEL OXFORD OPCO LTD	£734,834	13
GRANT PAYMENTS	£671,137	219
CIVICA UK LTD	£665,347	8
VIVID RESOURCING, A DIVISION OF G2V RECRUITMENT GR	£644,791	294
HOUSING PAYMENTS	£642,354	160
SINCERITY HOUSING LTD	£632,112	69
TRITON SECURITY & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT LTD	£610,523	97
CHASTON CONWAY LTD	£606,888	8
FURNISHED HOMES (UNDERLEY FURNISHINGS) LTD	£580,042	297
SOFTWAREONE UK LTD	£562,816	2
A2 DOMINION GROUP	£560,555	15
NKS CONTRACTS CENTRAL LTD	£551,857	79
PAYE STONEWORK & RESTORATION LTD	£516,098	17
BUCKINGHAM HOTEL	£494,702	21
NUFFIELD COLLEGE	£494,226	2
LIBERTY HOUSING SOLUTIONS LIMITED	£483,848	69
ASYLUM WELCOME	£483,144	37
OXFORD DIRECT SERVICES TRADING LTD	£479,320	76
ERNST & YOUNG LLP	£478,060	7
AEBI SCHMIDT UK LTD	£464,264	3
TOTAL GAS & POWER LTD	£450,140	250
VODAFONE LIMITED (CORPORATE)	£440,794	18
ST MUNGOS	£418,036	58

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.

Oxford: 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. OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: £4,802,710 (109 payments)
2. OLD MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL: £192,964 (4 payments)
3. LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL: £162,932 (3 payments)
4. OXFORD HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST: £161,623 (2 payments)
5. SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL: £103,965 (5 payments)
6. RISINGHURST & SANDHILLS PARISH COUNCIL: £79,000 (3 payments)
7. BLACKBIRD LEYS PARISH COUNCIL: £57,108 (2 payments)
8. CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL: £52,000 (2 payments)
9. HMRC: £22,912 (11 payments)
10. ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD: £11,617 (2 payments)

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

1. EQUANS REGENERATION LTD: £9,449,779 (18 payments)
2. SERCO LEISURE OPERATING LTD: £898,566 (13 payments)
3. BALFOUR BEATTY CIVIL ENGINEERING LTD: £415,987 (10 payments)
4. VINCI CONSTRUCTION UK LTD: £107,563 (5 payments)
5. MITIE PROPERTY SERVICES (UK) LTD: £8,280 (2 payments)

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

1. BROWNE JACOBSON LLP: £5,557,040 (32 payments)
2. Mishcon de Reya LLP: £148,879 (5 payments)
3. GELDARDS LLP: £71,113 (23 payments)
4. Francis Taylor Building: £39,255 (8 payments)
5. BEVAN BRITTAN LLP: £32,305 (10 payments)
6. DYE & DURHAM (UK) LIMITED: £17,112 (20 payments)
7. DWF LAW LLP: £13,471 (5 payments)
8. LANDMARK: £10,250 (4 payments)
9. Names withheld by the council: £6,907 (2 payments)
10. EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND (INTL) LLP BIRMINGHAM: £5,000 (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. REED SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT LTD: £2,362,597 (140 payments)
2. HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT LTD: £1,622,694 (854 payments)
3. ERNST & YOUNG LLP: £478,060 (7 payments)
4. TILE HILL INTERIM & EXECUTIVE LTD: £340,194 (23 payments)
5. INNER CIRCLE CONSULTING LIMITED: £309,702 (12 payments)
6. BDO LLP: £173,050 (11 payments)

7. CARTER JONAS: £140,435 (17 payments)
8. VENN GROUP: £134,999 (54 payments)
9. TMD BUILDING CONSULTANCY LTD: £123,660 (32 payments)
10. BRECKON & BRECKON: £98,448 (13 payments)

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

1. CIVICA UK LTD: £665,347 (8 payments)
2. SOFTWAREONE UK LTD: £562,816 (2 payments)
3. VODAFONE LIMITED (CORPORATE): £440,794 (18 payments)
4. IDOX SOFTWARE LTD: £243,495 (17 payments)
5. EMBRIDGE CONSULTING UK LTD: £226,970 (1 payment)
6. VODAFONE LTD: £128,360 (16 payments)
7. MIDLAND HR: £88,649 (15 payments)
8. XMA LIMITED: £80,766 (4 payments)
9. Civica Election Services Ltd: £79,985 (2 payments)
10. METASTREET LTD: £72,225 (2 payments)

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

1. ASPIRE OXFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE LTD: £160,413 (5 payments)
2. People Scout Limited: £37,084 (42 payments)
3. VIVID RESOURCING, A DIVISION OF G2V RECRUITMENT GR: £27,992 (2 payments)
4. LINKEDIN IRELAND UNLIMITED COMPANY: £23,575 (1 payment)
5. NEWSQUEST MEDIA GROUP: £15,561 (4 payments)
6. FORTITUDE COMMUNICATIONS LTD: £12,000 (3 payments)
7. Bauer Media Audio UK Formerly Jack FM: £10,000 (1 payment)
8. ALLEN & YORK (PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL) LTD: £9,009 (1 payment)
9. GRAHAM ROSE LTD: £6,465 (1 payment)
10. HB EDITORIAL SERVICES LTD: £3,995 (1 payment)

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

1. Ocean Media Group Ltd: £7,944 (2 payments)
2. THE ASSOCIATION OF ELECTORAL ADMINSTRATORS: £1,620 (1 payment)
3. GENERAL EXPENSES: £1,200 (1 payment)
4. HOUSING PAYMENTS: £1,150 (1 payment)
5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION: £1,098 (1 payment)
6. HAYMARKET ADVERTISEMENT: £1,060 (1 payment)
7. THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION: £665 (1 payment)
8. LG FUTURES LTD: £595 (1 payment)

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

1. HOUSING PAYMENTS: £907 (1 payment)

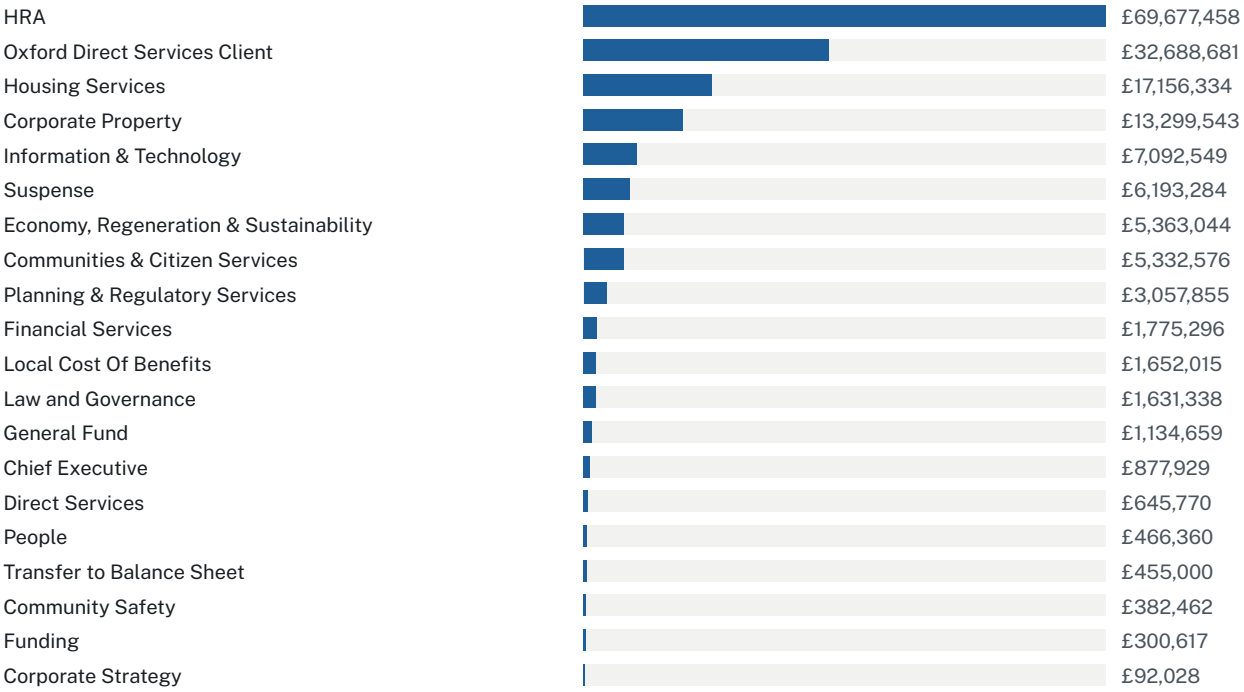
The council describes the payment as catering, hospitality or refreshments. School meals are left out.

1. ELEGANT CUISINE: £15,648 (12 payments)
2. GENERAL EXPENSES: £3,200 (2 payments)
3. WASTE 2 TASTE LTD: £2,478 (2 payments)
4. THE KING'S CENTRE: £645 (1 payment)

5. OXFORD COMMUNITY ACTION: £635 (1 payment)

Spending by the council's own service areas

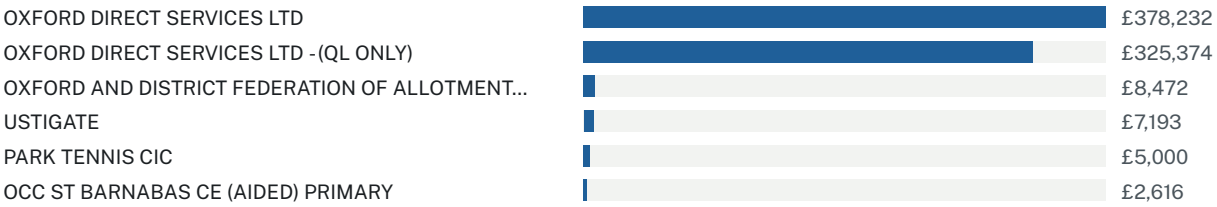
Oxford: payments by service area, as the council labels them



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



Waste collection: largest suppliers



Consultancy and agency against the pay bill

Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **13.6%** of Oxford's own staff costs in its 2025-26 revenue return, against a median of 14.8% 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

Oxford, spending over £500, published here. Licence as the council states it: not stated. Checked 2026-09-24; files read 2026-11-21.

- Expenditure over £500 - 01/07/2026 - 30/09/2026 CSV 805kB Download (2026-07), file dated 2026-10-01: 5,571 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-21.
- Expenditure over £500 - 01/04/2026 - 30/06/2026 CSV 786kB Download (2026-04), file dated 2026-07-03: 5,338 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-21.
- Expenditure over £500 - 01/01/2026 - 31/03/2026 CSV 830kB Download (2026-01), file dated 2026-04-17: 5,749 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-21.
- Expenditure over £500 - 01/10/2025 - 31/12/2025 CSV 743kB Download (2025-10), file dated 2026-01-26: 5,186 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-21.
- Expenditure over £500 - 01/07/2025 - 30/09/2025 CSV 736kB Download (2025-07), file dated 2025-10-20: 5,150 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-21.

Oxford: senior pay and councillor allowances

Your area · Last updated 21 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/pay-and-allowances/oxford/

In its draft statement of accounts for 2025-26, Oxford reports total remuneration of **£197,217** for its chief executive (including employer pension contributions), **6** employees paid £100,000 or more, and **£418,000** paid in members' allowances.

Key figures

£197,217
Chief Executive, 2025-26

6
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£418,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

£6,001
Basic allowance per councillor, 2025-26

Chief Executive

Total remuneration of **£197,217** in 2025-26, including employer pension contributions. Excluding pension contributions: £173,913. That is up 2.3% on 2024-25 (£192,804). The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £174,251.

From the accounts: Chief Executive, Caroline Green. 2025/26: salary, fees and allowances 173,913; pension 23,304; total 197,217. 2024/25: 168,847; 23,957; 192,804. totalExclPension is the printed 'Salary, Fees and Allowances' column.

PDF page 71 (printed page 69), Note 32

Employees paid £50,000 or more

171 employees in 2025-26, up 34.6% on 2024-25 (127). 6 were paid £100,000 or more, 3.6 per 100,000 residents. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is 0.4 per 100,000.

Oxford: employees by pay band, as printed

Band	2025-26	2024-25
£50,000 to £54,999	72	40
£55,000 to £59,999	21	26
£60,000 to £64,999	18	9
£65,000 to £69,999	21	18
£70,000 to £74,999	10	6
£75,000 to £79,999	6	14
£80,000 to £84,999	13	4
£85,000 to £89,999	1	0
£90,000 to £94,999	1	1
£95,000 to £99,999	2	4
£100,000 to £104,999	0	0
£105,000 to £109,999	5	3
£110,000 to £114,999	1	0
£125,000 to £129,999	0	1
£165,000 to £169,999	0	1

Excludes schools staff. Senior officers listed separately are not in these counts. From the accounts: 'The Council's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions)', following the senior employees table. Totals 171 (2025/26) and 127 (2024/25). Dashes recorded as 0. Oxford is a district council and does not employ school staff (includesSchools recorded false on that basis, not from the note).

Source: Oxford, Statement of Accounts 2025-26 DRAFT (draft), PDF pages 71-72 (printed pages 69-70), Note 32. Read by hand; checked 2026-09-24.

Councillors' allowances

£418,000 in 2025-26, up 2.0% on 2024-25 (£410,000), or £2.52 per resident. The median among the 4 other district councils collected so far is £3.62 per resident.

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

Paid as	Total
Basic allowances	£287,416
Special responsibility allowances	£129,744
Expenses	£983
All	£418,326

The basic allowance for each councillor is £6,001 a year (2025-26).

From the accounts: "Members' Allowances: Allowances 417 (2024/25 408); Expenses 1 (2); Total Payments 418 (410) £'000" (PDF page 71 (printed page 69), Note 31)

Published allowances: Year End Notice - Members' Allowances 2025 - 2026 (Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003).

What this data does and doesn't show

- Every figure is as Oxford printed it, in accounts that have not yet been audited. Counts in the £100,000 figure are our sum of the council's bands.
- Comparisons are with the other district councils read so far; no national figure is published for England.
- Published notice Totals row: Basic Allowance 287,416.24; Special Responsibility 129,744.17; Carer's Allowance 768.21; Travel & Subsistence 214.37; Total 418,325.65. 'expenses' is our sum of carer's allowance and travel & subsistence. Basic rate from the Constitution Part 26 (dated November 2025): 'Each councillor gets a basic allowance of £6,001 p.a.'; the notice shows 6,001.56 paid for a full year.

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	Oxford: your area; Council tax in Oxford; Where your council tax goes in Oxford
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	Oxford: your area; Parking income in Oxford
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 Oxford
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 Oxford
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 21 November 2026. The live version, which may have newer figures, is at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-oxford.