Plymouth 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: 19 November 2026

Version: 19 November 2026. Earlier versions stay available at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/

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

This is a snapshot. It was generated on 19 November 2026 and does not change. The figures may have been updated since: the live version is at https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/reports/#council-plymouth.

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
Plymouth: your area	4
Council tax in Plymouth	7
Where your council tax goes in Plymouth	12
Parking income in Plymouth UA	15
Plymouth: spending over £500	17
Plymouth: senior pay and councillor allowances	22
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.

Plymouth: your area

£2,442
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£116 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£5.1m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

33.0%
Household waste recycled, 2024-25

Council tax in Plymouth

£2,442
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£116 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,628
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£31
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

Where your council tax goes in Plymouth

£2,441.85
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£1,990.32
Goes to Plymouth itself (82%)
As of 6 April 2026

£658.68
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

Parking income in Plymouth UA

£5.06m
Parking surplus
+£1.09m (+27.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£12.92m
Parking income
+£1.40m (+12.2%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£7.86m
Spending on parking
+£0.31m (+4.2%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

Plymouth: spending over £500

£593.0m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

165,200
Payments

2,394
Suppliers

Plymouth: senior pay and councillor allowances

£245,269
Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), 2025-26

10
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£1,226,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

Plymouth: your area

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/your-area/plymouth/

Plymouth sets a Band D council tax of **£2,442** for 2026-27, 148 of 296 councils in England from the highest. Police: Devon & Cornwall. Fire and rescue: Devon & Somerset. Health: NHS Devon 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

£2,442
Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£116 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£5.1m
Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

33.0%
Household waste recycled, 2024-25

3%
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25

27%
Reserves as a share of spending, 2025-26

What is the council tax in Plymouth?

Band D is **£2,442** a year for 2026-27, and Band A, the lowest, **£1,628**. That is £31 above the England average of £2,411, 148 of 296 in England from the highest.

Of a Band D bill, **£2,029** goes to Plymouth.

Every band, who gets the money and how Plymouth compares

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

Every payment over £500 that Plymouth publishes

Plymouth: senior pay and councillors' allowances

How does the council compare?

- Council tax rise this year 5.0% Higher than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £692 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 93% (13 of 14) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 27% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £6,476 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 Requires improvement to be good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered 3% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 33.0% Lower than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 100.0% 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 Plymouth

Measure	Figure	Period
A roads where maintenance should be considered	3%	2024-25
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered	4%	2024-25
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	35%	2024-25
Household waste reused, recycled or composted	33.0%	2024-25
Major planning decisions made on time	100.0%	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 Plymouth

Authority	Year	Income	Surplus
Plymouth UA	2025-26	£12.9m	£5.1m

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 **94.8 crimes per 1,000 residents** in Plymouth, excluding anti-social behaviour, against 82.5 across England.

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

Your police precept

A Band D home in Plymouth pays **£303.20** police precept in 2026-27. It funds **Devon and Cornwall**, which has £486m 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 Plymouth are not what its precept bought.

Devon and Cornwall: funding, precept and results for the whole force

Who runs police, fire, health and ambulances here?

The bodies that serve Plymouth, and their latest money

Service	Body	Latest	Per resident
Police	Devon and Cornwall	£486m (2026-27)	£264
Fire and rescue	Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service	£103m (2025-26)	£55.81
Ambulance	South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£435m (2024-25)	£73.85
NHS	NHS Devon Integrated Care Board	£4.0bn (2028-29)	£3,184
Roads	Plymouth	£8m (2025-26)	£30.59
Schools	Plymouth	£228m (2026-27)	£841
Council spending	Plymouth	£515m (2025-26)	£1,898
Social care	Plymouth	£230m (2024-25)	£844
Housing	Plymouth	£15m (2025-26)	£53.51
Waste and recycling	Plymouth	not published	—

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

See Plymouth 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 Plymouth?** Band D is £2,442 a year for 2026-27. Every band.
- **Which police force covers Plymouth?** Devon & Cornwall police force area. Fire and rescue: Devon & Somerset.

Council tax in Plymouth

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/plymouth/

Council tax in **Plymouth** for 2026-27 is **£2,442 a year for a Band D home**, £1,628 for Band A and £4,884 for the top band. That is £31 above the England average of £2,411. It ranks 148 of 296 billing areas in England. Figures are the council's own set rates.

Key figures

£2,442
Band D a year, 2026-27
+£116 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,628
Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£31
Band D against the England average of £2,411
Above average
As of 6 April 2026

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

What is the bill for each band?

Council tax by band in Plymouth, bands A to H

Band	A year	A month
Band A	£1,627.90	£135.66
Band B	£1,899.22	£158.27
Band C	£2,170.53	£180.88
Band D	£2,441.85	£203.49
Band E	£2,984.48	£248.71
Band F	£3,527.12	£293.93
Band G	£4,069.75	£339.15
Band H	£4,883.70	£406.97

Who gets the money?

Band D bill in Plymouth by receiving body

Who receives it	Band D	Share
Plymouth	£2,029	83%
Other precepting bodies	£413	17%

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 **£31 above** the England average, 148 of 296 councils from the highest.

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



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

How does Plymouth compare? The report card

Official figures on complaints, finances, audit, pay and services for Plymouth, 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 5.0% Higher than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £692 Lower than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 93% (13 of 14) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 27% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £6,476 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 Requires improvement to be good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care Good 63% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered 3% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 33.0% Lower than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 100.0% 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: Plymouth, 2025-26

Measure	Plymouth	For comparison
Complaints and enquiries received	104	—
Complaints and enquiries decided	80	82 in 2024-25
Detailed investigations	14	—
Upheld	13	—
Uphold rate	93%	86% for every body the Ombudsman covers; 85% for similar councils
Upheld cases where the council had already offered a satisfactory remedy	15%	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	76%	—

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: Plymouth

Measure	Plymouth	For comparison
Net revenue spending, 2025-26	£191.3m	—
Reserves at the end of 2025-26	£51.8m	—
Reserves as a share of net spending	27%	50% for England; -1% in 2024-25
Outstanding borrowing at 30 June 2026	£800.4m	—
Borrowing per home on the valuation list	£6,476	£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.

It was agreed Exceptional Financial Support for 2024-25. Each is dated and linked in the events below.

What have the auditors said?

Audit of the accounts: Plymouth

Accounts year	Status recorded by PSAA	Opinion signed
2025-26	Unsigned	Not yet
2024-25	Delivered by backstop	23 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: Plymouth, from the statement of accounts

Measure	2025-26	2024-25
Employees paid £50,000 or more	420	301
Councillors' allowances	£1,226,000	£1,189,000

The count is up 119 on the year before. Note 26.2: 'the number of employees whose remuneration for the year (excluding employer pension contributions) was £50,000 or more. The following numbers do not include the senior management as disclosed in note 26.1.' Schools and Non-schools columns, no combined column; totals Schools 132 / Non-schools 288 (2025/26) and 100 / 201 (2024/25). The accounts describe the allowances figure as "Allowances paid to Members of the Council in 2025/26 totalled £1.226m (2024/25: £1.189m). These figures include Members' allowances and expenses.". 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: Plymouth, Statement of Accounts 2025/26 - Unaudited, PDF page 92, Note 26.2. Checked 24 September 2026.

How are its services rated?

Service ratings and performance: Plymouth

Measure	Plymouth	For comparison
Children's services, Ofsted overall effectiveness	Requires improvement to be good	15 March 2024. 73% of English councils judged good or outstanding
Adult social care, CQC assessment	Good	17 December 2025. 63% of assessed councils rated good or outstanding
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	3%	5% in England
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	4%	7% in England
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	35%	17% in England
Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, 2024-25	33.0%	42.0% for England
Major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of june 2026	100.0%	91.0% for England
Non-major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	97.2%	90.7% for England

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 has happened recently?

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

1. 7 May 2026 Election Local election: 19 seats won Reform UK 14, Green Party 2, Labour Party 2, Conservative and Unionist Party 1 Democracy Club
2. 1 April 2026 Council tax Council tax for 2026-27: Band D £2,442, up 5.0% on the year before Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
3. 2 May 2024 Election Local election: 19 seats won Labour and Co-operative Party 12, Labour Party 3, Independent 2, Conservative and Unionist Party 1, Green Party 1 Democracy Club
4. 29 February 2024 Exceptional Financial Support Exceptional Financial Support agreed in principle for 2024-25 £72.0m for 2025-26 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
5. 4 May 2023 Election Local election: 19 seats won Labour Party 9, Labour and Co-operative Party 6, Independent 3, Conservative and Unionist Party 1 Democracy Club
6. 5 May 2022 Election Local election: 19 seats won Conservative and Unionist Party 7, Labour and Co-operative Party 6, Labour Party 5, Green Party 1 Democracy Club

Does the council think something here is wrong?

If you represent Plymouth 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 **18.2%** of the money Plymouth had to spend in 2025-26. The rest came from government grants (38.9%), business rates (10.6%) and fees, charges and other income (32.3%). 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 Plymouth: parking, roads, your MP and local services, and Plymouth on the council map.

Common questions

- **How much is council tax in Plymouth?** Band D is £2,442 a year for 2026-27. Band A is £1,628 and the top band £4,884.
- **Is council tax in Plymouth higher than average?** Yes. Band D here is £31 above the England average of £2,411.

Where your council tax goes in Plymouth

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/plymouth/where-it-goes/

A Band D council tax bill in **Plymouth** is **£2,441.85** for 2026-27, split between Plymouth £1,990.32, Plymouth: adult social care precept, this year's increase £38.65, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable £303.20, Devon and Somerset Combined Fire and Rescue Authority £109.68. Shared out in proportion to what each body spends, the largest single line is adult social care at Plymouth: **£658.68** 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

£2,441.85
Band D bill, 2026-27
As of 6 April 2026

£1,990.32
Goes to Plymouth itself (82%)
As of 6 April 2026

£658.68
Largest line: adult social care
As of 28 September 2026

18.2%
Of the council's money that comes from council tax, 2025-26
As of 28 September 2026

Who gets your bill

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

And where does that bit go?

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

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

Parks, street cleaning and roads here

What Plymouth 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.

Plymouth, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£5.3m	£20	£16	—	up 16.6% on 2024-25
Street cleaning	£4.9m	£18	£12	£9,363 (similar: £6,584)	down 6.6% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£6.0m	£22	£11	£11,489 (similar: £5,446)	up 6.9% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£2.9m	£11	£7.24	£5,513 (similar: £5,117)	up 9.8% on 2024-25
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	£3.1m	£12	£1.76	£5,975 (similar: £1,116)	up 4.3% on 2024-25
Winter service (gritting)	£417k	£1.54	£1.82	£796 (similar: £944)	up 13.3% on 2024-25
Street lighting (including energy)	£1.9m	£7.02	£10	£3,637 (similar: £5,138)	down 17.4% 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

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

Service	Per resident	Median
Education	£645	£718
Adult social care	£481	£480
Children's social care	£370	£300
Environment and regulation	£92	£111
Public health	£84	£64
Running the council	£70	£51
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£68	£38
Housing (not council homes)	£54	£33
Roads and transport	£46	£49
Planning and development	£-11.03	£22

- Plymouth spent **21.0%** of its gross service spending on its own staff in 2025-26 (median for unitary councils in England: 31.4%); the rest went on suppliers, contractors, grants, benefits and other running costs.
- Its published payments of £500 or more came to **£593.0m** between 2025-11 and 2026-10. These include capital and council housing spending, so they are not a share of the figures above.
- Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **6.5%** of its staff costs (median among the 6 other unitary councils in England whose £500 data is read: 7.5%). The two come from different sources and periods, so this is a guide to scale, not an exact share.

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 Plymouth and everything else about Plymouth.

Common questions

- **What does council tax pay for in Plymouth?** A Band D bill of £2,441.85 is split between Plymouth, Plymouth: adult social care precept, this year's increase, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, Devon and Somerset Combined Fire and Rescue Authority. In proportion to spending, the largest line is adult social care, £658.68.
- **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 Plymouth UA

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/parking/plymouth-ua/

In 2025–26 Plymouth UA took **£12.9m** in parking income and spent £7.9m, a **surplus of £5.1m** against £4.0m in 2024–25 (+27%), the 60th largest of 290 councils in England. Penalty charges brought in £2.1m. Figures are from the council's own return to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Key figures

£5.06m
Parking surplus
+£1.09m (+27.4%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£12.92m
Parking income
+£1.40m (+12.2%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

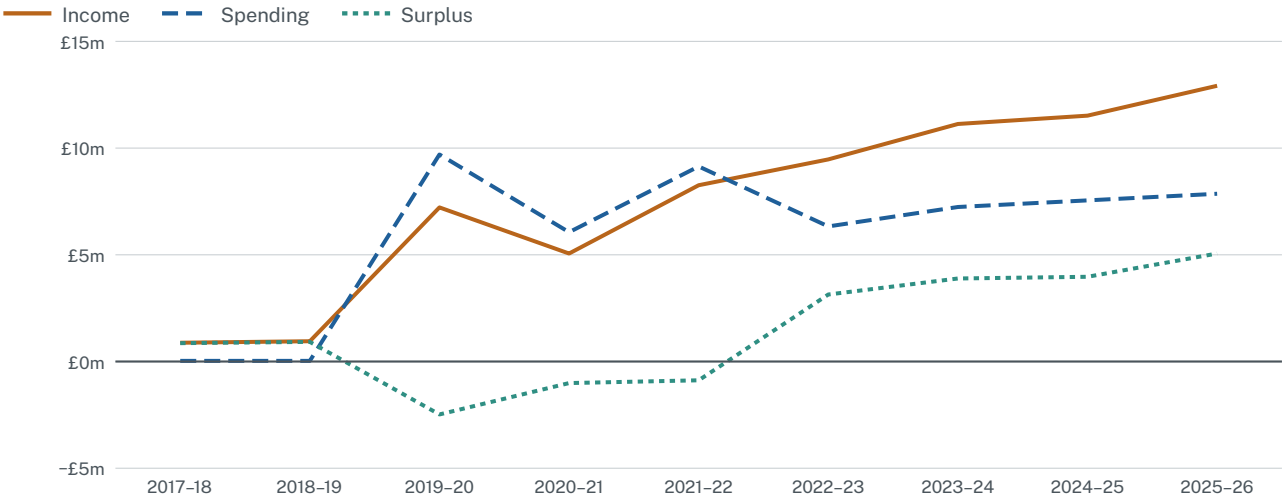
£7.86m
Spending on parking
+£0.31m (+4.2%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

£2.13m
Penalty charge income
+£0.30m (+16.1%) vs 2024–25
2025–26

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

How much has Plymouth UA made from parking each year?

Plymouth UA: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million



Plymouth UA: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million. Income: £0.88m in 2017–18, £12.92m in 2025–26. Spending: £0.03m in 2017–18, £7.86m in 2025–26. Surplus: £0.86m in 2017–18, £5.06m in 2025–26.

Plymouth UA: on-street and car park accounts

Year	On-street income	On-street spending	Car park income	Car park spending	Penalty income
2017–18	£0.88m	£0.03m	£0.00m	£0.00m	£0.00m
2018–19	£0.95m	£0.03m	£0.00m	£0.00m	£0.00m
2019–20	£1.08m	£4.04m	£6.13m	£5.66m	£0.00m
2020–21	£3.14m	£4.12m	£1.92m	£1.94m	£0.00m
2021–22	£4.45m	£5.41m	£3.81m	£3.73m	£1.30m
2022–23	£4.91m	£4.10m	£4.56m	£2.22m	£1.46m
2023–24	£6.12m	£4.78m	£5.01m	£2.46m	£1.62m
2024–25	£6.39m	£5.09m	£5.13m	£2.46m	£1.83m
2025–26	£7.13m	£5.49m	£5.79m	£2.38m	£2.13m

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

What can Plymouth UA 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 Plymouth UA compare with other councils?

Plymouth UA 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.

Plymouth: spending over £500

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/spending-over-500/plymouth/

Plymouth published **165,200 payments** of £500 or more between November 2025 and October 2026, worth **£593.0m** in all, to 2,394 suppliers. The largest total went to NHS Devon ICB: £24.1m across 88 payments. These are the council's own published records; the gaps in them are listed below.

Key figures

£593.0m
Paid in payments of £500 or more, latest year

165,200
Payments

2,394
Suppliers

12 of 12
Months with payments published

What the council published

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

Gaps and problems in the data, as published:

- 13.0% of payments (£41,049,233) have the supplier name withheld or redacted by the council, usually because the payee is an individual.

Top 50 suppliers by value

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

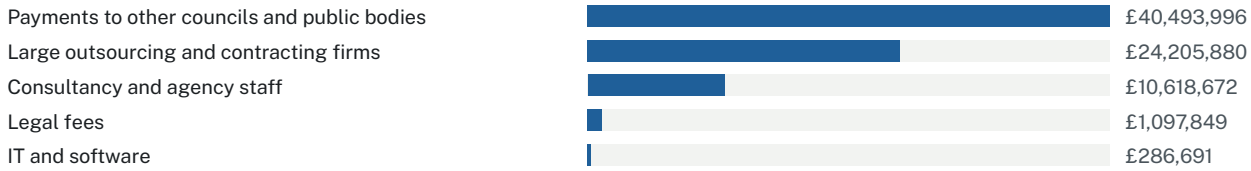
Supplier	Paid	Payments
Names withheld by the council	£41,049,233	21,532
NHS Devon ICB	£24,129,867	88
South West Highways	£15,461,504	2,166
Harbour Centre (Plymouth) Alliance Funding	£12,468,405	139
Delt Shared Services Ltd	£11,638,865	554
Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Ltd	£11,602,836	29
Keys Group PCE	£10,597,098	1,122
Cambian Childcare Ltd	£9,460,160	1,085

Supplier	Paid	Payments
Matrix SCM Limited	£9,166,736	66
Plymouth Citybus Ltd	£9,010,442	136
Spaghetti Bridge Ltd	£8,985,684	45
Balfour Beatty Ltd	£8,364,190	22
Devon Contractors Ltd	£8,138,097	15
Plymouth Active Leisure Ltd	£8,050,290	42
Pyramid Schools (Plymouth) Limited	£7,485,043	45
Devon County Council	£6,898,850	99
MHCLG	£5,409,806	1
Premier Care (Plymouth) Ltd	£5,170,034	3,214
Kent County Council	£4,477,667	203
Acorn Care & Education Ltd	£3,916,568	38
Devonport Royal Dockyard Ltd	£3,833,202	1
Fountain Head House School Ltd	£3,829,409	22
Classic Builders South West Ltd	£3,802,452	23
Five Rivers Child Care Limited	£3,752,624	2,753
Collingswood Care Limited	£3,539,099	2,326
Plymouth Community Homes	£3,509,600	55
JNE Construction Ltd	£3,404,593	51
Clear Thinking Care Ltd	£3,329,143	1,951
Teignmouth Maritime Services Ltd	£3,219,406	8
Aspris Childrens Services Ltd	£3,189,809	17
Havencare Homes and Support Limited	£3,153,584	2,032
University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust	£3,078,379	16
Compass Children`s Homes Limited	£2,993,302	605
I-Grow Care and Support Ltd	£2,957,559	1,829
Foster Care Associates Limited	£2,832,369	2,443
OYO Plymouth Central Hote	£2,815,390	58
Stagecoach Services Limited	£2,734,882	112
Bleep 360 Care Ltd	£2,656,613	453
Gemcare South West Ltd	£2,639,718	1,134
Transforming Futures Trust	£2,598,802	10
The National Trust	£2,583,996	15
The Durnford Society Ltd	£2,580,159	1,325
Allied Care Services Ltd	£2,548,047	24
Associated British Ports	£2,449,588	1
Kier Integrated Services Limited	£2,233,663	13
Achieve Together Limited	£2,211,849	1,311
Blue Sky Fostering	£2,171,789	1,841
CHAPS/Faster Payment	£2,169,928	59
Livewell Southwest CIC	£2,158,401	34
Happy Days South West Ltd	£2,107,166	60

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.

Plymouth: 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. NHS Devon ICB: £24,129,867 (88 payments)
2. Devon County Council: £6,898,850 (99 payments)
3. Kent County Council: £4,477,667 (203 payments)
4. University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust: £3,078,379 (16 payments)
5. Cornwall Council: £475,855 (34 payments)
6. Environment Agency: £274,020 (16 payments)
7. Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT: £203,500 (4 payments)
8. Warwickshire County Council: £156,318 (14 payments)
9. Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner: £123,042 (5 payments)
10. Leeds City Council: £99,591 (4 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. Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Ltd: £11,602,836 (29 payments)
2. Balfour Beatty Ltd: £8,364,190 (22 payments)
3. Kier Integrated Services Limited: £2,233,663 (13 payments)
4. Biffa Waste Services Ltd: £1,437,242 (23 payments)
5. Kier Construction: £336,740 (1 payment)
6. Glendale Countryside: £85,999 (13 payments)
7. Liberata UK Limited: £55,781 (4 payments)
8. Idverde Ltd: £36,240 (2 payments)
9. Biffa Waste Services Limi: £17,650 (13 payments)
10. G4S Cash Services (UK) Limited: £14,470 (20 payments)

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

1. KBG Chambers: £588,177 (387 payments)
2. Foot Anstey Solicitors: £106,930 (12 payments)
3. Thompson Solicitors: £78,381 (4 payments)
4. Freeths LLP: £59,266 (21 payments)
5. Cornerstone Barristers: £55,050 (12 payments)
6. Browne Jacobson LLP: £43,895 (16 payments)
7. Gard & Co. Solicitors: £37,321 (2 payments)
8. Bevan Brittan LLP: £22,585 (9 payments)
9. Trowers & Hamlins LLP: £15,624 (3 payments)
10. 3PB Barristers: £14,300 (13 payments)

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

1. Matrix SCM Limited: £9,166,736 (66 payments)
2. Grant Thornton: £748,688 (12 payments)
3. Proactive Intervention Care Ltd: £486,700 (53 payments)
4. Penna PLC: £88,241 (18 payments)

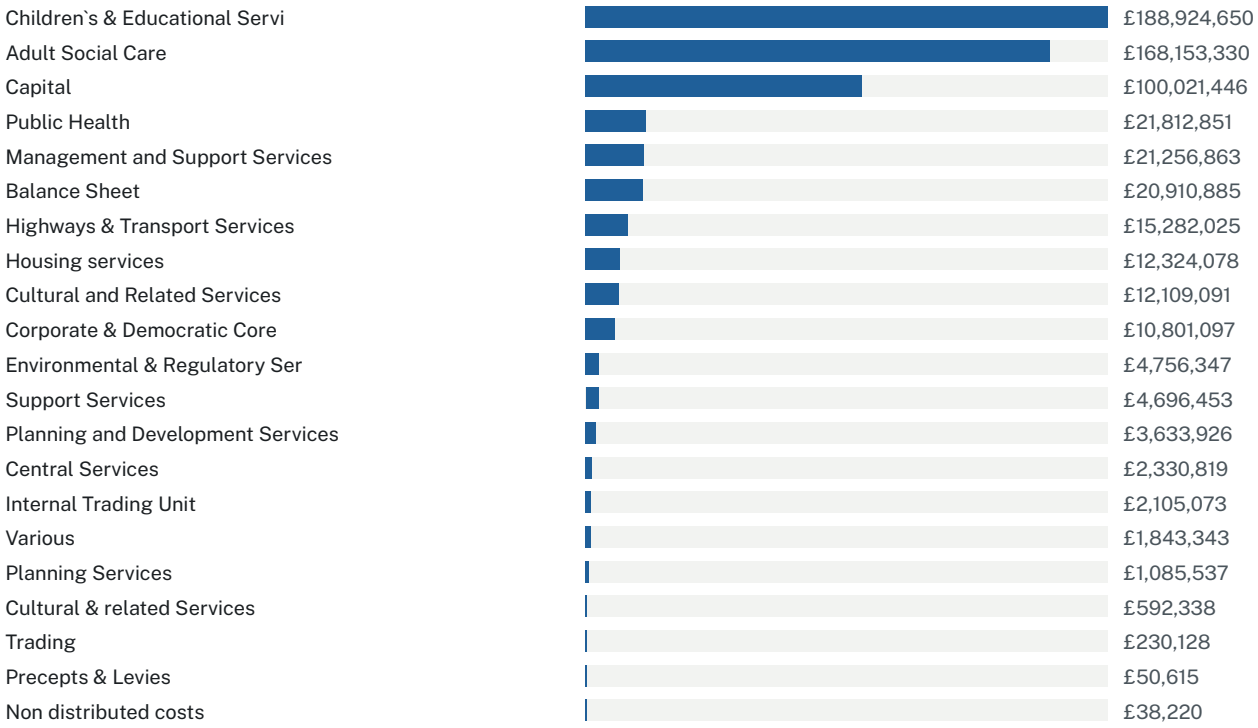
5. Proactive Interventions Limited: £76,280 (8 payments)
6. KPMG LLP: £19,000 (1 payment)
7. Tile Hill Interim & Executive Ltd: £14,015 (2 payments)
8. Forvis Mazars LLP: £10,000 (1 payment)
9. Venn Group: £9,012 (1 payment)

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. Virgin Media Ltd: £139,830 (8 payments)
2. Northgate Vehicle Hire (sw&w) Ltd: £124,207 (147 payments)
3. Vodafone Diversionary and Connection Works Team: £7,408 (1 payment)
4. Idox Software Ltd: £6,477 (2 payments)
5. Bt Plc Business Moto Bpay: £5,291 (4 payments)
6. Civica UK Ltd: £2,736 (1 payment)
7. British Telecom: £744 (1 payment)

Spending by the council's own service areas

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



Consultancy and agency against the pay bill

Payments we classify as consultancy and agency staff came to **6.5%** of Plymouth's own staff costs in its 2025-26 revenue return, against a median of 7.5% for the other unitary 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

Plymouth, spending over £500, published here. Licence as the council states it: not stated. Checked 2026-09-24; files read 2026-11-19.

- October spend over £500 (2026-10), file dated 2026-11-13: 13,789 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- September spend over £500 (2026-09), file dated 2026-10-08: 13,947 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- August spend over £500 (2026-08), file dated 2026-09-21: 12,681 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- July spend over £500 (2026-07), file dated 2026-08-27: 16,112 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- June spend over £500 (2026-06), file dated 2026-07-31: 14,200 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- May spend over £500 (2026-05), file dated 2026-06-25: 12,455 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- April spend over £500 (2026-04), file dated 2026-05-19: 12,622 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- March spend over £500 (2026-03), file dated 2026-04-29: 14,868 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- February spend over £500 (2026-02), file dated 2026-03-18: 11,955 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- January spend over £500 (2026-01), file dated 2026-02-18: 12,268 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- December spend over £500 (2025-12), file dated 2026-01-19: 17,146 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- November spend over £500 (2025-11), file dated 2025-12-10: 13,157 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.
- October spend over £500 (2025-10), file dated 2025-11-18: 12,952 payments of £500 or more. Read 2026-11-19.

Plymouth: senior pay and councillor allowances

Your area · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/councils/pay-and-allowances/plymouth/

In its draft statement of accounts for 2025-26, Plymouth reports total remuneration of **£245,269** for its chief executive (head of paid service) (including employer pension contributions), **10** employees paid £100,000 or more, and **£1,226,000** paid in members' allowances.

Key figures

£245,269
Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), 2025-26

10
Staff paid £100,000 or more, 2025-26

£1,226,000
Members' allowances, 2025-26

£13,700
Basic allowance per councillor, 2025-26

Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service)

Total remuneration of **£245,269** in 2025-26, including employer pension contributions. That is down 8.4% on 2024-25 (£267,842). The median among the 4 other unitary councils in England collected so far is £242,676.

From the accounts: Tracey Lee - Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service). 2025/26: salaries, fees and allowances 206,108; compensation 0; pension 39,161; total 245,269. 2024/25: 231,133; 0; 36,709; 267,842. Both years 'Includes election duty payments as the Returning Officer' (2025/26 covered a referendum; 2024/25 one local, one PCC and one national election). Total excluding pension is not printed.

PDF page 90, Note 26.1

Employees paid £50,000 or more

420 employees in 2025-26, up 39.5% on 2024-25 (301). 10 were paid £100,000 or more, 3.7 per 100,000 residents. The median among the 7 other unitary councils in England collected so far is 4.9 per 100,000.

Plymouth: employees by pay band, as printed

Band	2025-26	2024-25
£50,000 to £54,999	160	109
£55,000 to £59,999	116	88
£60,000 to £64,999	42	40
£65,000 to £69,999	39	24
£70,000 to £74,999	19	10
£75,000 to £79,999	9	7
£80,000 to £84,999	7	8
£85,000 to £89,999	12	5
£90,000 to £94,999	5	4
£95,000 to £99,999	1	1
£100,000 to £104,999	2	2
£105,000 to £109,999	2	1
£110,000 to £114,999	2	1
£115,000 to £119,999	3	0
£120,000 to £124,999	1	0
£125,000 to £129,999	0	1

Includes schools staff. Senior officers listed separately are not in these counts. From the accounts: Note 26.2: 'the number of employees whose remuneration for the year (excluding employer pension contributions) was £50,000 or more. The following numbers do not include the senior management as disclosed in note 26.1.' Schools and Non-schools columns, no combined column; totals Schools 132 / Non-schools 288 (2025/26) and 100 / 201 (2024/25).

Source: Plymouth, Statement of Accounts 2025/26 - Unaudited (draft), PDF page 92, Note 26.2. Read by hand; checked 2026-09-24.

Councillors' allowances

£1,226,000 in 2025-26, up 3.1% on 2024-25 (£1,189,000), or £4.52 per resident. The median among the 7 other unitary councils in England collected so far is £3.64 per resident.

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

Paid as	Total
Basic allowances	£780,902
Special responsibility allowances	£419,879
Expenses	£638
All	£1,226,007

The basic allowance for each councillor is £13,700 a year (2025-26).

From the accounts: "Allowances paid to Members of the Council in 2025/26 totalled £1.226m (2024/25: £1.189m). These figures include Members' allowances and expenses." (PDF page 89, Note 25)

Published allowances: Members allowances 2025/26 (web page table).

What this data does and doesn't show

- Every figure is as Plymouth 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 unitary councils in England read so far; no national figure is published for England.
- Published 2025/26 table (57 councillors) has no totals row; figures are our column sums: Basic 780,902.28; Lord Mayor's Allowance 24,588.46; Special Responsibility 419,878.75; Travel/Subsistence Reimbursed 637.82; 'total' is our sum of all four columns and matches the accounts figure (£1.226m). A second small table on the same page shows Special Responsibility adjustments summing to -8,724.19 (not included). Basic rate from the Councillor Allowances Scheme appendix: 'Summary of basic allowance and special responsibility allowances from 01 April 2025 … Basic Allowance 13,700'.

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