

Somerset in full

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

Figures as of: 22 September 2026

Generated on: 27 September 2026

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

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

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

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
Somerset: your area	4
Council tax in Somerset	7
Where your council tax goes in Somerset	12
Parking income in Somerset	15
Sources and licences	17

Executive summary

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

Somerset: your area

£2,561

Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£122 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£7.2m

Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

55.5%

Household waste recycled,
2024-25

Council tax in Somerset

£2,561

Band D a year, 2026-27
+£122 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,707

Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£150

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

Where your council tax goes in Somerset

£2,560.59

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

£1,913.74

Goes to Somerset itself (75%)
As of 6 April 2026

£732.40

Largest line: adult social care
As of 17 September 2026

Parking income in Somerset

£7.25m

Parking surplus
-£0.04m (-0.5%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

£14.43m

Parking income
+£0.53m (+3.8%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

£7.18m

Spending on parking
+£0.56m (+8.5%) vs 2024-25
2025-26

Somerset: your area

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

Somerset sets a Band D council tax of **£2,561** for 2026-27, 55 of 296 councils in England from the highest. Police: Avon and Somerset. Fire and rescue: Devon & Somerset. Health: NHS Somerset 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

£2,561

Band D council tax, 2026-27
+£122 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£7.2m

Parking surplus, 2025-26
As of 6 April 2025

55.5%

Household waste recycled,
2024-25

2%

A roads where maintenance
should be considered, 2024-25

38%

Reserves as a share of spending,
2025-26

What is the council tax in Somerset?

Band D is **£2,561** a year for 2026-27, and Band A, the lowest, **£1,707**. That is £150 above the England average of £2,411, 55 of 296 in England from the highest.

Of a Band D bill, **£1,951** goes to Somerset.

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

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

How does the council compare?

- Council tax rise this year 5.0% Higher than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £944 Higher than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 95% (56 of 59) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 38% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £2,473 Lower than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2024-25 Delivered by backstop 92% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services Good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care Requires improvement 62% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered 2% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 55.5% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 84.1% Lower than the England figure of 91.0%

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

[The full report card: complaints, finances, audit, pay and services](#)

Roads, bins and planning

Roads, recycling and planning in Somerset

Measure	Figure	Period
A roads where maintenance should be considered	2%	2024-25
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered	9%	2024-25
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	7%	2024-25
Household waste reused, recycled or composted	55.5%	2024-25
Major planning decisions made on time	84.1%	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 Somerset

Authority	Year	Income	Surplus
Somerset	2025-26	£14.4m	£7.2m

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 June 2026, police recorded **76.9 crimes per 1,000 residents** in Somerset, excluding anti-social behaviour, against 82.4 across England.

[Somerset on the crime map, down to streets of a few hundred homes](#)

Your police precept

A Band D home in Somerset pays **£308.20** police precept in 2026-27. It funds **Avon and Somerset**, which has £462m 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 Somerset are not what its precept bought.

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

Who runs police, fire, health and ambulances here?

The bodies that serve Somerset, and their latest money

Service	Body	Latest	Per resident
Police	Avon and Somerset	£462m (2026-27)	£254
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 Somerset Integrated Care Board	£1.9bn (2028-29)	£3,150
Roads	Somerset	£17m (2025-26)	£28.26
Schools	Somerset	£439m (2026-27)	£743
Council spending	Somerset	£1.0bn (2025-26)	£1,755
Social care	Somerset	£456m (2024-25)	£774
Housing	Somerset	£19m (2025-26)	£32.77
Waste and recycling	Somerset	not published	—

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

See Somerset 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 Somerset? Band D is £2,561 a year for 2026-27. [Every band](#).
- Which police force covers Somerset? Avon and Somerset police force area. Fire and rescue: Devon & Somerset.

Council tax in Somerset

[Your area](#) · Last updated 27 September 2026 · <https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/council-tax/england/somerset/>

Council tax in **Somerset** for 2026-27 is **£2,561** a year for a **Band D** home, £1,707 for Band A and £5,121 for the top band. That is £150 above the England average of £2,411. It ranks 55 of 296 billing areas in England. Figures are the council's own set rates.

Key figures

£2,561

Band D a year, 2026-27
+£122 (+5.0%) vs 2025-26
As of 6 April 2026

£1,707

Band A, the lowest
As of 6 April 2026

+£150

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

55 of 296

Rank in England, highest first
As of 6 April 2026

What is the bill for each band?

Council tax by band in Somerset, bands A to H

Band	A year	A month
Band A	£1,707.06	£142.26
Band B	£1,991.57	£165.96
Band C	£2,276.08	£189.67
Band D	£2,560.59	£213.38
Band E	£3,129.61	£260.80
Band F	£3,698.63	£308.22
Band G	£4,267.65	£355.64
Band H	£5,121.18	£426.77

Who gets the money?

Band D bill in Somerset by receiving body

Who receives it	Band D	Share
Somerset	£1,951	76%
Other precepting bodies	£610	24%

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 **£150** above the England average, 55 of 296 councils from the highest.

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

Herefordshire	£2,574
Wiltshire	£2,572
West Oxfordshire	£2,567
Reigate and Banstead	£2,567
Somerset (Somerset)	£2,561
Hartlepool	£2,560
Bolsover	£2,559
Elmbridge	£2,558
Huntingdonshire	£2,556

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

How does Somerset compare? The report card

Official figures on complaints, finances, audit, pay and services for Somerset, each from the body that published it and set against the figure for England. See every council on the [council map](#).

Somerset was created on 1 April 2023, replacing Somerset County Council, Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset, Somerset West and Taunton ([SI 2022/329](#)). Figures for years before then belong to those councils.

- Council tax rise this year 5.0% Higher than the England figure of 4.9%
- Council tax per head £944 Higher than the England figure of £796
- Ombudsman uphold rate 95% (56 of 59) Higher than the England figure of 86%
- Reserves as a share of net spending 38% Lower than the England figure of 50%
- Borrowing per home £2,473 Lower than the England figure of £3,474
- Accounts, 2024-25 Delivered by backstop 92% of bodies had an opinion delivered by the backstop date
- Ofsted, children's services Good 73% of English councils are good or outstanding
- CQC, adult social care Requires improvement 62% of assessed councils are good or outstanding
- A roads needing maintenance considered 2% Lower than the England figure of 5%
- Recycling rate 55.5% Higher than the England figure of 42.0%
- Major planning decisions on time 84.1% Lower than the England figure of 91.0%

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

What do complaints to the ombudsman show?

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

Measure	Somerset	For comparison
Complaints and enquiries received	294	—
Complaints and enquiries decided	215	228 in 2024-25
Detailed investigations	59	—
Upheld	56	—
Uphold rate	95%	86% for every body the Ombudsman covers; 85% for similar councils
Upheld cases where the council had already offered a satisfactory remedy	5%	13% for every body the Ombudsman covers
Ombudsman's recommendations the council complied with	98%	99.9% for every body the Ombudsman covers
Uphold rate in 2024-25	93%	—

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 Somerset Council in 2025-26, out of 6 findings in 4 determinations. Its maladministration rate for this landlord was 100%.

Source: [Housing Ombudsman Service, Annual complaints review: landlord tables](#), 2025-26.

How healthy are its finances?

Reserves, spending and borrowing: Somerset

Measure	Somerset	For comparison
Net revenue spending, 2025-26	£545.8m	—
Reserves at the end of 2025-26	£205.7m	—
Reserves as a share of net spending	38%	50% for England; 32% in 2024-25
Outstanding borrowing at 30 June 2026	£674.2m	—
Borrowing per home on the valuation list	£2,473	£3,474 across English billing authorities

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

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

It was agreed Exceptional Financial Support for 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27. Each is dated and linked in the events below.

What have the auditors said?

Audit of the accounts: Somerset

Accounts year	Status recorded by PSAA	Opinion signed
2024-25	Delivered by backstop	26 February 2026
2023-24	Delivered by backstop	28 February 2025

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

Source: [Public Sector Audit Appointments, Monthly audit opinion data](#), 2024-25.

What are senior staff and councillors paid?

Senior pay and councillor allowances for Somerset have not yet been read from its statement of accounts. There is no central dataset of either; they are being added council by council, each with a link to the page of the accounts it comes from.

How are its services rated?

Service ratings and performance: Somerset

Measure	Somerset	For comparison
Children's services, Ofsted overall effectiveness	Good	21 September 2022. 73% of English councils judged good or outstanding
Adult social care, CQC assessment	Requires improvement	5 June 2026. 62% of assessed councils rated good or outstanding
A roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	2%	5% in England
B and C roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	9%	7% in England
Unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered, 2024-25	7%	17% in England
Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, 2024-25	55.5%	42.0% for England
Major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	84.1%	91.0% for England
Non-major planning decisions on time, 24 months to end of June 2026	87.7%	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 Somerset, newest first. Each links to the body that made or published it. News reports are not included.

- 1 April 2026 Council tax [Council tax for 2026-27: Band D £2,561, up 5.0% on the year before](#) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 26 February 2026 Audit [Auditor's opinion on the 2024-25 accounts signed](#) PSAA records the status as "Delivered by backstop"; auditor Grant Thornton UK LLP. Public Sector Audit Appointments
- 23 February 2026 Exceptional Financial Support [Exceptional Financial Support agreed in principle for 2026-27](#) £30m (support agreed in-principle); Note: For support agreed in-principle for 2025-26, this has been revised to £45.118m (from £63.0m) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 1 April 2025 Council tax limit [Council tax referendum limit for 2025-26 set at 7.5%](#) Set for this council in the government's referendum principles report, above the standard limit. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 20 February 2025 Exceptional Financial Support [Exceptional Financial Support agreed in principle for 2025-26](#) £63.0m (support agreed in-principle); This was subsequently revised to £45.118m (support agreed in-principle); Note: Provisionally includes revised support agreed in 2024-25, subject to final confirmation Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 22 January 2025 Ombudsman [Ombudsman report: upheld, special educational needs](#) Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 23-017-883. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
- 7 January 2025 Ombudsman [Ombudsman report: upheld, special educational needs](#) Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 24-003-239. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
- 29 February 2024 Exceptional Financial Support [Exceptional Financial Support agreed in principle for 2024-25](#) £44.766m Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

9. 1 April 2023 Reorganisation [Somerset council created](#) Replaced Somerset County Council, Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset, Somerset West and Taunton. [legislation.gov.uk](#), SI 2022/329
10. 5 May 2022 Election [Local election: 110 seats won](#) Liberal Democrats 61, Conservative and Unionist Party 36, Green Party 5, Labour Party 5, Independent 3 Democracy Club
11. 8 January 2021 Ombudsman [Ombudsman report: upheld, special educational needs](#) Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman public interest report, case 18-010-275. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

Does the council think something here is wrong?

If you represent Somerset 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 28.1% of the money Somerset had to spend in 2025-26. The rest came from government grants (40.5%), business rates (9.3%) and fees, charges and other income (22.0%). That is why a grant cut can raise your bill even when the council has not changed what it does. [See where it goes](#).

Where can I find out more?

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

Common questions

- How much is council tax in Somerset? Band D is £2,561 a year for 2026-27. Band A is £1,707 and the top band £5,121.
- Is council tax in Somerset higher than average? Yes. Band D here is £150 above the England average of £2,411.

Where your council tax goes in Somerset

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

A Band D council tax bill in **Somerset** is **£2,560.59** for 2026-27, split between Somerset £1,913.74, Somerset: adult social care precept, this year's increase £37.15, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable £308.20, Devon and Somerset Combined Fire and Rescue Authority £109.68, Parish and town councils (average for the area) £191.82. Shared out in proportion to what each body spends, the largest single line is adult social care at Somerset: **£732.40** of the bill. Council tax pays for 28% of the council's own spending; the rest is government grant, business rates and fees.

Key figures

£2,560.59

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

£1,913.74

Goes to Somerset itself (75%)
As of 6 April 2026

£732.40

Largest line: adult social care
As of 17 September 2026

28.1%

Of the council's money that comes
from council tax, 2025-26
As of 17 September 2026

Who gets your bill

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

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

And where does that bit go?

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

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

Parks, street cleaning and roads here

What Somerset 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.

Somerset, 2025-26

Line	Net spending	Per resident	Similar councils, per resident	Per mile of road	Change
Parks and open spaces (including play areas)	£6.9m	£12	£18	—	down 21.0% on 2024-25
Street cleaning	£4.2m	£7.02	£11	£997 (similar: £1,957)	down 31.7% on 2024-25
Road and bridge maintenance	£8.4m	£14	£26	£2,012 (similar: £5,287)	up 10.9% on 2024-25
Environmental, safety and routine maintenance	£8.9m	£15	£22	£2,141 (similar: £3,344)	up 37.4% on 2024-25
Structural maintenance (resurfacing, bridges)	-£535k	£-0.91	£7.61	£-128.00 (similar: £2,209)	—
Winter service (gritting)	£2.3m	£3.88	£4.01	£551 (similar: £904)	up 37.5% on 2024-25
Street lighting (including energy)	£6.0m	£10	£6.63	£1,448 (similar: £1,371)	up 0.4% 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

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

Service	Per resident	Median
Education	£643	£718
Adult social care	£485	£478
Children's social care	£271	£309
Environment and regulation	£127	£110
Public health	£44	£65
Roads and transport	£44	£49
Running the council	£43	£52
Housing (not council homes)	£33	£34
Planning and development	£28	£21
Parks, leisure, libraries and culture	£24	£38
Other services	£14	£9.20

- Somerset spent 26.1% 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.

What this data does and doesn't show

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

Sources

- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, [Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England: Table 10, local authority level data](#), published 25 March 2026. Open Government Licence v3.0.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, [Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: Revenue Outturn multi-year data set](#), published 17 September 2026. Open Government Licence v3.0.

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

Common questions

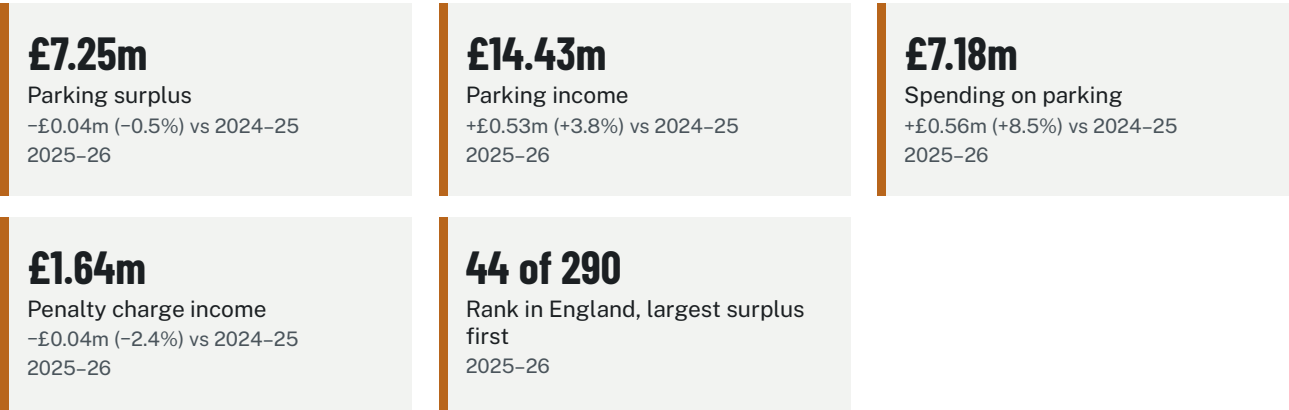
- **What does council tax pay for in Somerset?** A Band D bill of £2,560.59 is split between Somerset, Somerset: adult social care precept, this year's increase, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, Devon and Somerset Combined Fire and Rescue Authority, Parish and town councils (average for the area). In proportion to spending, the largest line is adult social care, £732.40.
- **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 Somerset

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

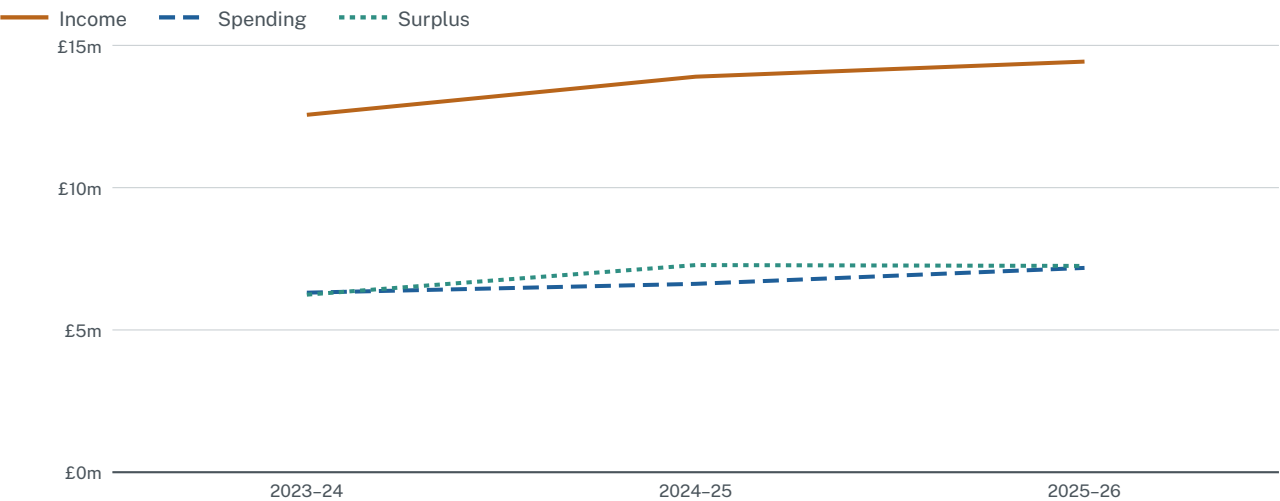
In 2025–26 Somerset took **£14.4m** in parking income and spent **£7.2m**, a **surplus of £7.2m** against £7.3m in 2024–25 (–0%), the 44th largest of 290 councils in England. Penalty charges brought in £1.6m. Figures are from the council's own return to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Key figures



How much has Somerset made from parking each year?

Somerset: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million



Somerset: parking income, spending and surplus, £ million. Income: £12.56m in 2023–24, £14.43m in 2025–26. Spending: £6.31m in 2023–24, £7.18m in 2025–26. Surplus: £6.24m in 2023–24, £7.25m in 2025–26.

Somerset: on-street and car park accounts

Year	On-street income	On-street spending	Car park income	Car park spending	Penalty income
2023–24	£5.97m	£1.64m	£6.59m	£4.67m	£1.70m
2024–25	£2.42m	£0.91m	£11.48m	£5.71m	£1.68m
2025–26	£2.49m	£0.09m	£11.93m	£7.09m	£1.64m

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

What can Somerset 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 Somerset compare with other councils?

Somerset 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.

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 https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/council-tax-statistics	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	the 2026–27 financial year	Open Government Licence v3.0	Somerset: your area; Council tax in Somerset; Where your council tax goes in Somerset
Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: revenue outturn multi-year data set (RO2 parking) https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing-england-revenue-outturn-multi-year-data-set	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	the 2025–26 financial year	Open Government Licence v3.0	Somerset: your area; Parking income in Somerset
Local authority revenue expenditure and financing: Revenue Outturn multi-year data set https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6ab26ffffe72ed1e2b02ee74/Revenue_Outturn_time_series_data_v4.csv	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	17 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where your council tax goes in Somerset
legislation.gov.uk and official guidance, provision by provision https://www.legislation.gov.uk/	legislation.gov.uk	22 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0 (legislation.gov.uk)	Parking income in Somerset

How to use and cite this document

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

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

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