Public services: where the money goes

Public spending by function over the long run, what it buys, and the NHS, police, fire, ambulance, armed forces and search and rescue.

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Executive summary

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

Where the £ goes: public spending by function

£1,360.1bn
Total managed expenditure, 2025-26
+2.0% in real terms on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

£19,574
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

44.2%
Of GDP, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it

£31.6bn
Police, 2025-26
+4.9% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

£4.2bn
Fire and rescue, 2025-26
+1.9% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

£5.5bn
Ambulance, 2024-25
+4.6% in real terms

The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body

£257.5bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+6.2% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+2.8%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£257.5bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£3,706
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

Police funding: grant, precept and each force

£31.6bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+8.4% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+4.9%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£31.6bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£454
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents

£4.2bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+5.3% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+1.9%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£4.2bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£59.96
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times

£5.5bn
Spent in 2024-25, cash
+8.7% on a year earlier

+4.6%
Real-terms change, 2024-25 on a year earlier
£5.6bn in 2025-26 prices

£78.80
Per resident, 2024-25

The armed forces: spending, people and commitments

£65.4bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+2.7% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

–0.7%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£65.4bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£941
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

Search and rescue: what the taxpayer funds and what charities do

£451m
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+4.2% on a year earlier
As of 15 July 2026

+0.8%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£451m in 2025-26 prices
As of 15 July 2026

£6.49
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 15 July 2026

Funded or charity: who pays for each emergency service

£451m
HM Coastguard, 2025-26, taxpayer-funded
As of 15 July 2026

£305.2m
Air ambulance charities' income, latest accounts

£253.8m
Lifeboat charities' income, latest accounts

Where the £ goes: public spending by function

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/where-public-money-goes/

The UK public sector spent **£1,360.1bn** in 2025-26, **£19,574** per resident and 44.2% of GDP (HM Treasury). The largest items were social protection, including the state pension (£407.3bn), health (£257.5bn) and general public services (£165.5bn).

Key figures

£1,360.1bn
Total managed expenditure, 2025-26
+2.0% in real terms on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

£19,574
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

44.2%
Of GDP, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

£407.3bn
Social protection, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

£257.5bn
Health, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

By function, 2025-26

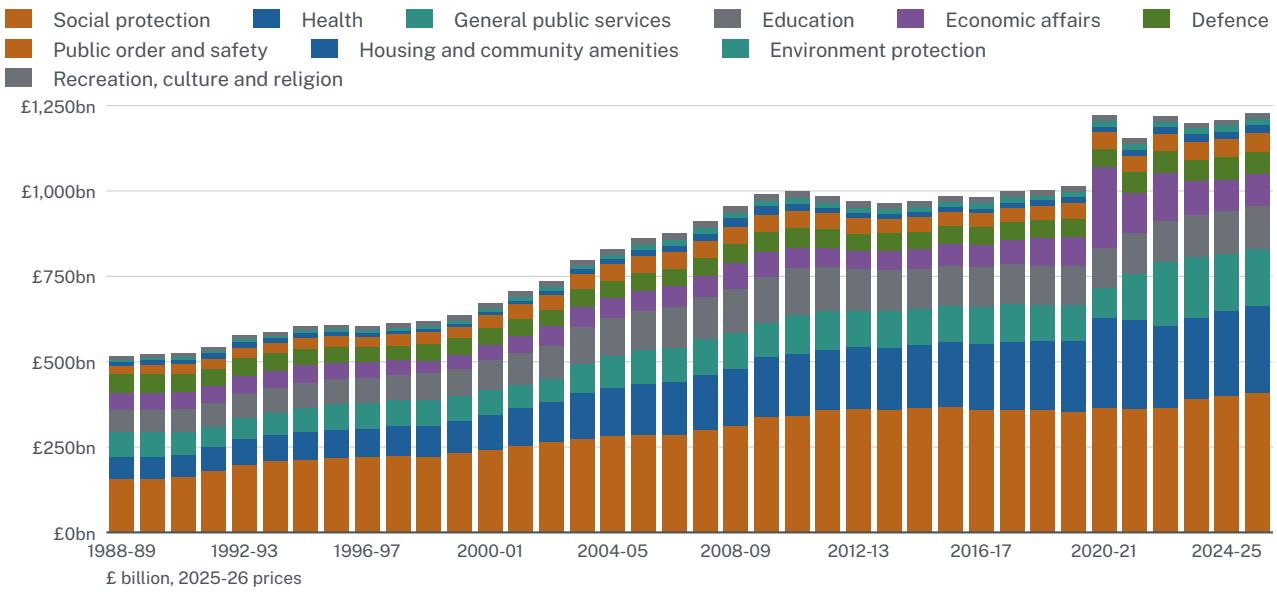
Public spending by function, 2025-26

Function	Cash	Per resident	Share of GDP	Real change on a year earlier
Social protection, including the state pension	£407.3bn	£5,862	13.2%	+2.0%
Health	£257.5bn	£3,706	8.4%	+2.8%
General public services	£165.5bn	£2,382	5.4%	0.0%
Debt interest	£130.3bn	£1,875	4.2%	−0.3%
Education	£125.7bn	£1,809	4.1%	−1.1%
Economic affairs, including transport	£94.0bn	£1,353	3.1%	+3.4%
Defence	£65.4bn	£941	2.1%	−0.7%
Public order and safety	£55.7bn	£802	1.8%	+4.0%
Housing and community amenities	£22.5bn	£324	0.7%	+0.3%
Environment protection	£19.2bn	£276	0.6%	+7.4%
Recreation, culture and religion	£15.1bn	£217	0.5%	+7.4%

Source: HM Treasury, PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables, published 16 July 2026; Office for National Statistics, Population estimates (UK and nations time series; local authorities on Nomis); HM Treasury, GDP deflators at market prices, and money GDP.

Over time, in real terms

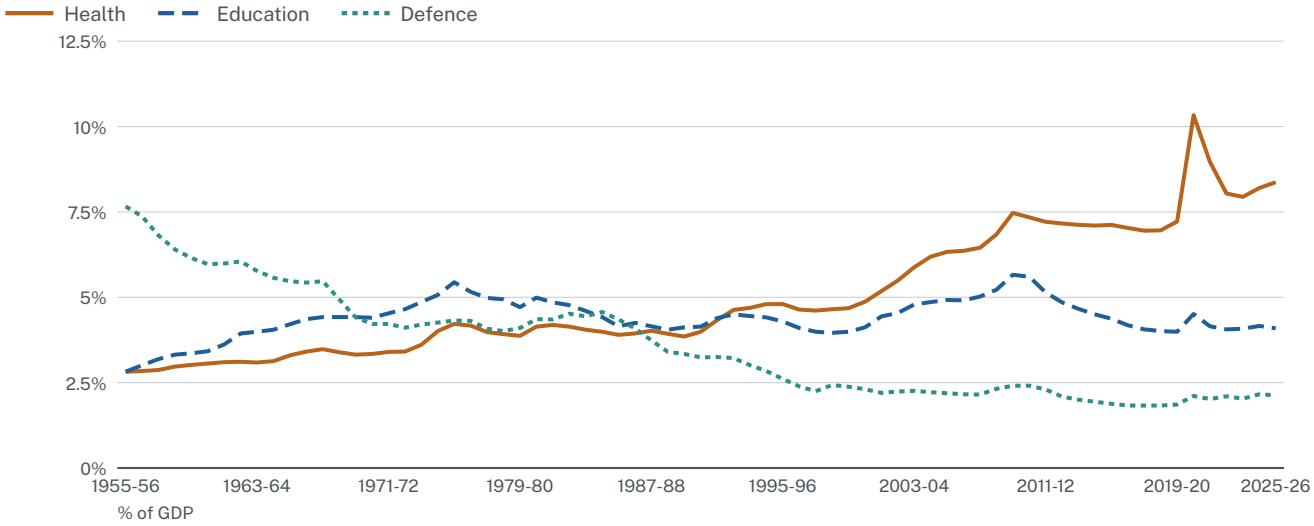
Public spending by function, 2025-26 prices, £ billion



Stacked bar chart of UK public spending on services by function from 1988-89 to 2025-26, in 2025-26 prices. The largest in 2025-26 is social protection, including the state pension at £407.3bn.

The longest run: health, education and defence since 1955

Health, education and defence as a share of GDP, since 1955-56



Line chart of UK spending on health, education and defence as a share of GDP from 1955-56 to 2025-26. Defence fell from 7.7% to 2.1%; health rose from 2.8% to 8.4%.

Per resident, by nation

Spending that can be identified as for the people of one nation, divided by that nation's population, so the nations compare like for like. It leaves out spending for the UK as a whole (defence, debt interest, most overseas spending), so it does not add up to the UK total and is never mixed with it.

Identifiable spending per resident by nation, 2025-26

Function	England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Health	£3,665	£3,785	£3,994	£3,880
Education	£1,820	£2,160	£1,944	£2,365
Public order and safety	£692	£810	£747	£893
Social protection	£5,644	£6,363	£6,850	£6,933
Economic affairs	£1,274	£1,670	£1,188	£1,429
Housing and community amenities	£279	£585	£576	£740

Source: HM Treasury, Country and regional analysis 2026: B tables, published 18 November 2026; Office for National Statistics, Population estimates (UK and nations time series; local authorities on Nomis).

What these figures do and don't show

- **Functions, not departments.** Spending is grouped by what it is for (the UN's COFOG classification), whoever spends it, so it does not follow machinery-of-government changes between departments.
- **Cash, real terms and per head are all shown.** Real terms use HM Treasury's GDP deflator in 2025-26 prices; per head uses ONS mid-year population.
- **The long run joins sources.** Before 1988-89 health, education and defence come from the OBR's historical database; the join is at matching figures and is marked.
- **Nations and the UK are different measures.** Nation figures are identifiable spending only and never add up to the UK figure.

What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/what-public-money-buys/

Each service below shows its spending in real terms beside what is published about what it delivers: officers and recorded crime, incidents and response times, calls and waits, headcount. The two are shown together; how much of any change the money caused is not something these figures can show.

Key figures

£31.6bn
Police, 2025-26
+4.9% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

£4.2bn
Fire and rescue, 2025-26
+1.9% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

£5.5bn
Ambulance, 2024-25
+4.6% in real terms

£257.5bn
NHS, 2025-26
+2.8% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

£14.2bn
Roads, 2025-26
+1.2% in real terms
As of 16 July 2026

Police

Spending: **£31.6bn** in 2025-26 (Police, United Kingdom), £454 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £26.1bn in 2020-21 and £31.6bn in 2025-26.

Police: what is published alongside the money, England and Wales

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Recorded crime per 1,000 residents	82.9 per 1,000 (2025-26)	77.1 per 1,000 (2020-21)
Officers per 100,000 residents	235 per 100,000 (2025-26)	228 per 100,000 (2020-21)
Charged or summonsed	9.3% (2025-26)	8.5% (2020-21)
999 calls answered within 10 seconds	88.8% (2026-08)	90.3% (2026-03)

Fire and rescue

Spending: **£4.2bn** in 2025-26 (Fire and rescue, United Kingdom), £59.96 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £3.8bn in 2020-21 and £4.2bn in 2025-26.

Fire and rescue: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Incidents per 1,000 residents	2.9 per 1,000 residents (2026-27)	10.2 per 1,000 residents (2021-22)
Average response time to primary fires	9.47 minutes (2026-27)	8.83 minutes (2021-22)
Staff, full-time equivalent	40,082 FTE (2024-25)	40,135 FTE (2019-20)
Fire stations	1,386 stations (2024-25)	1,394 stations (2019-20)

Ambulance

Spending: **£5.5bn** in 2024-25 (Ambulance services, United Kingdom), £78.80 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £5.4bn in 2023-24 and £5.6bn in 2024-25.

Ambulance: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Category 1 (life-threatening): average response	8.0 minutes (2026-10)	7.9 minutes (2026-05)
Category 2 (emergency, such as stroke or heart attack): average response	32.8 minutes (2026-10)	29.2 minutes (2026-05)
Handovers taking over an hour	8.8% (2026-10)	6.6% (2026-05)

NHS

Spending: **£257.5bn** in 2025-26 (Health, United Kingdom), £3,706 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £265.6bn in 2020-21 and £257.5bn in 2025-26.

NHS: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Waiting under 18 weeks (England)	65.9% (2026-09)	64.9% (2026-04)
Waiting list per 1,000 residents (England)	120.8 per 1,000 residents (2026-09)	121.1 per 1,000 residents (2026-04)
NHS staff, full-time equivalent (England)	1,370,051 FTE (2026-08)	1,379,670 FTE (2026-03)

Roads

Spending: **£14.2bn** in 2025-26 (United Kingdom), £205 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £14.5bn in 2020-21 and £14.2bn in 2025-26.

Roads: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Road maintenance spending per mile	£6,923 (2025-26)	£6,313 (2023-24)
A roads where maintenance should be considered	5% (2024-25)	4% (2019-20)
Roadworks on site in the month	216,375 works (2026-10)	199,270 works (2026-05)

Schools

Spending: **£125.7bn** in 2025-26 (United Kingdom), £1,809 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £116.0bn in 2020-21 and £125.7bn in 2025-26.

Schools: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Schools block funding per pupil	£6,771 (2026-27)	£5,221 (2021-22)
Pupils per teacher	17.9 pupils per teacher (2025/26)	18.0 pupils per teacher (2020/21)

Council spending

Spending: **£202.4bn** in 2024-25 (United Kingdom), £2,922 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £197.2bn in 2019-20 and £209.2bn in 2024-25.

Council spending: what is published alongside the money, England, all councils

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Council spending per resident, excluding schools, police and fire	£1,173 (2025-26)	£905 (2020-21)
Share of income from council tax	20.8% (2025-26)	20.5% (2020-21)
Adult social care spending per resident	£466 (2025-26)	£332 (2020-21)

Social care

Spending: **£56.1bn** in 2025-26 (United Kingdom), £808 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £44.7bn in 2020-21 and £56.1bn in 2025-26.

Social care: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Adult social care spending per adult	£675 (2025-26)	£478 (2020-21)
Share of long-term care spending on care homes	46.2% (2025-26)	47.2% (2020-21)
Children's services spending per child	£1,197 (2024-25)	£794 (2019-20)
Children looked after per 10,000 children	67 per 10,000 children (2025)	69 per 10,000 children (2021)

Housing

Spending: **£22.5bn** in 2025-26 (United Kingdom), £324 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £16.6bn in 2020-21 and £22.5bn in 2025-26.

Housing: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households	5.5 per 1,000 households (2026-03)	4.0 per 1,000 households (2021-03)
Spending on temporary accommodation per resident	£23.27 (2025-26)	£16.17 (2023-24)
Affordable homes completed per 1,000 households	2.6 per 1,000 households (2024-25)	2.1 per 1,000 households (2020-21)
General Fund housing spending per resident	£59.13 (2025-26)	£45.44 (2023-24)

Waste and recycling

Spending: **£25.8bn** in 2025-26 (United Kingdom), £371 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £23.0bn in 2020-21 and £25.8bn in 2025-26.

Waste and recycling: what is published alongside the money, England

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	42.0% (2024-25)	43.8% (2019-20)
Spending on waste collection and recycling per household	£81 (2025-26)	—

Armed forces

Spending: **£65.4bn** in 2025-26 (Defence, United Kingdom), £941 per resident; in 2025-26 prices it was £54.2bn in 2020-21 and £65.4bn in 2025-26.

Armed forces: what is published alongside the money

Measure	Latest	Five periods earlier
UK regular forces	137,482 people (2026-07)	136,998 people (2025-04)
Core defence spending, NATO measure	2.56 % of GDP (2026e)	2.25 % of GDP (2021)

What these figures do and don't show

- **Side by side, not cause and effect.** A rise in spending and a change in an output in the same years does not show that one caused the other: demand, prices, population, policy and recording all change too.
- **Different areas.** Spending is for the UK or the nation named; outputs are for the group named in each table (England and Wales for police, England for fire response times). They are not mixed into one figure.
- **Outputs are what is published,** not everything a service does. Each service's page has the fuller picture and the breaks in each series.

The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/nhs/

£257.5bn was spent on health in Health, United Kingdom in 2025-26, **£3,706** per resident. That is +2.8% on a year earlier after inflation (+6.2% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £17.8bn in 1955-56 to £257.5bn.

Key figures

£257.5bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+6.2% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+2.8%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£257.5bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

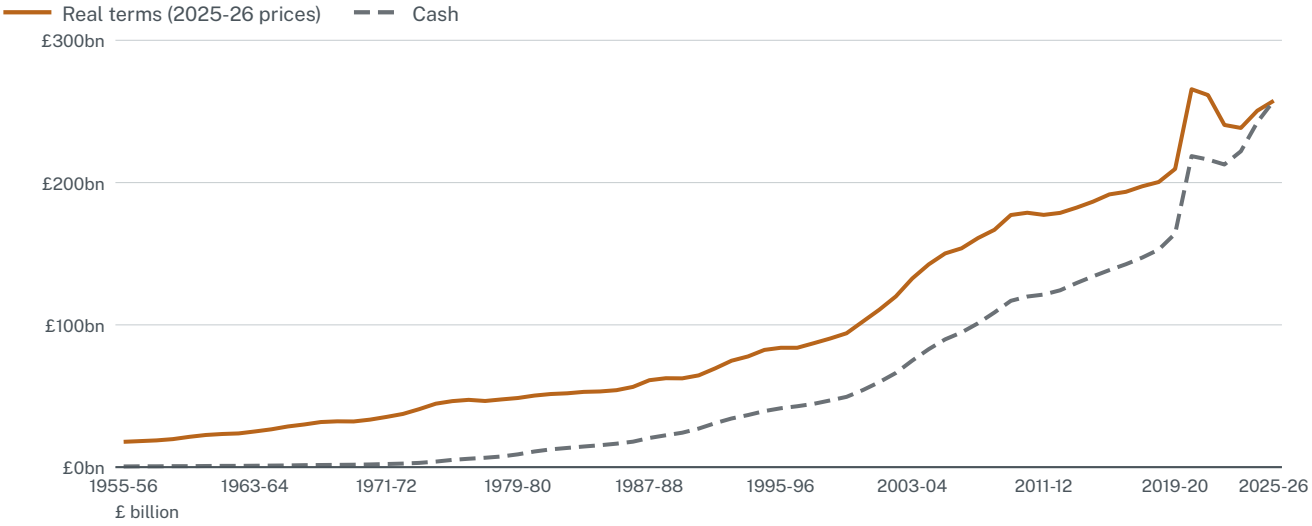
£3,706
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

The short version

- **Four health services:** England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each run their own, with their own budgets and targets.
- **Per head, like for like:** each nation's spending divided by its own population.
- **Down to your health body:** integrated care boards in England, local health boards in Wales and health boards in Scotland each have a page.

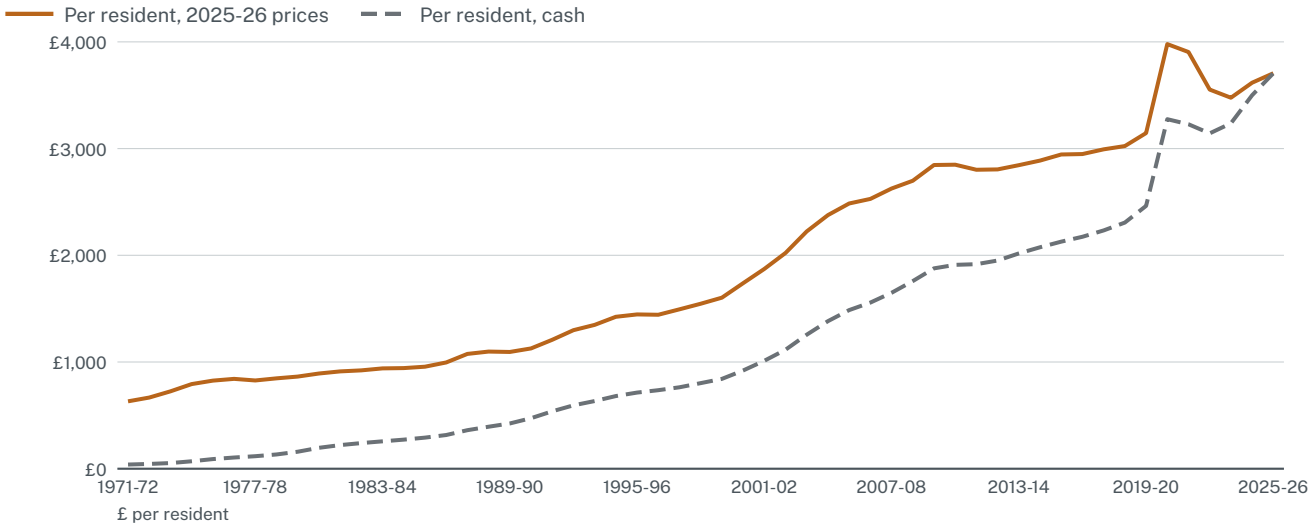
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

Health, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ billion



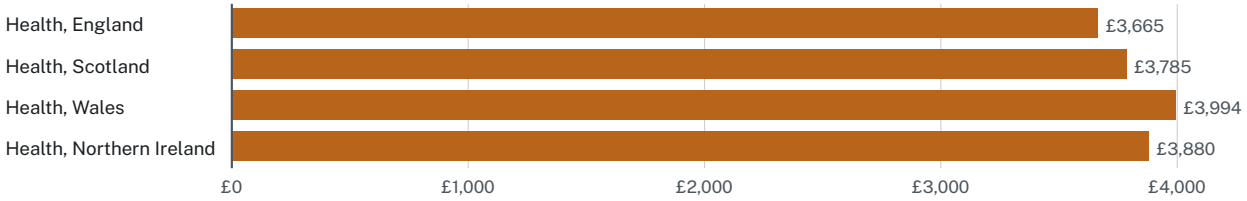
Line chart of Health, United Kingdom spending from 1955-56 to 2025-26: £549m to £257.5bn in cash; £17.8bn to £257.5bn in 2025-26 prices.

Health, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices



Line chart of Health, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 1971-72 (£631) to 2025-26 (£3,706).

Spending per resident by nation, 2025-26



Bar chart of spending per resident by nation in 2025-26: Health, England £3,665, Health, Scotland £3,785, Health, Wales £3,994, Health, Northern Ireland £3,880.

Source: HM Treasury, PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables, published 16 July 2026; HM Treasury, PESA 2021: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2016: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2011: chapter 4 and 5 tables; Office for Budget Responsibility, Historical public finances database.

Each nation's health service

Day-to-day spending pays for staff, drugs and running services; capital pays for buildings and equipment. Staff and emergency department waits are each nation's own published figures: the four count them differently, so the rows are side by side, not a ranking.

Health spending, staff and emergency department waits by nation, spending 2024-25

Nation	Day-to-day	Capital	Staff (full-time equivalent)	Emergency department: seen within 4 hours
England	£191.0bn	£11.9bn	1,370,051 FTE (2026-08)	74.0% (2026-10)
Scotland	£18.7bn	£954m	164,412.5 WTE (2026-06)	64.9% (2026-09)
Wales	£11.4bn	£544m	99,751 FTE (2026-06)	63.9% (2026-09)
Northern Ireland	£6.6bn	£416m	68,109.7 WTE (2026-06)	40.8% (2026-09)

Spending from HM Treasury's country and regional analysis (identifiable health spending, outturn). The NHS pay bill is published by nation only in annual accounts, not as data, except Scotland's hospital and community staff costs, which are on each Scottish board's page.

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation
3. Department or service body
4. Local body
5. Spending category
6. Line or transaction

Health, United Kingdom

HM Treasury's public spending on health by function (COFOG 7): the NHS in all four nations, public health and medical research, cash outturn. The nations below are the parts HM Treasury can assign to a country ("identifiable" spending).

£257.5bn in 2025-26 (cash); £257.5bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,706 per resident; +6.2% on a year earlier in cash, +2.8% in real terms.

Health, United Kingdom: by nation, 2025-26

Nation	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Health, England	£215.6bn	£215.6bn	£3,665	+2.8%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Health, Scotland	£21.0bn	£21.0bn	£3,785	+3.5%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Health, Wales	£12.7bn	£12.7bn	£3,994	+2.5%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Health, Northern Ireland	£7.5bn	£7.5bn	£3,880	+2.9%	HM Treasury	Department or service body not published: The Department of Health's budget and the five health and social care trusts' accounts are published only as PDF documents, and no 2026-27 Executive budget has been agreed, so there is no machine-readable body or trust level. The figure above is HM Treasury's identifiable health spending in Northern Ireland, which is also where its capital and day-to-day split comes from (extra.capitalSplit).

Health, England

Identifiable public spending on health in England: HM Treasury's country and regional analysis (from 2020-21) and ONS country and regional public sector finances (1999-00 to 2019-20). Outturn, cash, all public bodies, including spending by UK-wide bodies on England's behalf.

£215.6bn in 2025-26 (cash); £215.6bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,665 per resident; +6.2% on a year earlier in cash, +2.8% in real terms.

Health, England: by department or service body, 2025-26

Department or service body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS England	£198.7bn	£198.7bn	£3,377	+2.5%	HM Treasury	Broken down below

NHS England

NHS England's total departmental expenditure limit (day-to-day and capital), outturn, as HM Treasury records it (PESA Annex G). It is the money for the NHS in England. The ICBs below are allocations for years ahead and cover most of it; they are never added to these outturn figures.

£198.7bn in 2025-26 (cash); £198.7bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,377 per resident; +6.0% on a year earlier in cash, +2.5% in real terms.

NHS England: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS West and North London Integrated Care Board	£11.7bn	£11.7bn	£3,213	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board	£9.4bn	£9.4bn	£3,103	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board	£9.2bn	£9.2bn	£3,043	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Central East Integrated Care Board	£8.5bn	£8.5bn	£2,631	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board	£8.4bn	£8.4bn	£3,192	—	NHS England	On its own page

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS Surrey and Sussex Integrated Care Board	£8.4bn	£8.4bn	£2,783	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	£7.1bn	£7.1bn	£2,928	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS North East London Integrated Care Board	£6.2bn	£6.2bn	£2,923	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board	£5.8bn	£5.8bn	£2,471	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS South East London Integrated Care Board	£5.9bn	£5.9bn	£3,223	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board	£5.7bn	£5.7bn	£2,740	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board	£5.6bn	£5.6bn	£3,012	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board	£5.4bn	£5.4bn	£2,757	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Essex Integrated Care Board	£5.3bn	£5.3bn	£2,721	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	£4.9bn	£4.9bn	£2,714	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Norfolk and Suffolk Integrated Care Board	£4.9bn	£4.9bn	£2,821	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board	£4.4bn	£4.4bn	£3,149	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS South West London Integrated Care Board	£4.3bn	£4.3bn	£2,801	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	£4.2bn	£4.2bn	£2,948	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Devon Integrated Care Board	£3.7bn	£3.7bn	£2,922	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board	£3.7bn	£3.7bn	£2,893	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board	£3.4bn	£3.4bn	£2,885	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board	£3.3bn	£3.3bn	£2,811	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board	£3.1bn	£3.1bn	£2,808	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board	£3.0bn	£3.0bn	£2,519	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	£2.9bn	£2.9bn	£2,775	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board	£2.8bn	£2.8bn	£2,758	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board	£2.5bn	£2.5bn	£2,597	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board	£2.3bn	£2.3bn	£2,884	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	£2.3bn	£2.3bn	£2,858	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board	£2.2bn	£2.2bn	£2,746	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board	£2.1bn	£2.1bn	£2,570	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board	£1.8bn	£1.8bn	£3,065	—	NHS England	On its own page

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	£1.7bn	£1.7bn	£2,600	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board	£1.7bn	£1.7bn	£2,862	—	NHS England	On its own page
NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board	£1.5bn	£1.5bn	£2,777	—	NHS England	On its own page

Health, Scotland

Identifiable public spending on health in Scotland: HM Treasury's country and regional analysis (from 2020-21) and ONS country and regional public sector finances (1999-00 to 2019-20). Outturn, cash, all public bodies, including spending by UK-wide bodies on Scotland's behalf.

£21.0bn in 2025-26 (cash); £21.0bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,785 per resident; +6.9% on a year earlier in cash, +3.5% in real terms.

Health, Scotland: by department or service body, 2024-25

Department or service body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS Scotland health boards	£18.2bn	£18.9bn	£3,291	+2.3%	Public Health Scotland	Broken down below

NHS Scotland health boards

Operating costs of the 14 territorial health boards, the State Hospital and the Golden Jubilee (hospital, community, family health services and resource transfer to councils), outturn, from Public Health Scotland's health service costs. It leaves out the other national boards (the ambulance service, NHS 24, NHS Education, National Services) and is not the Scottish Government's health budget, which is in extra.scotland.budget.

£18.2bn in 2024-25 (cash); £18.9bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,291 per resident; +6.3% on a year earlier in cash, +2.3% in real terms.

NHS Scotland health boards: by local body, 2024-25

Local body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	£4.7bn	£4.8bn	£3,845	+1.5%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Lothian	£2.9bn	£2.9bn	£3,057	+3.9%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Grampian	£1.8bn	£1.9bn	£3,027	+2.3%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Lanarkshire	£1.8bn	£1.8bn	£2,598	+1.4%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Tayside	£1.4bn	£1.5bn	£3,459	+0.2%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	£1.2bn	£1.3bn	£3,325	+1.7%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Highland	£1.1bn	£1.1bn	£3,338	+3.3%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Fife	£1.1bn	£1.1bn	£2,818	+1.2%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Forth Valley	£919m	£950m	£2,999	+5.4%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	£509m	£526m	£3,484	+1.4%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Borders	£344m	£355m	£2,934	+2.0%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
National Waiting Times Centre (Golden Jubilee)	£255m	£263m	—	+13.7%	Public Health Scotland	Broken down below
NHS Western Isles	£111m	£114m	£4,262	+1.6%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Orkney	£84m	£87m	£3,811	+1.2%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
NHS Shetland	£82m	£85m	£3,606	+3.0%	Public Health Scotland	On its own page
State Hospital	£51m	£53m	—	+6.5%	Public Health Scotland	Broken down below

National Waiting Times Centre (Golden Jubilee)

A national board: it serves all of Scotland, so there is no per-head figure.

£255m in 2024-25 (cash); £263m in 2025-26 prices; +18.2% on a year earlier in cash, +13.7% in real terms.

National Waiting Times Centre (Golden Jubilee): by spending category, 2024-25

Spending category	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Hospital services	£255m	£263m	—	+13.7%	Public Health Scotland	Line or transaction not published: Public Health Scotland's detailed cost book tables split these costs further by specialty and staff group; those tables overlap one another, so no lines are shown.

State Hospital

A national board: it serves all of Scotland, so there is no per-head figure.

£51m in 2024-25 (cash); £53m in 2025-26 prices; +10.5% on a year earlier in cash, +6.5% in real terms.

State Hospital: by spending category, 2024-25

Spending category	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Hospital services	£51m	£53m	—	+6.5%	Public Health Scotland	Line or transaction not published: Public Health Scotland's detailed cost book tables split these costs further by specialty and staff group; those tables overlap one another, so no lines are shown.

Health, Wales

Identifiable public spending on health in Wales: HM Treasury's country and regional analysis (from 2020-21) and ONS country and regional public sector finances (1999-00 to 2019-20). Outturn, cash, all public bodies, including spending by UK-wide bodies on Wales's behalf.

£12.7bn in 2025-26 (cash); £12.7bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,994 per resident; +5.9% on a year earlier in cash, +2.5% in real terms.

Health, Wales: by department or service body, 2023-24

Department or service body	Cash, 2023-24	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
NHS Wales	£9.9bn	£10.6bn	£3,127	+1.9%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	Broken down below

NHS Wales

NHS expenditure by programme budget, outturn: the seven local health boards and Public Health Wales. From 2019-20 the seven boards add up to this total; before then it also includes Abertawe Bro Morgannwg and Cwm Taf, which are not shown because their areas changed. The Welsh Government's health budget and the allocations to boards are budgets, in extra.wales.

£9.9bn in 2023-24 (cash); £10.6bn in 2025-26 prices; £3,127 per resident; +7.3% on a year earlier in cash, +1.9% in real terms.

NHS Wales: by local body, 2023-24

Local body	Cash, 2023-24	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	£2.2bn	£2.4bn	£3,185	+2.8%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	£1.8bn	£2.0bn	£3,074	+1.5%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	£1.4bn	£1.5bn	£3,220	+1.4%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	£1.4bn	£1.5bn	£2,791	−0.4%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Hywel Dda University Health Board	£1.3bn	£1.4bn	£3,295	+3.5%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Swansea Bay University Health Board	£1.3bn	£1.4bn	£3,239	+2.6%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page
Powys Teaching Health Board	£435m	£467m	£3,233	+2.5%	Welsh Government (StatsWales)	On its own page

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

Search the department's payments over £25,000

Every payment of £25,000 or more the department published for the latest year, as published. See every department's spending over £25,000 for what each covers.

Department of Health and Social Care published **20,679 payments** worth **£164.78bn** to 1,132 suppliers and recipients from May 2025 to April 2026 (12 of 12 months published). The department itself: NHS England's and NHS trusts' own payments are published by them, not here.

- The newest payment published is from 2026-04, 5 months before this was read.

- 1,399 credits and refunds (negative amounts, £1,414,008,937 in all) are included, so totals are net.

Searching needs JavaScript. Every payment is in one JSON file.

Source: Department of Health and Social Care, spending over £25,000 on GOV.UK, Open Government Licence v3.0. 12 files read, newest updated 2026-07-09; every payment kept in one JSON file.

- DHSC: spending over £25,000, April 2026 (2026-04): 931 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, March 2026 (2026-03): 4,525 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, February 2026 (2026-02): 2,131 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, January 2026 (2026-01): 1,169 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, December 2025 (2025-12): 2,345 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, November 2025 (2025-11): 914 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, October 2025 (2025-10): 1,323 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, September 2025 (2025-09): 2,589 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, August 2025 (2025-08): 653 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, July 2025 (2025-07): 920 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, June 2025 (2025-06): 2,598 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- DHSC: spending over £25,000, May 2025 (2025-05): 581 rows. Read 2026-09-24.

On the map

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

The map covers the whole UK. Where the nations publish the same measure, they share one scale. Where they publish different ones, each nation is shaded against its own measure on its own scale, named in its own part of the legend, and the nations cannot be compared with each other. Where a nation publishes nothing for a measure, the map says so and links to what it publishes instead. Pick an area for its figures and a link to its page.

Every one of the health bodies, on each measure on the map England: A&E attendances within four hours, departments in the board's area, 2026-10. Scotland: A&E and minor injury attendances within four hours, by board of treatment, 2026-09. Wales: Emergency care attendances within four hours, 2026-09. Northern Ireland: Emergency care attendances within four hours, by trust, 2026-09. The nations' figures are different measures and are not directly comparable.

Health body	Nation	A&E four hours	Waiting list	Within standard
NHS North East London Integrated Care Board	England	78.9%	117.1 per 1,000 residents	68.9%
NHS West and North London Integrated Care Board	England	78.9%	135.4 per 1,000 residents	69.4%
NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board	England	78.7%	125.7 per 1,000 residents	63.9%
NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board	England	77.6%	136.5 per 1,000 residents	65.3%
NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board	England	77.5%	95.9 per 1,000 residents	66.9%
NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board	England	77.4%	122.7 per 1,000 residents	71.7%
NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	England	77.0%	130.6 per 1,000 residents	63.4%
NHS Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board	England	76.9%	92.9 per 1,000 residents	72.3%
NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board	England	76.8%	109.5 per 1,000 residents	62.3%
NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board	England	76.2%	125.1 per 1,000 residents	66.5%
NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board	England	75.4%	103.8 per 1,000 residents	63.4%
NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	England	75.3%	112.3 per 1,000 residents	71.1%
NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	England	75.3%	102.7 per 1,000 residents	70.6%
NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	England	74.8%	93.8 per 1,000 residents	71.3%

Health body	Nation	A&E four hours	Waiting list	Within standard
NHS Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board	England	74.5%	67.7 per 1,000 residents	66.6%
NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board	England	74.3%	118.4 per 1,000 residents	64.1%
NHS Norfolk and Suffolk Integrated Care Board	England	74.2%	119.6 per 1,000 residents	65.1%
NHS Central East Integrated Care Board	England	73.4%	130.5 per 1,000 residents	64.7%
NHS South East London Integrated Care Board	England	73.2%	123.1 per 1,000 residents	67.1%
NHS South West London Integrated Care Board	England	72.7%	129.7 per 1,000 residents	68.7%
NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board	England	72.6%	122.9 per 1,000 residents	66.2%
NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	England	72.6%	76.8 per 1,000 residents	68.9%
NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board	England	72.2%	100.1 per 1,000 residents	64.4%
NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board	England	71.8%	116.3 per 1,000 residents	65.1%
NHS Surrey and Sussex Integrated Care Board	England	71.6%	140.6 per 1,000 residents	63.3%
NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board	England	71.5%	129.0 per 1,000 residents	66.5%
NHS Essex Integrated Care Board	England	70.9%	147.7 per 1,000 residents	58.0%
NHS Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board	England	70.4%	115.3 per 1,000 residents	68.6%
NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board	England	69.6%	45.5 per 1,000 residents	66.7%
NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board	England	69.2%	135.5 per 1,000 residents	63.3%
NHS Devon Integrated Care Board	England	69.1%	62.8 per 1,000 residents	63.2%
NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	England	67.8%	126.2 per 1,000 residents	60.1%
NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board	England	67.2%	120.2 per 1,000 residents	66.1%
NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board	England	65.9%	125.4 per 1,000 residents	64.5%
NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board	England	65.6%	119.8 per 1,000 residents	63.8%
NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board	England	61.1%	129.2 per 1,000 residents	69.8%
NHS Western Isles	Scotland	95.5%	103.4 per 1,000 residents	69.1%
NHS Orkney	Scotland	90.0%	116.7 per 1,000 residents	46.5%
NHS Tayside	Scotland	87.9%	109.8 per 1,000 residents	42.8%
NHS Shetland	Scotland	82.3%	107.1 per 1,000 residents	53.3%
NHS Highland	Scotland	78.3%	117.9 per 1,000 residents	47.6%
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	Scotland	72.5%	135.9 per 1,000 residents	44.2%
NHS Fife	Scotland	69.0%	101.2 per 1,000 residents	49.4%
NHS Borders	Scotland	67.9%	120.6 per 1,000 residents	43.7%
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Scotland	66.0%	129.2 per 1,000 residents	45.2%
NHS Grampian	Scotland	64.6%	121.8 per 1,000 residents	41.9%
NHS Lothian	Scotland	61.7%	106.9 per 1,000 residents	48.2%
NHS Forth Valley	Scotland	60.2%	89.9 per 1,000 residents	54.7%
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	Scotland	55.1%	158.2 per 1,000 residents	44.1%
NHS Lanarkshire	Scotland	48.4%	127.0 per 1,000 residents	43.0%
Powys Teaching Health Board	Wales	100.0%	111.2 per 1,000 residents	76.6%

Health body	Nation	A&E four hours	Waiting list	Within standard
Swansea Bay University Health Board	Wales	71.3%	208.6 per 1,000 residents	68.0%
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	Wales	69.5%	207.2 per 1,000 residents	68.3%
Hywel Dda University Health Board	Wales	66.8%	245.4 per 1,000 residents	63.7%
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	Wales	59.3%	242.5 per 1,000 residents	62.0%
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	Wales	58.7%	207.0 per 1,000 residents	65.9%
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	Wales	57.4%	258.6 per 1,000 residents	59.4%
Western Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland	49.5%	314.7 per 1,000 residents	17.9%
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland	45.5%	271.3 per 1,000 residents	18.7%
Southern Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland	39.0%	248.2 per 1,000 residents	16.0%
Northern Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland	38.3%	192.0 per 1,000 residents	16.9%
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	Northern Ireland	34.4%	469.3 per 1,000 residents	19.5%

What comes out: results by body

These are outputs and results published alongside the money. They are not what the money bought: demand, geography and recording practice differ between areas, and none of these figures shows cause and effect.

Each health body: waiting times, emergency department waits and staff

Body	Waiting under 18 weeks (England), 2026-09	Waiting list per 1,000 residents (England), 2026-09	A&E: seen within four hours (Scotland), 2026-09	Emergency departments: within four hours (Wales), 2026-09
England	65.9%	120.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—
Scotland	—	—	64.9%	—
Wales	—	—	—	63.9%
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	—	—	—	69.5%
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	—	—	—	57.4%
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	—	—	—	59.3%
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	—	—	—	58.7%
Hywel Dda University Health Board	—	—	—	66.8%
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	—	—	55.1%	—
NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board	66.1%	120.2 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board	68.6%	115.3 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board	65.3%	136.5 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Borders	—	—	67.9%	—
NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	71.3%	93.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—

Body	Waiting under 18 weeks (England), 2026-09	Waiting list per 1,000 residents (England), 2026-09	A&E: seen within four hours (Scotland), 2026-09	Emergency departments: within four hours (Wales), 2026-09
NHS Central East Integrated Care Board	64.7%	130.5 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board	66.5%	129.0 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board	72.3%	92.9 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board	64.1%	118.4 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board	64.4%	100.1 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Devon Integrated Care Board	63.2%	62.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board	66.2%	122.9 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	—	—	72.5%	—
NHS Essex Integrated Care Board	58.0%	147.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Fife	—	—	69.0%	—
NHS Forth Valley	—	—	60.2%	—
NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board	71.1%	112.3 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Grampian	—	—	64.6%	—
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	—	—	66.0%	—
NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board	63.3%	135.5 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board	63.4%	103.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board	63.8%	119.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Highland	—	—	78.3%	—
NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	60.1%	126.2 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board	63.9%	125.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Lanarkshire	—	—	48.4%	—
NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board	66.5%	125.1 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board	62.3%	109.5 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	63.4%	130.6 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Lothian	—	—	61.7%	—
NHS Norfolk and Suffolk Integrated Care Board	65.1%	119.6 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board	71.7%	122.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS North East London Integrated Care Board	68.9%	117.1 per 1,000 residents	—	—

Body	Waiting under 18 weeks (England), 2026-09	Waiting list per 1,000 residents (England), 2026-09	A&E: seen within four hours (Scotland), 2026-09	Emergency departments: within four hours (Wales), 2026-09
NHS Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board	66.6%	67.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board	66.7%	45.5 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Orkney	—	—	90.0%	—
NHS Shetland	—	—	82.3%	—
NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board	69.8%	129.2 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board	65.1%	116.3 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS South East London Integrated Care Board	67.1%	123.1 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS South West London Integrated Care Board	68.7%	129.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	68.9%	76.8 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board	64.5%	125.4 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Surrey and Sussex Integrated Care Board	63.3%	140.6 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Tayside	—	—	87.9%	—
NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board	66.9%	95.9 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS West and North London Integrated Care Board	69.4%	135.4 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board	70.6%	102.7 per 1,000 residents	—	—
NHS Western Isles	—	—	95.5%	—
Powys Teaching Health Board	—	—	—	100.0%
Swansea Bay University Health Board	—	—	—	71.3%

What each measure counts

- **Waiting under 18 weeks (England)** The share of incomplete RTT pathways with a known clock start that had been waiting 18 weeks or less at the end of the month. Each nation measures this differently, so it is never compared across nations. Target: 92% within 18 weeks (NHS Constitution standard).
- **Waiting list per 1,000 residents (England)** The RTT waiting list divided by ONS mid-year residents of the local authorities the ICB mainly covers (the latest estimate for the month's calendar year). Residents, not GP-registered patients. Each nation measures this differently, so it is never compared across nations.
- **A&E: seen within four hours (Scotland)** Attendances at emergency departments and minor injury units that ended within four hours of arrival, as a share of all attendances, in the month, by the NHS board of treatment (Public Health Scotland). Each nation measures this differently, so it is never compared across nations. Target: 95% within four hours (Scottish Government standard).
- **Emergency departments: within four hours (Wales)** Patients spending less than four hours in all emergency care facilities (major emergency departments and minor injury units) from arrival to admission, transfer or discharge, as a share of all attendances, in the month, by local health board. Each nation measures this differently, so it is never compared across nations. Target: 95% within four hours (Welsh Government target).

What people say about it

Does the NHS need more money, or better use of what it has?

Those who say the NHS needs more funding

- “It still falls short of average increases we've seen in health spending historically, and of the investment needed to fulfil the NHS workforce plan.” Dr Latifa Patel, chair of the BMA representative body, British Medical Association (11 June 2025)
- “But while capital budgets are being shown to increase, they do so by nowhere near enough to rebuild or replace the tired facilities and equipment on which large parts of the NHS currently rely, nor to develop the new hospitals and community facilities needed to deliver a modernised health service.” Sarah Woolnough, chief executive, The King's Fund (12 June 2025) King's Fund press release as republished by Wired-Gov (the King's Fund site blocks automated fetches).
- “For context, a 3% real terms rise in revenue budgets sits some way above average rises in health spending since 2010 (most notably the 2010-15 period where growth was consistently below 2%), however it still falls short of the long-term real terms average growth in health spending (3.7%).” NHS Providers (on-the-day briefing) (11 June 2025) The organisation's own analysis, not a named person. nhsproviders.org now redirects to thenhsalliance.org.

Those who say productivity and reform matter more than extra money

- “They agree with the central argument we made at the last general election that investment must be matched with reform.” Wes Streeting MP (Labour), Health and Social Care Secretary, Department of Health and Social Care (13 November 2024) Speech to the NHS Providers annual conference.
- “For me, the path we must take is obvious. We must build a more productive state, not a bigger one.” Victoria Atkins MP (Conservative), then Health and Social Care Secretary, Department of Health and Social Care (7 March 2024)
- “Throwing more money at broken systems without serious reform won't fix the problem. It just locks in failure at a higher cost.” Darwin Friend, TaxPayers' Alliance (11 June 2025) Written about the Spending Review as a whole, including the NHS settlement.

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Each nation runs its own NHS.** Budgets, targets and waiting-time measures differ between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, so performance is compared within a nation, never across them.
- **Allocations are not spending.** An integrated care board’s allocation is what it is given to plan and buy care; outturn is what was spent. They are labelled and never added together.
- **Per head needs a named denominator.** Figures here divide by ONS resident population; the NHS’s own per-head figures often use GP-registered patients, which run higher.
- **Covid years are different.** Health spending from 2020-21 to 2022-23 includes testing, vaccines and protective equipment.
- **Nothing here shows cause and effect.** Money, staff and waiting times are shown side by side; demand, age and ill-health differ between areas.

Figures from data/services/nhs.json, generated 19 November 2026.

Police funding: grant, precept and each force

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/police/

£31.6bn was spent on police services in Police, United Kingdom in 2025-26, **£454** per resident. That is +4.9% on a year earlier after inflation (+8.4% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £27.9bn in 2006-07 to £31.6bn. The 43 forces of England and Wales have £18.5bn to spend in 2026-27, £6.5bn of it from the council tax precept.

Key figures

£31.6bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+8.4% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+4.9%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£31.6bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£454
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

145,886
Police officers, England and Wales, 31 March 2026
As of 22 July 2026

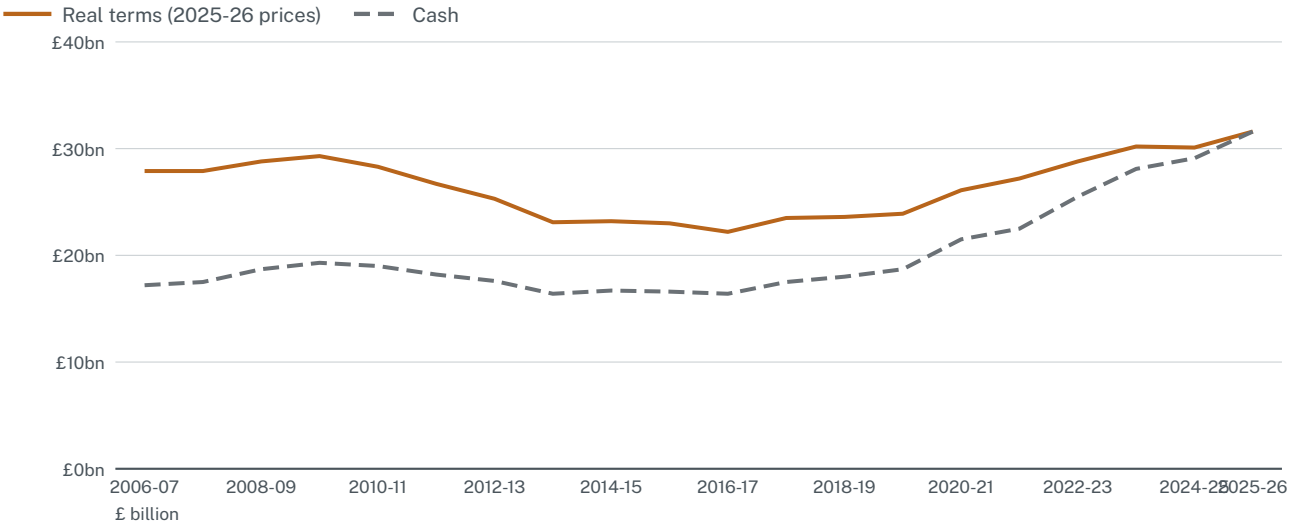
34.9%
Of force funding from the precept, 2026-27
As of 19 August 2026

The short version

- **Two sources of money:** Home Office grant and the council tax precept, which has grown faster since 2015-16.
- **Every force has a page:** its funding, precept per Band D home, officers, recorded crime, charge rate and 999 answering, against England and Wales and its most similar forces.
- **Side by side, not cause and effect:** recording practice differs, breaks are marked, and demand differs between areas.

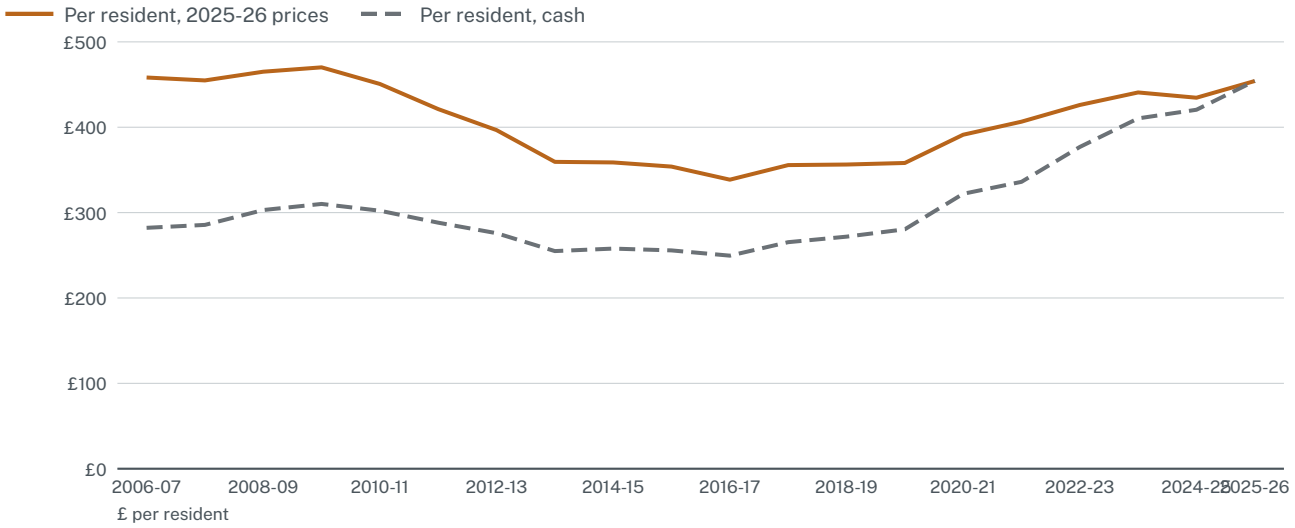
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

Police, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ billion



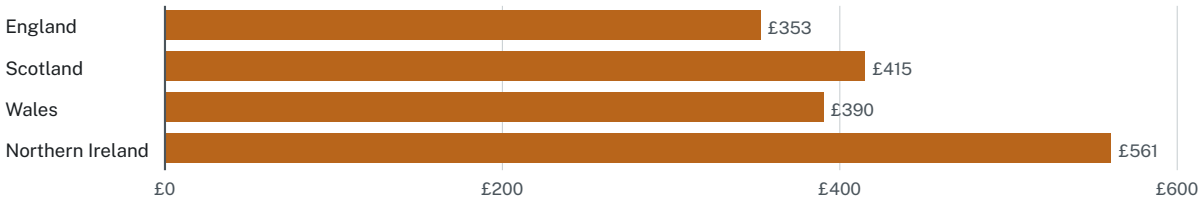
Line chart of Police, United Kingdom spending from 2006-07 to 2025-26: £17.2bn to £31.6bn in cash; £27.9bn to £31.6bn in 2025-26 prices.

Police, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices



Line chart of Police, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 2006-07 (£458) to 2025-26 (£454).

Spending per resident by nation, 2025-26



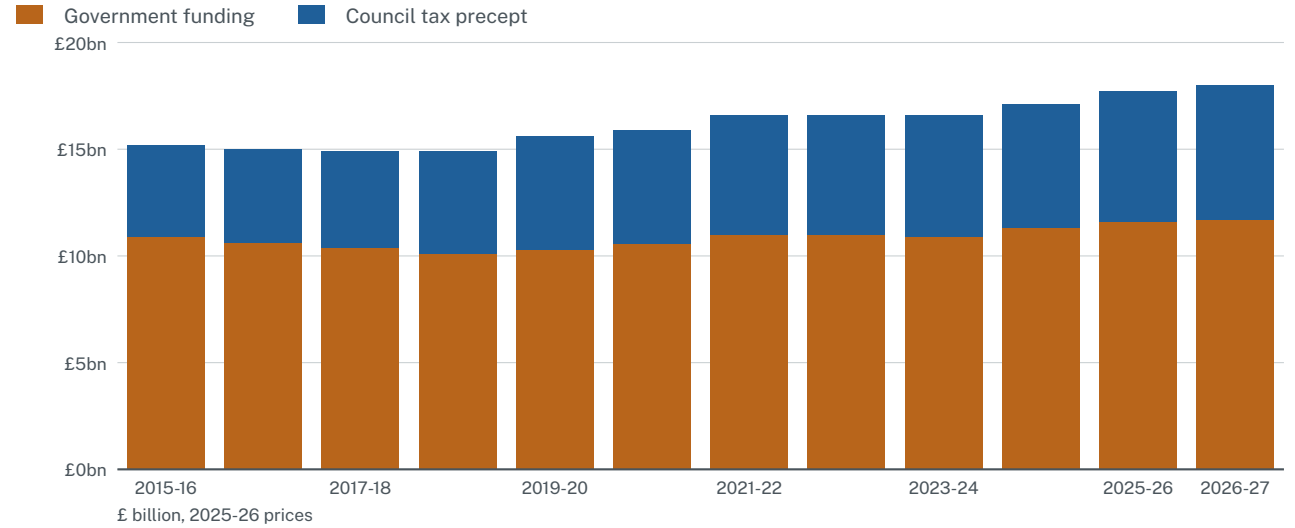
Bar chart of spending per resident by nation in 2025-26: England £353, Scotland £415, Wales £390, Northern Ireland £561.

Source: HM Treasury, PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables, published 16 July 2026; HM Treasury, PESA 2021: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2016: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2011: chapter 4 and 5 tables.

Grant or precept: where the money comes from

Forces in England and Wales have two main sources of money: grant from the Home Office (and, in Wales, the Welsh Government), and the police precept on council tax, set each year by the police and crime commissioner or mayor. The precept was 28.2% of their funding in 2015-16 and is 34.9% in 2026-27. Scotland and Northern Ireland have no police precept.

Police funding in England and Wales: government grant and council tax precept, 2025-26 prices, £ billion

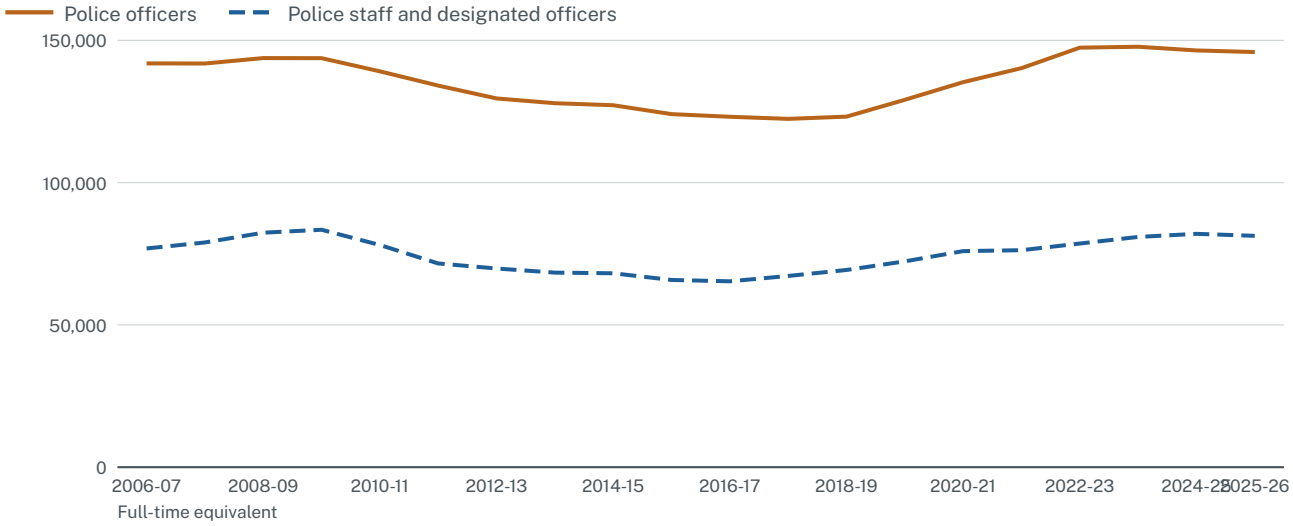


Stacked bar chart of police funding in England and Wales from 2015-16 to 2026-27: government funding £11.7bn and precept £6.3bn in 2026-27, in 2025-26 prices.

Source: Home Office, Police funding for England and Wales 2015 to 2027: data tables (Table 4a), published 19 August 2026.

Officers and staff over time

Police officers and staff in England and Wales, full-time equivalent, 31 March



Line chart of police officers in England and Wales from 2006-07 (141,894 officers) to 2025-26 (145,886 officers).

Police Scotland had 16,553 officers full-time equivalent officers at the end of September 2026. The PSNI had 6,444 officers on 01 September 2026.

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation
3. Department or service body not published
4. Local body
5. Spending category not published
6. Line or transaction not published

Police, United Kingdom

HM Treasury's spending on police services. It includes immigration and citizenship (Border Force and visas) in every year; see the like-for-like line without it.

£31.6bn in 2025-26 (cash); £31.6bn in 2025-26 prices; £454 per resident; +8.4% on a year earlier in cash, +4.9% in real terms.

Police, United Kingdom: by nation, 2025-26

Nation	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
England	£20.8bn	£20.8bn	£353	+2.8%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Scotland	£2.3bn	£2.3bn	£415	+6.1%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Wales	£1.2bn	£1.2bn	£390	+4.8%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Northern Ireland	£1.1bn	£1.1bn	£561	+5.0%	HM Treasury	Broken down below

England

£20.8bn in 2025-26 (cash); £20.8bn in 2025-26 prices; £353 per resident; +6.3% on a year earlier in cash, +2.8% in real terms.

England: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Metropolitan Police	£3.8bn	£3.8bn	£421	+3.6%	Home Office	On its own page
Greater Manchester	£878m	£878m	£291	+3.0%	Home Office	On its own page
West Midlands	£854m	£854m	£282	+3.3%	Home Office	On its own page
West Yorkshire	£665m	£665m	£274	+3.1%	Home Office	On its own page
Thames Valley	£631m	£631m	£237	+3.2%	Home Office	On its own page
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	£497m	£497m	£241	+3.1%	Home Office	On its own page
Merseyside	£487m	£487m	£329	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Kent	£463m	£463m	£238	+2.8%	Home Office	On its own page
Devon and Cornwall	£467m	£467m	£253	+4.3%	Home Office	On its own page
Avon and Somerset	£442m	£442m	£243	+3.1%	Home Office	On its own page
Essex	£437m	£437m	£225	+3.1%	Home Office	On its own page
Sussex	£426m	£426m	£241	+3.5%	Home Office	On its own page
Northumbria	£426m	£426m	£282	+3.4%	Home Office	On its own page
Lancashire	£421m	£421m	£260	+3.1%	Home Office	On its own page
South Yorkshire	£382m	£382m	£266	+2.8%	Home Office	On its own page
Surrey	£330m	£330m	£263	+2.7%	Home Office	On its own page
West Mercia	£321m	£321m	£238	+3.2%	Home Office	On its own page
Nottinghamshire	£304m	£304m	£256	+2.6%	Home Office	On its own page
Hertfordshire	£302m	£302m	£243	+2.8%	Home Office	On its own page
Cheshire	£285m	£285m	£248	+3.3%	Home Office	On its own page
Staffordshire	£283m	£283m	£238	+2.8%	Home Office	On its own page
Leicestershire	£275m	£275m	£233	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Humberside	£273m	£273m	£282	+3.0%	Home Office	On its own page
Derbyshire	£263m	£263m	£239	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Norfolk	£241m	£241m	£254	+3.7%	Home Office	On its own page
North Yorkshire	£220m	£220m	£259	+3.6%	Home Office	On its own page
Cambridgeshire	£211m	£211m	£224	+2.6%	Home Office	On its own page
Dorset	£196m	£196m	£246	+4.4%	Home Office	On its own page

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Northamptonshire	£195m	£195m	£237	+3.2%	Home Office	On its own page
Cleveland	£191m	£191m	£318	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Suffolk	£185m	£185m	£235	+3.7%	Home Office	On its own page
Durham	£180m	£180m	£275	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Lincolnshire	£176m	£176m	£221	+2.5%	Home Office	On its own page
Wiltshire	£173m	£173m	£224	+2.9%	Home Office	On its own page
Gloucestershire	£170m	£170m	£253	+3.4%	Home Office	On its own page
Bedfordshire	£169m	£169m	£225	+3.2%	Home Office	On its own page
Cumbria	£159m	£159m	£310	+4.5%	Home Office	On its own page
Warwickshire	£150m	£150m	£233	+3.2%	Home Office	On its own page
City of London	£94m	£94m	£6,001	+4.6%	Home Office	On its own page

Scotland

£2.3bn in 2025-26 (cash); £2.3bn in 2025-26 prices; £415 per resident; +9.7% on a year earlier in cash, +6.1% in real terms.

Scotland: by local body, 2024-25

Local body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Police Scotland	£1.4bn	£1.4bn	£252	—	Scottish Police Authority	On its own page

Wales

£1.2bn in 2025-26 (cash); £1.2bn in 2025-26 prices; £390 per resident; +8.3% on a year earlier in cash, +4.8% in real terms.

Wales: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
South Wales	£444m	£444m	£328	+4.2%	Home Office	On its own page
North Wales	£227m	£227m	£327	+3.8%	Home Office	On its own page
Gwent	£198m	£198m	£330	+4.0%	Home Office	On its own page
Dyfed-Powys	£165m	£165m	£314	+4.2%	Home Office	On its own page

Northern Ireland

£1.1bn in 2025-26 (cash); £1.1bn in 2025-26 prices; £561 per resident; +8.5% on a year earlier in cash, +5.0% in real terms.

Northern Ireland: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Police Service of Northern Ireland	not published	not published	—	—	—	On its own page

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

Search the department's payments over £25,000

Every payment of £25,000 or more the department published for the latest year, as published. See every department's spending over £25,000 for what each covers.

Home Office published **17,668 payments** worth **£3.69bn** to 585 suppliers and recipients from August 2025 to July 2026 (12 of 12 months published). The Home Office's own files, which include its agencies (such as the Disclosure and Barring Service); the separate files for other bodies in the same publication (such as the IOPC) are not read.

- 29% of rows are under £25,000: the department lists individual lines of larger payments, or publishes some smaller ones. They are kept as published.
- 8 credits and refunds (negative amounts, £25,565 in all) are included, so totals are net.

Searching needs JavaScript. Every payment is in one JSON file.

Source: Home Office, spending over £25,000 on GOV.UK, Open Government Licence v3.0. 12 files read, newest updated 2026-09-24; every payment kept is in one JSON file.

- Home Office: July 2026 (2026-07): 1,703 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: June 2026 (2026-06): 1,293 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: May 2026 (2026-05): 802 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: April 2026 (2026-04): 1,443 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: March 2026 (2026-03): 1,658 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: February 2026 (2026-02): 1,497 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: January 2026 (2026-01): 1,434 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: December 2025 (2025-12): 1,799 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: November 2025 (2025-11): 1,472 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: October 2025 (2025-10): 1,534 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: September 2025 (2025-09): 1,714 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- Home Office: August 2025 (2025-08): 1,319 rows. Read 2026-09-24.

On the map

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

The map covers the whole UK. Where the nations publish the same measure, they share one scale. Where they publish different ones, each nation is shaded against its own measure on its own scale, named in its own part of the legend, and the nations cannot be compared with each other. Where a nation publishes nothing for a measure, the map says so and links to what it publishes instead. Pick an area for its figures and a link to its page.

Every one of the police forces, on each measure on the map

Police force area	Nation	999 calls	Officers	Crime	Violence	Burglary	Vehicle	Damage	Charged	Staff	Funding	Precept	Precept share
Sussex	England	96.1 %	184 per 100,000	73.7 per 1,000	29.6 per 1,000	2.5 per 1,000	2.8 per 1,000	6.5 per 1,000	9.5 %	125 per 100,000	£252	£281.91	42.5%
Essex	England	94.8 %	194 per 100,000	73.6 per 1,000	33.4 per 1,000	2.7 per 1,000	5.1 per 1,000	6.4 per 1,000	11.1 %	100 per 100,000	£235	£275.31	41.3%
Kent	England	94.8 %	214 per 100,000	79.2 per 1,000	36.0 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	3.8 per 1,000	8.9 per 1,000	9.9 %	110 per 100,000	£250	£285.15	40.1%
Merseyside	England	94.0 %	282 per 100,000	93.3 per 1,000	40.8 per 1,000	2.7 per 1,000	3.4 per 1,000	8.5 per 1,000	12.0 %	152 per 100,000	£344	£293.97	23.5%
Avon and Somerset	England	93.7 %	187 per 100,000	96.1 per 1,000	42.6 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	5.0 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	7.1%	150 per 100,000	£254	£308.20	40.9%

Police force area	Nation	999 calls	Officers	Crime	Violence	Burglary	Vehicle	Damage	Charged	Staff	Funding	Precept	Precept share
Thames Valley	England	93.7 %	191 per 100,000	63.6 per 1,000	26.6 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	5.2 per 1,000	8.0 %	135 per 100,000	£247	£298.28	45.1%
Surrey	England	93.2 %	188 per 100,000	59.2 per 1,000	25.0 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	3.5 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	8.9 %	136 per 100,000	£275	£352.57	54.4%
Gwent	Wales	92.9 %	258 per 100,000	95.4 per 1,000	41.8 per 1,000	3.8 per 1,000	4.8 per 1,000	11.5 per 1,000	7.4 %	136 per 100,000	£348	£403.53	44.6%
Dyfed-Powys	Wales	92.8 %	254 per 100,000	68.5 per 1,000	35.9 per 1,000	2.6 per 1,000	1.3 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	7.9 %	160 per 100,000	£333	£387.63	53.4%
Hertfordshire	England	92.4 %	192 per 100,000	67.9 per 1,000	29.0 per 1,000	3.0 per 1,000	4.7 per 1,000	5.6 per 1,000	7.5 %	112 per 100,000	£255	£280.00	41.9%
North Yorkshire	England	92.1 %	198 per 100,000	51.8 per 1,000	23.7 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	1.8 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	12.0 %	129 per 100,000	£270	£335.86	48.1%
Humberside	England	91.9 %	239 per 100,000	95.8 per 1,000	42.5 per 1,000	4.4 per 1,000	3.7 per 1,000	9.3 per 1,000	11.6 %	127 per 100,000	£294	£313.66	32.8%
Cheshire	England	91.6 %	211 per 100,000	67.4 per 1,000	33.8 per 1,000	2.1 per 1,000	1.9 per 1,000	4.8 per 1,000	14.9 %	124 per 100,000	£261	£295.44	40.3%
Norfolk	England	91.4 %	201 per 100,000	61.2 per 1,000	29.6 per 1,000	1.9 per 1,000	1.6 per 1,000	6.2 per 1,000	13.3 %	133 per 100,000	£265	£344.79	45.3%
Greater Manchester	England	91.2 %	273 per 100,000	103.3 per 1,000	45.8 per 1,000	3.8 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	8.4 per 1,000	9.7 %	130 per 100,000	£302	£285.30	26.1%
Cleveland	England	91.1 %	251 per 100,000	123.6 per 1,000	49.4 per 1,000	6.1 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	15.0 per 1,000	12.0 %	148 per 100,000	£330	£332.73	28.4%
Police Service of Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland	90.9 %	335 per 100,000	48.5 per 1,000	23.0 per 1,000	1.3 per 1,000	1.1 per 1,000	6.9 per 1,000	21.6 %	122 per 100,000	£482	Not published	Not published
Warwickshire	England	90.4 %	177 per 100,000	61.3 per 1,000	26.1 per 1,000	3.4 per 1,000	5.2 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	7.6 %	131 per 100,000	£243	£318.71	46.7%
South Yorkshire	England	90.3 %	211 per 100,000	101.3 per 1,000	41.6 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	7.3 per 1,000	9.9 per 1,000	9.3 %	149 per 100,000	£279	£280.04	26.7%
Lancashire	England	89.8 %	223 per 100,000	79.5 per 1,000	38.5 per 1,000	3.7 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	8.0 per 1,000	10.6 %	125 per 100,000	£271	£292.40	31.8%
Derbyshire	England	89.3 %	192 per 100,000	77.9 per 1,000	37.0 per 1,000	2.8 per 1,000	3.3 per 1,000	6.7 per 1,000	10.3 %	133 per 100,000	£249	£308.60	38.7%
Durham	England	89.3 %	215 per 100,000	91.1 per 1,000	39.0 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	3.6 per 1,000	13.5 per 1,000	11.1 %	152 per 100,000	£290	£300.74	29.9%
Nottinghamshire	England	89.2 %	200 per 100,000	85.3 per 1,000	33.6 per 1,000	3.4 per 1,000	4.4 per 1,000	8.7 per 1,000	12.0 %	125 per 100,000	£267	£311.10	33.8%
West Midlands	England	88.8 %	270 per 100,000	99.4 per 1,000	43.7 per 1,000	4.7 per 1,000	9.1 per 1,000	8.2 per 1,000	9.8 %	129 per 100,000	£294	£244.50	21.2%
Leicestershire	England	88.5 %	194 per 100,000	76.3 per 1,000	31.7 per 1,000	3.7 per 1,000	4.6 per 1,000	8.0 per 1,000	9.8 %	127 per 100,000	£245	£315.23	38.8%
Metropolitan Police	England	88.5 %	346 per 100,000	100.7 per 1,000	30.4 per 1,000	5.3 per 1,000	9.3 per 1,000	6.1 per 1,000	6.7 %	130 per 100,000	£440	—	27.2%

Police force area	Nation	999 calls	Officers	Crime	Violence	Burglary	Vehicle	Damage	Charged	Staff	Funding	Precept	Precept share
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	England	88.0 %	166 per 100,000	73.5 per 1,000	33.6 per 1,000	2.8 per 1,000	3.5 per 1,000	6.1 per 1,000	9.0 %	109 per 100,000	£251	£290.46	41.2%
South Wales	Wales	87.6 %	261 per 100,000	78.8 per 1,000	34.1 per 1,000	2.3 per 1,000	4.3 per 1,000	7.0 per 1,000	13.1 %	175 per 100,000	£345	£405.14	45.2%
Bedfordshire	England	87.5 %	195 per 100,000	68.1 per 1,000	28.5 per 1,000	2.7 per 1,000	5.8 per 1,000	5.6 per 1,000	8.2 %	148 per 100,000	£236	£297.59	40.3%
Northumbria	England	86.6 %	260 per 100,000	90.1 per 1,000	36.3 per 1,000	4.4 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	10.1 per 1,000	10.8 %	135 per 100,000	£294	£214.34	20.7%
Wiltshire	England	86.4 %	159 per 100,000	55.8 per 1,000	26.3 per 1,000	2.1 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	5.7 per 1,000	8.8 %	128 per 100,000	£234	£298.27	45.5%
Suffolk	England	85.9 %	181 per 100,000	55.8 per 1,000	26.3 per 1,000	2.3 per 1,000	2.5 per 1,000	5.7 per 1,000	11.3 %	117 per 100,000	£245	£304.47	43.8%
Staffordshire	England	85.8 %	173 per 100,000	74.5 per 1,000	35.5 per 1,000	3.1 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000	6.2 per 1,000	9.4 %	122 per 100,000	£248	£302.57	38.3%
Cambridgeshire	England	85.7 %	181 per 100,000	73.6 per 1,000	31.3 per 1,000	3.4 per 1,000	4.0 per 1,000	6.9 per 1,000	10.1 %	87 per 100,000	£236	£314.37	44.6%
Police Scotland	Scotland	85.7 %	298 per 100,000	56.9 per 1,000	16.6 per 1,000	1.3 per 1,000	1.9 per 1,000	6.3 per 1,000	56.7 %	107 per 100,000	£267	Not published	Not published
Cumbria	England	85.6 %	275 per 100,000	70.5 per 1,000	35.0 per 1,000	2.0 per 1,000	1.4 per 1,000	7.5 per 1,000	12.2 %	121 per 100,000	£321	£338.94	39.1%
Devon and Cornwall	England	85.4 %	198 per 100,000	66.3 per 1,000	34.4 per 1,000	2.0 per 1,000	1.8 per 1,000	7.1 per 1,000	6.9 %	104 per 100,000	£264	£303.20	42.1%
North Wales	Wales	85.3 %	251 per 100,000	75.3 per 1,000	38.0 per 1,000	2.3 per 1,000	1.7 per 1,000	7.7 per 1,000	12.0 %	171 per 100,000	£346	£398.25	51.2%
West Mercia	England	83.2 %	186 per 100,000	59.1 per 1,000	27.6 per 1,000	2.7 per 1,000	2.4 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	10.7 %	100 per 100,000	£248	£306.50	43.8%
Dorset	England	81.7 %	183 per 100,000	59.3 per 1,000	26.1 per 1,000	3.0 per 1,000	4.0 per 1,000	5.8 per 1,000	10.0 %	150 per 100,000	£257	£322.58	49.9%
Gloucestershire	England	79.8 %	202 per 100,000	67.0 per 1,000	30.4 per 1,000	3.4 per 1,000	3.5 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	6.0 %	122 per 100,000	£265	£340.58	47.9%
West Yorkshire	England	79.1 %	256 per 100,000	108.4 per 1,000	50.4 per 1,000	5.9 per 1,000	6.4 per 1,000	8.5 per 1,000	9.2 %	160 per 100,000	£285	£278.28	28.3%
Lincolnshire	England	77.1 %	151 per 100,000	67.5 per 1,000	31.3 per 1,000	2.9 per 1,000	2.7 per 1,000	6.8 per 1,000	10.4 %	119 per 100,000	£233	£333.09	45.5%
Northamptonshire	England	76.8 %	181 per 100,000	69.4 per 1,000	31.0 per 1,000	3.2 per 1,000	4.3 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	9.7 %	136 per 100,000	£247	£335.04	43.9%
City of London	England	—	6,445 per 100,000	560.4 per 1,000	96.1 per 1,000	30.5 per 1,000	6.5 per 1,000	19.7 per 1,000	13.8 %	4,173 per 100,000	£6,238	—	—

What comes out: results by body

These are outputs and results published alongside the money. They are not what the money bought: demand, geography and recording practice differ between areas, and none of these figures shows cause and effect.

Each force: funding per resident, precept per Band D home, officers per 100,000 residents and recorded crime per 1,000

Body	Funding per resident, 2026-27	Police precept, Band D, 2026-27	Officers per 100,000 residents, 2025-26	Recorded crime per 1,000 residents, 2025-26
England and Wales	£298	—	235 per 100,000	82.9 per 1,000
England	£296	—	234 per 100,000	83.1 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Avon and Somerset	£250	—	181 per 100,000	69.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Bedfordshire	£250	—	190 per 100,000	73.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Cambridgeshire	£250	—	183 per 100,000	75.7 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Cheshire	£248	—	184 per 100,000	76.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Cleveland	£298	—	259 per 100,000	100.0 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Cumbria	£269	—	198 per 100,000	64.2 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Derbyshire	£253	—	198 per 100,000	73.5 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Devon and Cornwall	£278	—	210 per 100,000	62.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Dorset	£255	—	192 per 100,000	70.5 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Durham	£295	—	234 per 100,000	88.6 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Dyfed-Powys	£268	—	200 per 100,000	64.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Essex	£251	—	194 per 100,000	74.6 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Gloucestershire	£251	—	179 per 100,000	70.0 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Greater Manchester	£365	—	299 per 100,000	100.8 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Gwent	£291	—	231 per 100,000	88.3 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Hampshire and Isle of Wight	£249	—	185 per 100,000	74.7 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Hertfordshire	£250	—	182 per 100,000	71.5 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Humberside	£295	—	232 per 100,000	87.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Kent	£246	—	193 per 100,000	72.8 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Lancashire	£289	—	225 per 100,000	88.0 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Leicestershire	£247	—	196 per 100,000	74.1 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Lincolnshire	£278	—	208 per 100,000	67.3 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Merseyside	£294	—	256 per 100,000	101.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Metropolitan Police	£300	—	261 per 100,000	101.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Norfolk	£274	—	202 per 100,000	68.2 per 1,000
Most similar forces to North Wales	£249	—	187 per 100,000	69.1 per 1,000
Most similar forces to North Yorkshire	£254	—	186 per 100,000	69.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Northamptonshire	£246	—	197 per 100,000	73.9 per 1,000

Body	Funding per resident, 2026-27	Police precept, Band D, 2026-27	Officers per 100,000 residents, 2025-26	Recorded crime per 1,000 residents, 2025-26
Most similar forces to Northumbria	£307	—	248 per 100,000	98.6 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Nottinghamshire	£267	—	213 per 100,000	79.0 per 1,000
Most similar forces to South Wales	£286	—	228 per 100,000	90.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to South Yorkshire	£297	—	246 per 100,000	94.3 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Staffordshire	£254	—	198 per 100,000	71.9 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Suffolk	£266	—	195 per 100,000	66.8 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Surrey	£249	—	183 per 100,000	72.5 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Sussex	£250	—	190 per 100,000	78.1 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Thames Valley	£251	—	180 per 100,000	73.3 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Warwickshire	£253	—	181 per 100,000	70.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to West Mercia	£260	—	197 per 100,000	71.7 per 1,000
Most similar forces to West Midlands	£366	—	299 per 100,000	101.4 per 1,000
Most similar forces to West Yorkshire	£306	—	254 per 100,000	94.5 per 1,000
Most similar forces to Wiltshire	£252	—	184 per 100,000	74.8 per 1,000
Avon and Somerset	£254	£308.20	187 per 100,000	96.1 per 1,000
Bedfordshire	£236	£297.59	195 per 100,000	68.1 per 1,000
Cambridgeshire	£236	£314.37	181 per 100,000	73.6 per 1,000
Cheshire	£261	£295.44	211 per 100,000	67.4 per 1,000
City of London	£6,238	—	6,445 per 100,000	560.4 per 1,000
Cleveland	£330	£332.73	251 per 100,000	123.6 per 1,000
Cumbria	£321	£338.94	275 per 100,000	70.5 per 1,000
Derbyshire	£249	£308.60	192 per 100,000	77.9 per 1,000
Devon and Cornwall	£264	£303.20	198 per 100,000	66.3 per 1,000
Dorset	£257	£322.58	183 per 100,000	59.3 per 1,000
Durham	£290	£300.74	215 per 100,000	91.1 per 1,000
Dyfed-Powys	£333	£387.63	254 per 100,000	68.5 per 1,000
Essex	£235	£275.31	194 per 100,000	73.6 per 1,000
Gloucestershire	£265	£340.58	202 per 100,000	67.0 per 1,000
Greater Manchester	£302	£285.30	273 per 100,000	103.3 per 1,000
Gwent	£348	£403.53	258 per 100,000	95.4 per 1,000
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	£251	£290.46	166 per 100,000	73.5 per 1,000
Hertfordshire	£255	£280.00	192 per 100,000	67.9 per 1,000
Humberside	£294	£313.66	239 per 100,000	95.8 per 1,000
Kent	£250	£285.15	214 per 100,000	79.2 per 1,000
Lancashire	£271	£292.40	223 per 100,000	79.5 per 1,000
Leicestershire	£245	£315.23	194 per 100,000	76.3 per 1,000
Lincolnshire	£233	£333.09	151 per 100,000	67.5 per 1,000
Merseyside	£344	£293.97	282 per 100,000	93.3 per 1,000
Metropolitan Police	£440	—	346 per 100,000	100.7 per 1,000
Norfolk	£265	£344.79	201 per 100,000	61.2 per 1,000

Body	Funding per resident, 2026-27	Police precept, Band D, 2026-27	Officers per 100,000 residents, 2025-26	Recorded crime per 1,000 residents, 2025-26
North Wales	£346	£398.25	251 per 100,000	75.3 per 1,000
North Yorkshire	£270	£335.86	198 per 100,000	51.8 per 1,000
Northamptonshire	£247	£335.04	181 per 100,000	69.4 per 1,000
Northumbria	£294	£214.34	260 per 100,000	90.1 per 1,000
Nottinghamshire	£267	£311.10	200 per 100,000	85.3 per 1,000
Police Scotland	—	—	—	—
Police Service of Northern Ireland	—	—	—	48.5 per 1,000
South Wales	£345	£405.14	261 per 100,000	78.8 per 1,000
South Yorkshire	£279	£280.04	211 per 100,000	101.3 per 1,000
Staffordshire	£248	£302.57	173 per 100,000	74.5 per 1,000
Suffolk	£245	£304.47	181 per 100,000	55.8 per 1,000
Surrey	£275	£352.57	188 per 100,000	59.2 per 1,000
Sussex	£252	£281.91	184 per 100,000	73.7 per 1,000
Thames Valley	£247	£298.28	191 per 100,000	63.6 per 1,000
Warwickshire	£243	£318.71	177 per 100,000	61.3 per 1,000
West Mercia	£248	£306.50	186 per 100,000	59.1 per 1,000
West Midlands	£294	£244.50	270 per 100,000	99.4 per 1,000
West Yorkshire	£285	£278.28	256 per 100,000	108.4 per 1,000
Wiltshire	£234	£298.27	159 per 100,000	55.8 per 1,000

What each measure counts

- **Funding per resident** Government funding plus precept, per resident, cash.
- **Police precept, Band D** The police part of a Band D council tax bill in the force area. In London the Mayor's police precept is part of the Greater London Authority's and is not published separately; City of London has no police precept.
- **Officers per 100,000 residents** Full-time equivalent officers per 100,000 residents: on 31 March in England and Wales (Home Office), at each quarter end in Scotland (Scottish Government), and on the date of the PSNI's strength figures in Northern Ireland. Forces with large visitor or commuter populations (London, the City) look high on this measure.
- **Recorded crime per 1,000 residents** Offences recorded by the force in the financial year, excluding fraud, per 1,000 residents: Home Office figures for England and Wales, and the PSNI's for Northern Ireland, which records under the same Home Office Counting Rules and offence groups. Recorded crime depends on what is reported and how each force records it; recording practice differs between forces and has changed over time. A higher rate is not in itself a sign of more crime or worse policing.

What people say about it

Should more of police funding come from council tax precepts?

Those who defend local precepts or want more local flexibility

- "The public were clear about what they were willing to contribute, with 66% supporting an increase, and I am grateful for the trust they have placed in us to ensure the best value for money." Clive Grunshaw (Labour), Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner (2 February 2026) In the same release he says the police grant increase "is simply not enough to cover inflation and pay costs".
- "This is why I believe that supporting our policing teams has never been more important than it is today and I need to ensure the Chief Constable has the right tools to take the fight to the criminals." Lisa Townsend (Conservative), Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey, Surrey Police and Crime

Commissioner (2 February 2024) Said when her 2024/25 precept rise went ahead.

- "The first is greater precept flexibility for forces such as Dorset that are already asking far more of local taxpayers than others." Edward Morello MP (Liberal Democrat), House of Commons (11 February 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches). He also argues the current settlement disadvantages rural counties with small council tax bases.

Those who say the precept shifts the burden unfairly and central grant should carry more

- "The Government is relying on a hidden council tax bombshell to fund their half-hearted rise in police funding as they pass the buck to local families." Lisa Smart MP, Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesperson, Liberal Democrats (11 June 2025)
- "They cannot be treated as business as usual, nor should the burden of delivering them continue to be passed disproportionately to local communities through increases in the Council Tax precept." Roger Hirst and Joy Allen, joint finance leads, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (22 December 2025) As quoted by Police Professional. "They" refers to national policing priorities.
- "When funding depends heavily on council tax capacity, areas with lower property values are structurally constrained, regardless of need or performance." Mary Kelly Foy MP (Labour), House of Commons (11 February 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).
- "The reliance on the police precept entrenches a postcode lottery in policing." Matt Vickers MP (Conservative), shadow policing minister, House of Commons (11 February 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

Do more officers mean less crime?

Those who say officer numbers matter

- "The heartbeat of our Great British policing tradition is seeing bobbies on the beat, but for too long, too many communities have been feeling abandoned as crime soared and neighbourhood police disappeared, even when local crimes like shop theft, street theft or blatant drug dealing rose sharply." Yvette Cooper MP (Labour), then Home Secretary, Home Office / 10 Downing Street (10 April 2025) Government press release as republished by Wired-Gov.
- "Today, we've seen the direct result –1,300 officers gone, recruitment down 17 per cent, and 5,400 police jobs at risk, at the very moment knife crime is surging and confidence is collapsing." Chris Philp MP (Conservative), shadow Home Secretary, Conservative Party (25 July 2025) As published on the website of Andrew Snowden MP.
- "If the Government are serious about restoring neighbourhood policing, they need to step up, get this reform right and get more officers back on to our streets." Max Wilkinson MP (Liberal Democrat), House of Commons (11 February 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).

Those who say deployment, experience or productivity matter more than headcount

- "Redirecting resources into better technology, improving data-sharing across agencies, and enabling forces to pool specialist capabilities with a view to increasing productivity may yield greater returns than a narrow political focus on putting more boots on the ground." Sophie Davis, director of research, Crest Advisory (12 June 2025) The same paragraph says Crest research found the 20,000-officer uplift "had only limited effects on outcomes".
- "Having listened to feedback from police chiefs, police and crime commissioners, Select Committees and His Majesty's inspectorate of constabulary and fire and rescue services and others, we are removing arbitrary headcount targets for overall officer numbers." Sarah Jones MP (Labour), Minister for Policing and Crime, House of Commons (11 February 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).

- “There are big problems in the police but it's not clear that the number of officers is the most pressing; forces are struggling to rebuild public trust, charge rates remain low.” Matthew Fright and Gil Richards, Institute for Government (26 April 2023) Older than the preferred 2024-26 window.

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Recorded crime is not all crime.** It counts what is reported to the police and recorded under the Home Office Counting Rules. Recording practice differs between forces and has changed over time; the Crime Survey for England and Wales is the better guide to national trends.
- **Breaks in the series are marked.** After the inspectorate found in 2014 that one crime in five was not being recorded, recording improved, which pushed counts up from 2014-15; a rule change in May 2023 lowered some counts; and from April 2025 shop theft with force is counted as robbery.
- **Nothing here shows cause and effect.** Funding, officers, recorded crime, charge rates and call answering are shown side by side. A force with more money or more officers per resident may face more demand; a higher crime rate may reflect better recording.
- **Areas differ.** Rates divide by residents, but London and city-centre forces serve many commuters and visitors who are not residents. The Home Office’s most similar forces are the fairest comparison it publishes.
- **Budget years are plans.** The latest funding year is the budget; earlier years are revised as in-year grants are shared out.

Figures from data/services/police.json, generated 19 November 2026.

Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/fire-and-rescue/

£4.2bn was spent on fire and rescue in Fire and rescue, United Kingdom in 2025-26, **£59.96** per resident. That is +1.9% on a year earlier after inflation (+5.3% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £4.4bn in 2006-07 to £4.2bn. English services attended 169,642 incidents in 2026-27, and reached primary fires in 9.5 minutes on average.

Key figures

£4.2bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+5.3% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

+1.9%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£4.2bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

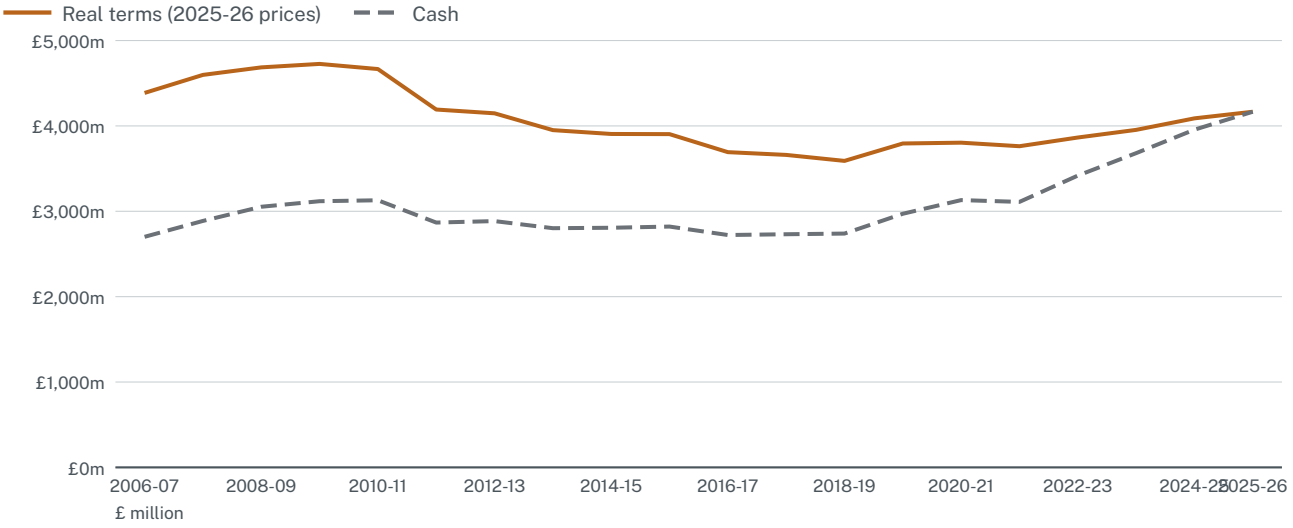
£59.96
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

The short version

- **Funded locally and nationally:** English and Welsh fire authorities through council tax and the local government settlement; Scotland and Northern Ireland each have one national service.
- **Every service has a page:** its spending, incidents, response times (England), staff and stations, against its nation.
- **Response times are only published for England,** so they are never compared across nations.

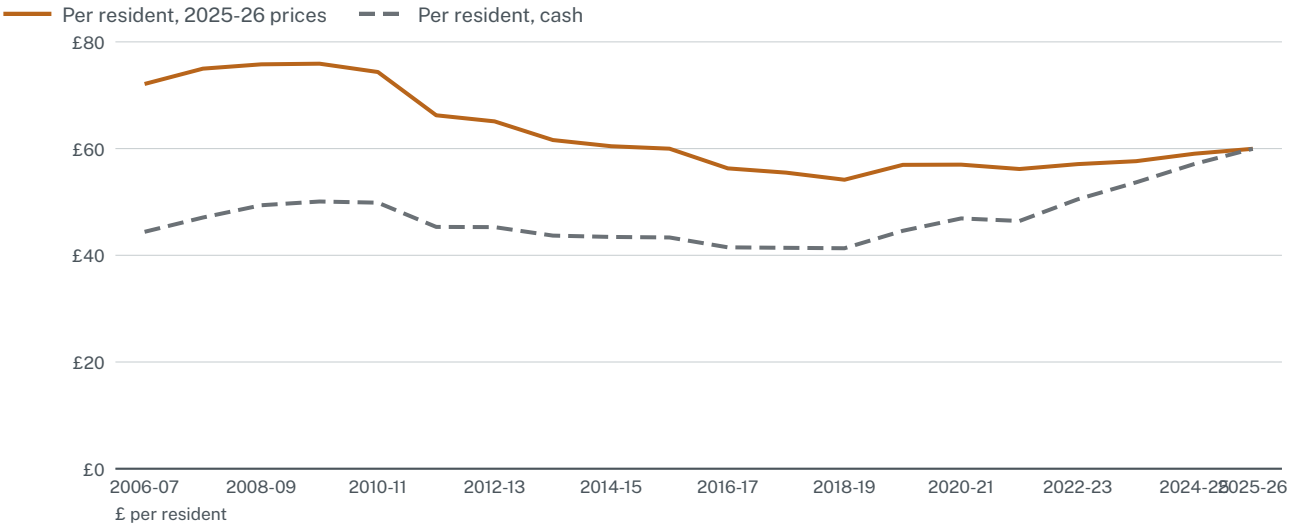
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

Fire and rescue, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ million



Line chart of Fire and rescue, United Kingdom spending from 2006-07 to 2025-26: £2.7bn to £4.2bn in cash; £4.4bn to £4.2bn in 2025-26 prices.

Fire and rescue, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices



Line chart of Fire and rescue, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 2006-07 (£72.11) to 2025-26 (£59.96).

Spending per resident by nation, 2025-26

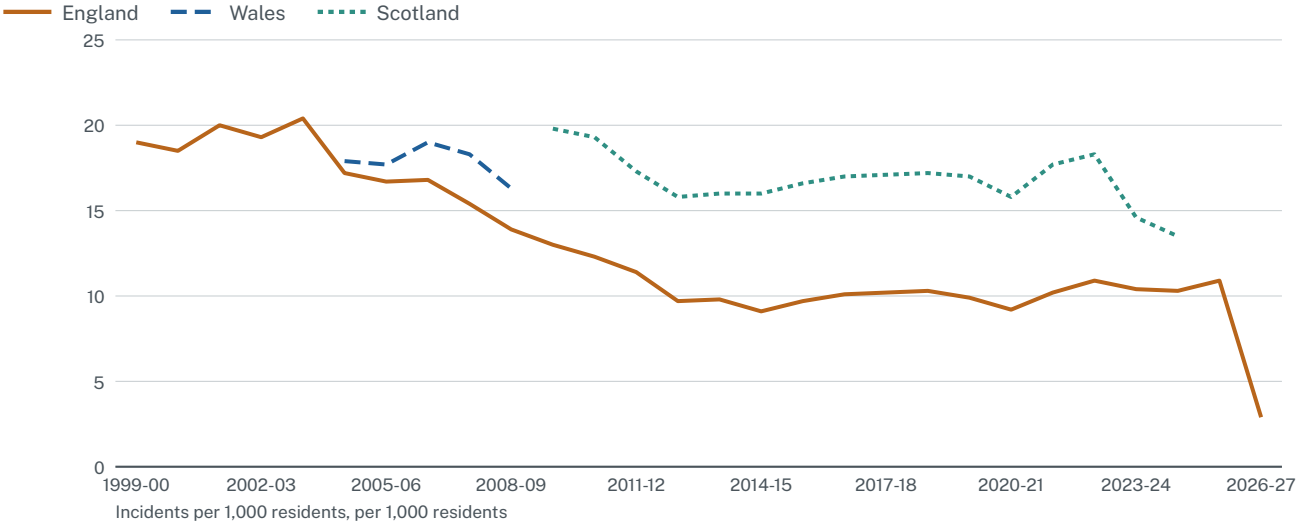


Bar chart of spending per resident by nation in 2025-26: Fire and rescue, England £55.41, Fire and rescue, Scotland £92.33, Fire and rescue, Wales £72.44, Fire and rescue, Northern Ireland £67.93.

Source: HM Treasury, PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables, published 16 July 2026; HM Treasury, PESA 2021: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2016: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2011: chapter 4 and 5 tables.

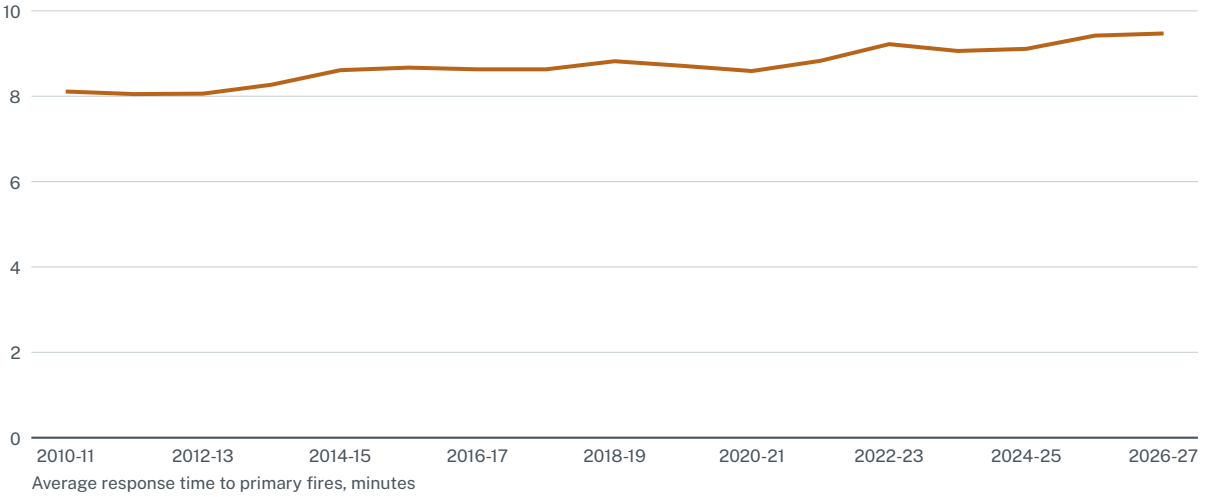
Incidents and response

Incidents attended per 1,000 residents



Line chart of incidents per 1,000 residents from 1999-00 to 2026-27 for England, Wales, Scotland.

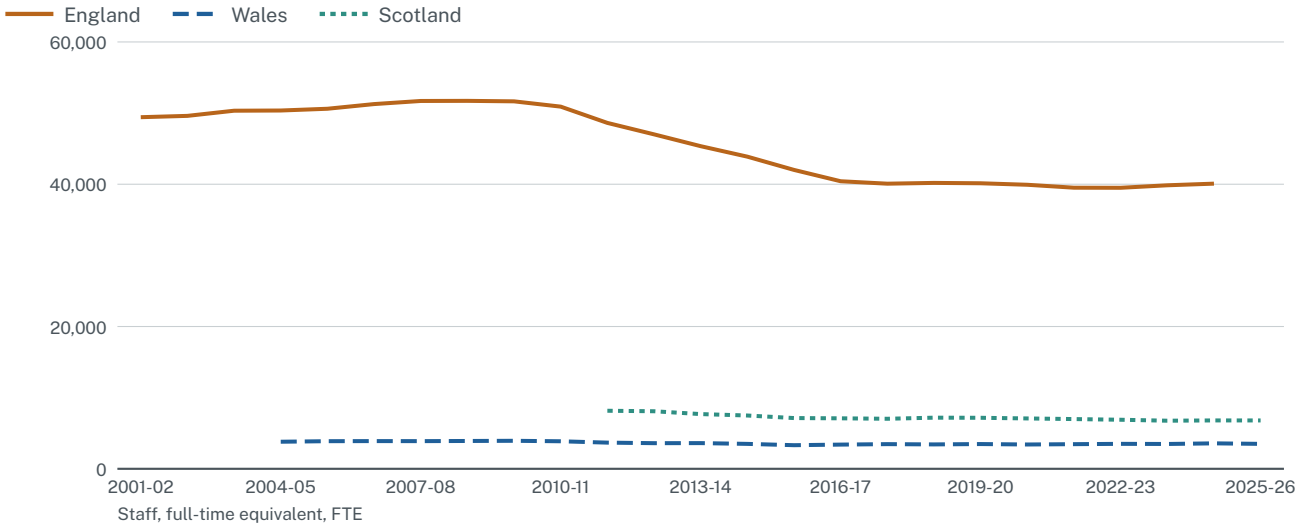
Average response time to primary fires, England, minutes



Line chart of average response time to primary fires from 2010-11 to 2026-27 for England.

Staff and stations

Fire and rescue staff, full-time equivalent



Line chart of staff, full-time equivalent from 2001-02 to 2025-26 for England, Wales, Scotland.

Which nations publish response times

- **England** Published by service every quarter (MHCLG FIRE1001), from 1994-95.
- **Wales** The Welsh Government's fire and rescue incident statistics give the share of primary fires (and of dwelling fires) where the first vehicle arrived within 10 minutes of mobilisation, by authority, in the text; StatsWales has no response-time dataset.
- **Scotland** Not in SFRS's official statistics (Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics, Fire Safety and Organisational Statistics); SFRS reports local performance to each council, with no national response-time series.
- **Northern Ireland** NIFRS reports the share of incidents reached within its attendance standards (SPI 9: 10 minutes in wholetime station areas, 20 minutes in on-call areas) in its annual report, not an average time.

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation
3. Department or service body not published
4. Local body

5. Spending category
6. Line or transaction

Fire and rescue, United Kingdom

HM Treasury's spending on fire-protection services (COFOG 3.2): day-to-day and capital spending by fire and rescue services and central government, including firefighters' pensions.

£4.2bn in 2025-26 (cash); £4.2bn in 2025-26 prices; £59.96 per resident; +5.3% on a year earlier in cash, +1.9% in real terms.

Fire and rescue, United Kingdom: by nation, 2025-26

Nation	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Fire and rescue, England	£3.3bn	£3.3bn	£55.41	+1.3%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Fire and rescue, Scotland	£512m	£512m	£92.33	+0.9%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Fire and rescue, Wales	£230m	£230m	£72.44	+1.6%	HM Treasury	Broken down below
Fire and rescue, Northern Ireland	£131m	£131m	£67.93	−4.7%	HM Treasury	Broken down below

Fire and rescue, England

HM Treasury's country and regional analysis: fire-protection spending in the nation, including capital and pensions. The services below are their day-to-day (net current) spending, so they add up to less.

£3.3bn in 2025-26 (cash); £3.3bn in 2025-26 prices; £55.41 per resident; +4.7% on a year earlier in cash, +1.3% in real terms.

Fire and rescue, England: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
London Fire Brigade	£576m	£576m	£63.15	+0.8%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service	£151m	£151m	£50.08	+3.1%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service	£138m	£138m	£45.52	+2.4%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	£110m	£110m	£45.15	+2.5%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service	£103m	£103m	£55.81	+3.4%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service	£99m	£99m	£47.92	+4.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Kent Fire and Rescue Service	£99m	£99m	£50.64	+1.9%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Essex Fire and Rescue Service	not published	not published	—	—	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service	£79m	£79m	£48.99	+4.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service	£75m	£75m	£47.66	+5.0%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service	£71m	£71m	£60.30	+1.8%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	£68m	£68m	£47.34	+1.7%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service	£64m	£64m	£43.22	+4.6%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Avon Fire and Rescue Service	£64m	£64m	£51.67	+3.7%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Humberside Fire and Rescue Service	£57m	£57m	£59.45	+0.5%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	£57m	£57m	£47.88	+2.7%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Surrey Fire and Rescue Service	£54m	£54m	£43.16	+3.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	£53m	£53m	£42.95	−1.1%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service	£51m	£51m	£46.38	+2.1%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service	not published	not published	—	—	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	£49m	£49m	£58.05	+0.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service	£47m	£47m	£47.43	+2.9%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service	£44m	£44m	£46.52	+8.1%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	£43m	£43m	£46.69	0.0%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service	£41m	£41m	£49.95	+15.3%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service	£41m	£41m	£50.08	−2.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	£41m	£41m	£51.27	+10.3%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service	£41m	£41m	£34.31	−2.7%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	£41m	£41m	£47.81	+5.9%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service	£40m	£40m	£42.04	+2.8%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service	£39m	£39m	£48.90	+5.2%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	£38m	£38m	£42.32	+37.4%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service	£38m	£38m	£57.96	+1.4%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	£37m	£37m	£49.25	−1.5%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Cleveland Fire Brigade	£36m	£36m	£60.16	+0.4%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service	£35m	£35m	£67.51	+55.5%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service	£35m	£35m	£59.00	+7.1%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service	£34m	£34m	£51.00	+2.3%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	£34m	£34m	£44.53	+2.6%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service	£32m	£32m	£49.60	+2.0%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service	not published	not published	—	—	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	not published	not published	—	—	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service	£26m	£26m	£76.26	+8.8%	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page
Isles of Scilly Fire and Rescue Service	not published	not published	—	—	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	On its own page

Fire and rescue, Scotland

HM Treasury's country and regional analysis: fire-protection spending in the nation, including capital and pensions. The services below are their day-to-day (net current) spending, so they add up to less.

£512m in 2025-26 (cash); £512m in 2025-26 prices; £92.33 per resident; +4.3% on a year earlier in cash, +0.9% in real terms.

Fire and rescue, Scotland: by local body, 2023-24

Local body	Cash, 2023-24	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	£305m	£328m	£55.39	—	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	On its own page

Fire and rescue, Wales

HM Treasury's country and regional analysis: fire-protection spending in the nation, including capital and pensions. The services below are their day-to-day (net current) spending, so they add up to less.

£230m in 2025-26 (cash); £230m in 2025-26 prices; £72.44 per resident; +5.0% on a year earlier in cash, +1.6% in real terms.

Fire and rescue, Wales: by local body, 2025-26

Local body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	£96m	£96m	£61.51	+3.9%	Welsh Government	On its own page
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	£66m	£66m	£72.58	+5.2%	Welsh Government	On its own page
North Wales Fire and Rescue Service	£47m	£47m	£67.09	+3.5%	Welsh Government	On its own page

Fire and rescue, Northern Ireland

HM Treasury's country and regional analysis: fire-protection spending in the nation, including capital and pensions. The services below are their day-to-day (net current) spending, so they add up to less.

£131m in 2025-26 (cash); £131m in 2025-26 prices; £67.93 per resident; −1.5% on a year earlier in cash, −4.7% in real terms.

Fire and rescue, Northern Ireland: by local body, 2024-25

Local body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	£104m	£107m	£53.89	+5.4%	Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	On its own page

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

On the map

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

The map covers the whole UK. Where the nations publish the same measure, they share one scale. Where they publish different ones, each nation is shaded against its own measure on its own scale, named in its own part of the legend, and the nations cannot be compared with each other. Where a nation publishes nothing for a measure, the map says so and links to what it publishes instead. Pick an area for its figures and a link to its page.

Every one of the fire and rescue services, on each measure on the map England, Wales and Scotland: Incidents attended per 1,000 residents, 2025-26 and 2008-09 and 2024-25. Northern Ireland: Incidents mobilised to per 1,000 residents, 2024-25. The nations' figures are different measures and are not directly comparable.

Fire and rescue area	Nation	Incidents	Fires	Response	Homes
Cleveland Fire Brigade	England	18.3 per 1,000 residents	9.92 per 1,000 residents	7.90 minutes	7.26 minutes
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Wales	18.0 per 1,000 residents	6.07 per 1,000 residents	50%	59%
South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Wales	16.5 per 1,000 residents	7.36 per 1,000 residents	62%	72%
Isles of Scilly Fire and Rescue Service	England	16.1 per 1,000 residents	4.78 per 1,000 residents	Not published for this year	Not published for this year
London Fire Brigade	England	15.3 per 1,000 residents	2.13 per 1,000 residents	7.38 minutes	6.93 minutes
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service	England	15.1 per 1,000 residents	6.39 per 1,000 residents	7.21 minutes	6.76 minutes
Humberside Fire and Rescue Service	England	14.0 per 1,000 residents	3.80 per 1,000 residents	9.07 minutes	7.98 minutes
North Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Wales	13.7 per 1,000 residents	5.01 per 1,000 residents	40%	53%
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Scotland	13.5 per 1,000 residents	4.58 per 1,000 residents	Not published	Not published
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service	England	12.7 per 1,000 residents	4.10 per 1,000 residents	7.24 minutes	6.84 minutes
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service	England	12.6 per 1,000 residents	6.78 per 1,000 residents	9.12 minutes	7.75 minutes
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service	England	11.9 per 1,000 residents	3.44 per 1,000 residents	7.52 minutes	7.03 minutes

Fire and rescue area	Nation	Incidents	Fires	Response	Homes
Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service	England	11.7 per 1,000 residents	4.46 per 1,000 residents	11.52 minutes	11.01 minutes
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	England	11.4 per 1,000 residents	2.13 per 1,000 residents	9.23 minutes	8.72 minutes
Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	11.2 per 1,000 residents	2.59 per 1,000 residents	10.06 minutes	8.58 minutes
Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service	England	11.1 per 1,000 residents	3.30 per 1,000 residents	8.65 minutes	7.08 minutes
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.9 per 1,000 residents	3.59 per 1,000 residents	6.54 minutes	6.37 minutes
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.8 per 1,000 residents	4.99 per 1,000 residents	8.68 minutes	7.59 minutes
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.8 per 1,000 residents	4.48 per 1,000 residents	9.24 minutes	Not published for this year
Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.6 per 1,000 residents	2.83 per 1,000 residents	12.60 minutes	11.22 minutes
Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.5 per 1,000 residents	2.02 per 1,000 residents	9.80 minutes	8.17 minutes
Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.5 per 1,000 residents	2.68 per 1,000 residents	11.31 minutes	9.42 minutes
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.4 per 1,000 residents	2.36 per 1,000 residents	12.63 minutes	9.86 minutes
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.3 per 1,000 residents	3.11 per 1,000 residents	10.40 minutes	8.87 minutes
Avon Fire and Rescue Service	England	10.2 per 1,000 residents	2.83 per 1,000 residents	9.87 minutes	8.58 minutes
Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.8 per 1,000 residents	2.53 per 1,000 residents	11.26 minutes	10.83 minutes
Essex Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.7 per 1,000 residents	2.54 per 1,000 residents	10.85 minutes	9.25 minutes
Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.6 per 1,000 residents	2.71 per 1,000 residents	10.67 minutes	10.00 minutes
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.6 per 1,000 residents	2.62 per 1,000 residents	11.90 minutes	10.11 minutes
West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.4 per 1,000 residents	1.84 per 1,000 residents	10.05 minutes	8.84 minutes
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.3 per 1,000 residents	2.25 per 1,000 residents	10.91 minutes	10.13 minutes
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.3 per 1,000 residents	2.09 per 1,000 residents	10.61 minutes	8.99 minutes
Kent Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.3 per 1,000 residents	2.33 per 1,000 residents	11.05 minutes	10.06 minutes
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.2 per 1,000 residents	2.23 per 1,000 residents	11.31 minutes	10.31 minutes
Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	9.2 per 1,000 residents	2.34 per 1,000 residents	10.55 minutes	9.25 minutes
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.7 per 1,000 residents	2.28 per 1,000 residents	10.79 minutes	9.33 minutes
Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.6 per 1,000 residents	2.49 per 1,000 residents	12.87 minutes	11.27 minutes
Surrey Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.2 per 1,000 residents	1.78 per 1,000 residents	11.03 minutes	9.63 minutes
Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.2 per 1,000 residents	2.32 per 1,000 residents	10.42 minutes	8.37 minutes
Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.1 per 1,000 residents	2.24 per 1,000 residents	10.46 minutes	9.59 minutes
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	8.1 per 1,000 residents	3.13 per 1,000 residents	10.67 minutes	9.60 minutes

Fire and rescue area	Nation	Incidents	Fires	Response	Homes
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.9 per 1,000 residents	1.97 per 1,000 residents	8.51 minutes	8.37 minutes
Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.8 per 1,000 residents	2.08 per 1,000 residents	9.77 minutes	8.71 minutes
Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.8 per 1,000 residents	1.90 per 1,000 residents	11.76 minutes	9.63 minutes
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.6 per 1,000 residents	2.42 per 1,000 residents	10.62 minutes	8.96 minutes
Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.6 per 1,000 residents	2.05 per 1,000 residents	12.41 minutes	10.40 minutes
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	7.2 per 1,000 residents	2.19 per 1,000 residents	11.15 minutes	10.64 minutes
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service	England	6.7 per 1,000 residents	2.40 per 1,000 residents	10.52 minutes	9.25 minutes
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	Northern Ireland	12.5 per 1,000 residents	3.12 per 1,000 residents	83.6%	Not published

What comes out: results by body

These are outputs and results published alongside the money. They are not what the money bought: demand, geography and recording practice differ between areas, and none of these figures shows cause and effect.

Each fire and rescue service: incidents per 1,000 residents, response time to primary fires, staff and stations

Body	Incidents per 1,000 residents, 2025-26	Average response time to primary fires, 2026-27	Staff, full-time equivalent, 2024-25	Fire stations, 2024-25
England	10.9 per 1,000 residents	9.47 minutes	40,082 FTE	1,386 stations
Great Britain	—	—	—	—
Avon Fire and Rescue Service	10.2 per 1,000 residents	9.87 minutes	797 FTE	21 stations
Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	11.2 per 1,000 residents	10.06 minutes	548 FTE	14 stations
Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	8.1 per 1,000 residents	10.46 minutes	505 FTE	19 stations
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service	9.3 per 1,000 residents	10.91 minutes	591 FTE	27 stations
Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service	7.8 per 1,000 residents	9.77 minutes	765 FTE	28 stations
Cleveland Fire Brigade	18.3 per 1,000 residents	7.90 minutes	516 FTE	14 stations
Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service	8.6 per 1,000 residents	12.87 minutes	658 FTE	31 stations
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service	12.6 per 1,000 residents	9.12 minutes	525 FTE	15 stations
Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service	9.6 per 1,000 residents	10.67 minutes	532 FTE	38 stations
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service	6.7 per 1,000 residents	10.52 minutes	769 FTE	31 stations
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service	9.2 per 1,000 residents	11.31 minutes	1,486 FTE	81 stations
Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service	9.2 per 1,000 residents	10.55 minutes	1,145 FTE	50 stations
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	11.4 per 1,000 residents	9.23 minutes	669 FTE	23 stations
Essex Fire and Rescue Service	9.7 per 1,000 residents	10.85 minutes	1,390 FTE	51 stations
Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service	9.8 per 1,000 residents	11.26 minutes	428 FTE	21 stations
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service	11.9 per 1,000 residents	7.52 minutes	1,730 FTE	41 stations
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service	9.3 per 1,000 residents	10.61 minutes	1,536 FTE	61 stations
Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service	10.6 per 1,000 residents	12.60 minutes	606 FTE	25 stations

Body	Incidents per 1,000 residents, 2025-26	Average response time to primary fires, 2026-27	Staff, full-time equivalent, 2024-25	Fire stations, 2024-25
Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	10.5 per 1,000 residents	9.80 minutes	715 FTE	29 stations
Humberside Fire and Rescue Service	14.0 per 1,000 residents	9.07 minutes	999 FTE	29 stations
Isles of Scilly Fire and Rescue Service	16.1 per 1,000 residents	—	40 FTE	5 stations
Kent Fire and Rescue Service	9.3 per 1,000 residents	11.05 minutes	1,247 FTE	57 stations
Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service	11.1 per 1,000 residents	8.65 minutes	1,114 FTE	39 stations
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	8.7 per 1,000 residents	10.79 minutes	677 FTE	20 stations
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	9.6 per 1,000 residents	11.90 minutes	606 FTE	38 stations
London Fire Brigade	15.3 per 1,000 residents	7.38 minutes	5,826 FTE	103 stations
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service	12.7 per 1,000 residents	7.24 minutes	1,068 FTE	22 stations
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	—	—	1,267 FTE	58 stations
Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service	10.5 per 1,000 residents	11.31 minutes	851 FTE	42 stations
North Wales Fire and Rescue Service	—	—	823 FTE	44 stations
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	10.4 per 1,000 residents	12.63 minutes	663 FTE	36 stations
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service	7.6 per 1,000 residents	10.62 minutes	450 FTE	22 stations
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	—	—	2,013 FTE	67 stations
Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service	11.7 per 1,000 residents	11.52 minutes	330 FTE	15 stations
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	10.3 per 1,000 residents	10.40 minutes	721 FTE	24 stations
Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	7.8 per 1,000 residents	11.76 minutes	472 FTE	25 stations
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service	7.9 per 1,000 residents	8.51 minutes	640 FTE	16 stations
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	—	—	6,799 FTE	356 stations
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service	7.2 per 1,000 residents	11.15 minutes	515 FTE	23 stations
South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	—	—	1,487 FTE	47 stations
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	10.8 per 1,000 residents	8.68 minutes	948 FTE	21 stations
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service	8.1 per 1,000 residents	10.67 minutes	630 FTE	33 stations
Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service	7.6 per 1,000 residents	12.41 minutes	619 FTE	35 stations
Surrey Fire and Rescue Service	8.2 per 1,000 residents	11.03 minutes	688 FTE	25 stations
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service	15.1 per 1,000 residents	7.21 minutes	856 FTE	17 stations
Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service	8.2 per 1,000 residents	10.42 minutes	378 FTE	17 stations
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service	10.9 per 1,000 residents	6.54 minutes	1,823 FTE	38 stations
West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	9.4 per 1,000 residents	10.05 minutes	590 FTE	24 stations
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	10.8 per 1,000 residents	9.24 minutes	1,354 FTE	40 stations

What each measure counts

- **Incidents per 1,000 residents** Incidents attended divided by the mid-year population of the area the service covers (the sum of its local authorities), times 1,000. Worked out for England, Wales and Scotland, whose counts are made the same way; not for Northern Ireland, whose count is on its annual report's own basis.
- **Average response time to primary fires** Mean time from the call being received to the first vehicle arriving, for primary fires (fires in buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures, or with a casualty or rescue, or attended by five or more appliances). England only (MHCLG FIRE1001, from the Incident Recording System). Wales publishes the share reached within 10 minutes of mobilisation (response-primary-wa) and Northern Ireland the share of all incidents reached within its standard (response-primary-ni); Scotland publishes no response times.
- **Staff, full-time equivalent** All staff in post at 31 March (wholetime and on-call firefighters, fire control and support staff), full-time equivalent. England: FIRE1101; Wales: StatsWales; Scotland: SFRS, excluding volunteers. Northern Ireland: the average number employed in the year, from the annual accounts. On-call firefighters' FTE is counted differently between the nations.
- **Fire stations** Fire stations at 31 March (England FIRE1404; Wales StatsWales; Scotland SFRS; Northern Ireland annual report). Specialist urban search and rescue bases are not counted.

What people say about it

Is fire and rescue funded adequately?

Those who say fire and rescue is underfunded and cuts have hurt

- "Cuts to the emergency services will cost lives. It is a matter of time until someone dies." Steve Wright, general secretary, Fire Brigades Union (21 August 2025)
- "The unfair funding settlement could mean fire engines arriving at emergencies without enough crew to respond effectively and save lives, or, worse still, engines not leaving stations at all because there are no firefighters to staff them." Matt Vickers MP (Conservative), shadow minister for crime, policing and fire, House of Commons (28 April 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).
- "Employees of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service tell me that funding cuts have seen shift systems worsening; rope, water and animal rescue services being scaled back and watches usually running with around six firefighters instead of nine." Adam Dance MP (Liberal Democrat), House of Commons (28 April 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).

Those who say productivity and reform are the main issue

- "I am pleased to report that most services are now increasing their focus on improving productivity. But some services still need to better understand how they use their wholetime firefighters and take a more proactive approach to maximise efficiency." Sir Andy Cooke, HM Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services, HMICFRS (5 November 2025) State of Fire and Rescue 2024-25. The same report also says the Government should reconsider its position on capital funding for fire services.
- "Funding is only one part of the picture. There is exciting work ahead of us." Samantha Dixon MP (Labour), Parliamentary Under-Secretary, MHCLG, House of Commons (28 April 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches). Said after describing the ministerial advisory group's work on reforming the role of the firefighter, funding and governance. In the same speech she blamed past cuts for a 20% loss of firefighter capacity.

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Incidents are not only fires.** Fire and rescue services also attend road accidents, floods, other emergencies and false alarms; the figures say which is which.
- **Response times are published for England only.** Wales and Scotland publish none by service, and Northern Ireland reports against its own attendance standards, so no response time is compared across nations.
- **Nations count differently.** Each nation's statistics define incidents, staff and deaths in their own way; figures are compared within a nation, and across nations only where the definitions match.
- **Nothing here shows cause and effect.** Money, staff, stations and incidents are shown side by side. A service covering a large rural area needs more stations for the same number of incidents.
- **Appliance counts stopped in 2021** in England; the last published figure is marked as such.

Figures from data/services/fire.json, generated 19 November 2026.

Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/ambulance/

£5.5bn was spent on ambulance services in Ambulance services, United Kingdom in 2024-25, **£78.80** per resident. That is +4.6% on a year earlier after inflation (+8.7% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £5.4bn in 2023-24 to £5.6bn.

Key figures

£5.5bn
Spent in 2024-25, cash
+8.7% on a year earlier

+4.6%
Real-terms change, 2024-25 on a year earlier
£5.6bn in 2025-26 prices

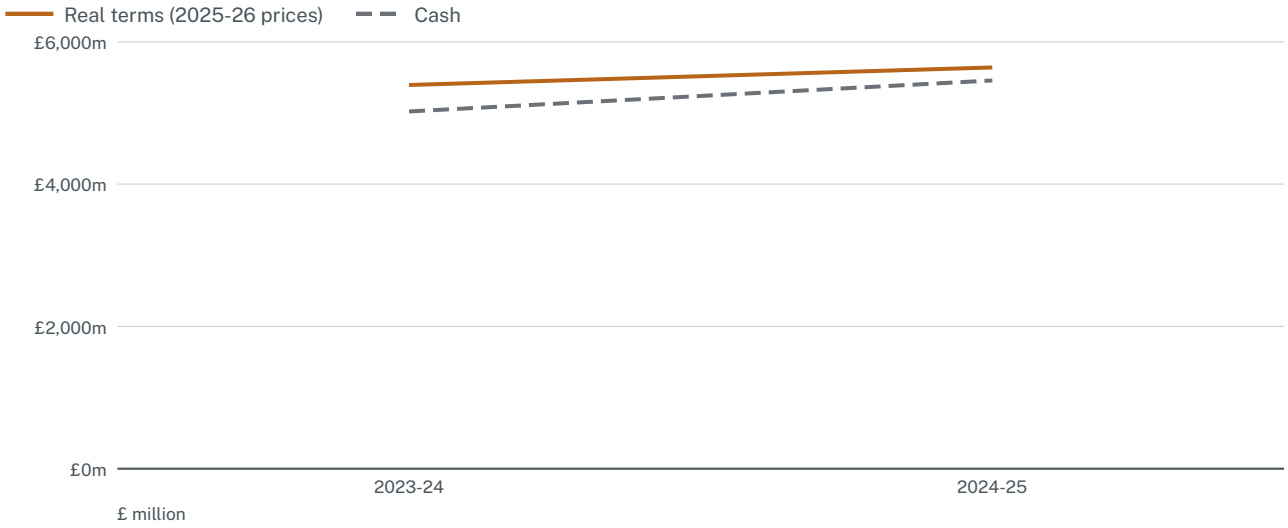
£78.80
Per resident, 2024-25

The short version

- **Ten trusts in England** and one national service each in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- **Response times against the targets,** compared within each nation only, because each measures them differently.
- **Handover delays** at hospital are shown where published.

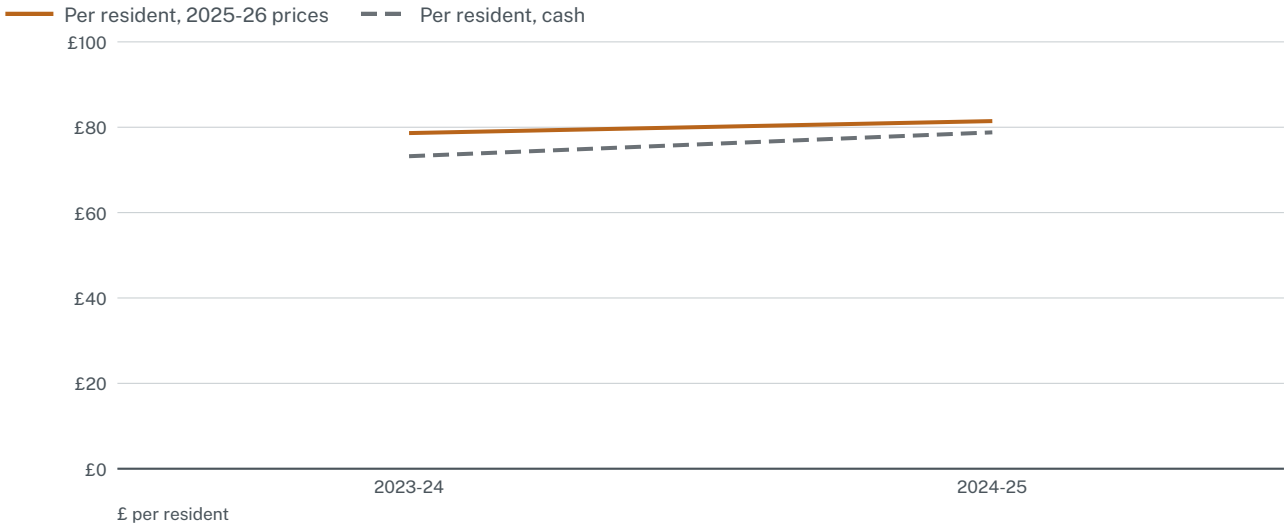
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

Ambulance services, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ million



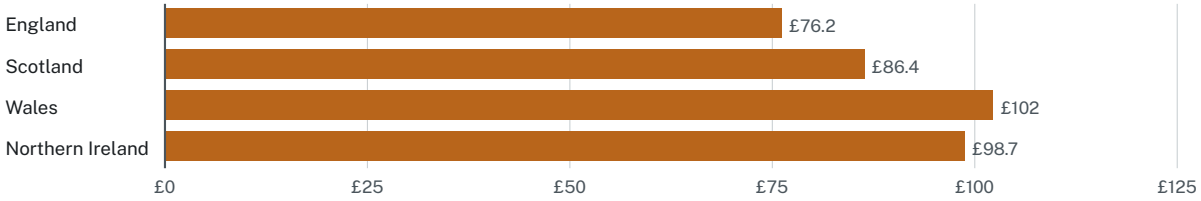
Line chart of Ambulance services, United Kingdom spending from 2023-24 to 2024-25: £5.0bn to £5.5bn in cash; £5.4bn to £5.6bn in 2025-26 prices.

Ambulance services, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices



Line chart of Ambulance services, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 2023-24 (£78.63) to 2024-25 (£81.44).

Spending per resident by nation, 2024-25

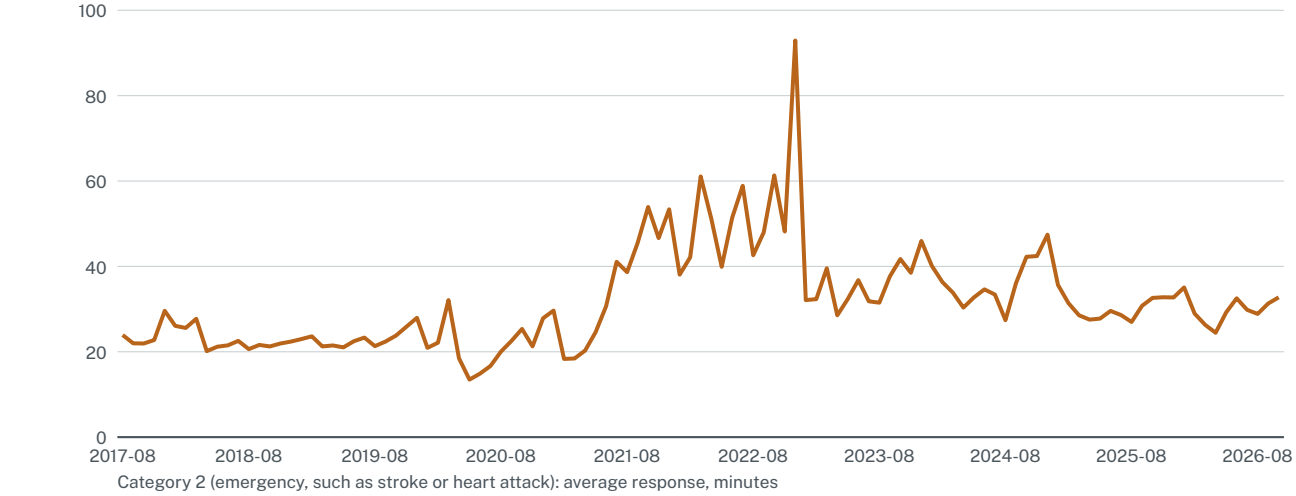


Bar chart of spending per resident by nation in 2024-25: England £76.15, Scotland £86.36, Wales £102, Northern Ireland £98.72.

Source: NHS England, NHS providers: trust accounts consolidation (TAC) data, 2024/25, 2022/23, 2020/21 accounts; Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust, Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26; Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust, Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24; Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Ambulance Service Board, Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25; Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26; Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25.

Response times

Category 2 (emergency, such as stroke or heart attack): average response: England



Line chart of category 2 (emergency, such as stroke or heart attack): average response for England from 2017-08 to 2026-10, latest 32.8 minutes.

Ambulance response by nation, each on its own measure

Nation	Most urgent calls	Next most urgent	Staff
England	Category 1 mean: 8.0 minutes (2026-10)	Category 2 mean: 32.8 minutes (2026-10)	55,481 FTE (2026-08)
Wales	Purple median: 7.5 minutes (2026-09)	Red median: 9.5 minutes (2026-09)	4,229 FTE (2026-06)
Scotland	Purple median: 7.1 minutes (2026-11-09)	Red median: 9.9 minutes (2026-11-09)	5,480 FTE (2024-25)
Northern Ireland	Category 1 mean: 11.8 minutes (2026-03)	Category 2 mean: 76.6 minutes (2026-03)	1,594 FTE (2026-06)

Each nation defines its categories and measures differently (means in England and Northern Ireland, medians in Wales and Scotland), so the rows are not a ranking.

Vehicles

- **England:** NHS England does not publish how many ambulances or other vehicles each trust has. Some trusts give a fleet size in their own annual or sustainability reports, but not on a common basis.
- **Wales:** Not published as a total. The Welsh Ambulance Service's 2025-26 annual report gives only the vehicles approved for replacement in the year (141, of which 44 emergency ambulances).
- **Scotland:** The Scottish Ambulance Service's sustainability report lists its fleet by vehicle type, but not as an official statistic and not in a form that could be read reliably, so no figure is shown.
- **Northern Ireland:** Not published in the Department of Health's statistics.

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation
3. Department or service body
4. Local body
5. Spending category
6. Line or transaction not published

Ambulance services, United Kingdom

A sum of the four nations' ambulance services' own accounts (operating expenditure), worked out here, shown only for years all four are published. HM Treasury does not publish a figure for ambulance services: they sit inside its "medical services" line.

£5.5bn in 2024-25 (cash); £5.6bn in 2025-26 prices; £78.80 per resident; +8.7% on a year earlier in cash, +4.6% in real terms.

Ambulance services, United Kingdom: by nation, 2024-25

Nation	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
England	£4.5bn	£4.6bn	£76.15	+4.4%	NHS England	Broken down below
Scotland	£479m	£495m	£86.36	+3.1%	Scottish Ambulance Service	Broken down below
Wales	£325m	£336m	£102	+2.1%	Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust	Broken down below
Northern Ireland	£190m	£197m	£98.72	+17.9%	Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust	Broken down below

England

The sum of the 10 ambulance trusts' operating expenses from their accounts, worked out here, only for years every trust's accounts are in NHS England's data. It is not a Treasury figure, and it leaves out the Isle of Wight's ambulance service, which is not shown separately. Trusts also run NHS 111 and patient transport, which are included.

£4.5bn in 2024-25 (cash); £4.6bn in 2025-26 prices; £76.15 per resident; +8.5% on a year earlier in cash, +4.4% in real terms.

England: by local body, 2024-25

Local body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£756m	£781m	£82.58	+6.2%	NHS England	On its own page
North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£553m	£572m	£71.67	+3.7%	NHS England	On its own page
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£494m	£511m	£75.17	+7.8%	NHS England	On its own page
West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust	£456m	£471m	£73.76	+6.4%	NHS England	On its own page
Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£447m	£462m	£79.07	+6.0%	NHS England	On its own page
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£435m	£449m	£73.85	+4.7%	NHS England	On its own page
South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£382m	£395m	£83.72	−3.0%	NHS England	On its own page
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£365m	£377m	£73.92	−0.2%	NHS England	On its own page
East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust	£331m	£342m	£65.35	+5.1%	NHS England	On its own page
North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	£245m	£254m	£89.29	+5.8%	NHS England	On its own page
Isle of Wight NHS Trust (ambulance service)	not published	not published	—	—	—	On its own page

Scotland

Scotland has one national ambulance service; the figure is its own accounts.

£479m in 2024-25 (cash); £495m in 2025-26 prices; £86.36 per resident; +7.2% on a year earlier in cash, +3.1% in real terms.

Scotland: by department or service body, 2024-25

Department or service body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Scottish Ambulance Service	£479m	£495m	£86.36	+3.1%	Scottish Ambulance Service	On its own page

Wales

Wales has one national ambulance service; the figure is its own accounts.

£345m in 2025-26 (cash); £345m in 2025-26 prices; £109 per resident; +6.2% on a year earlier in cash, +2.8% in real terms.

Wales: by department or service body, 2025-26

Department or service body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust	£345m	£345m	£109	+2.8%	Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust	On its own page

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland has one national ambulance service; the figure is its own accounts.

£153m in 2025-26 (cash); £153m in 2025-26 prices; £79.22 per resident; −19.7% on a year earlier in cash, −22.3% in real terms.

Northern Ireland: by department or service body, 2025-26

Department or service body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust	£153m	£153m	£79.22	−22.3%	Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust	On its own page

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

What comes out: results by body

These are outputs and results published alongside the money. They are not what the money bought: demand, geography and recording practice differ between areas, and none of these figures shows cause and effect.

Each English ambulance trust: response times, handovers and incidents

Body	Category 1 (life-threatening): average response, 2026-10	Category 2 (emergency, such as stroke or heart attack): average response, 2026-10	Handovers taking over an hour, 2026-10	Incidents per 1,000 residents, 2026-10
England	8.0 minutes	32.8 minutes	8.8%	14.8 per 1,000 residents
East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust	9.1 minutes	40.8 minutes	16.5%	15.1 per 1,000 residents
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust	8.5 minutes	45.2 minutes	20.6%	13.3 per 1,000 residents
Isle of Wight NHS Trust (ambulance service)	9.2 minutes	25.0 minutes	4.6%	18.5 per 1,000 residents
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust	7.3 minutes	32.0 minutes	1.7%	15.1 per 1,000 residents
North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	5.6 minutes	20.6 minutes	3.8%	16.3 per 1,000 residents
North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust	7.1 minutes	24.8 minutes	8.2%	14.4 per 1,000 residents
South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	8.8 minutes	34.0 minutes	1.9%	12.1 per 1,000 residents
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	7.3 minutes	28.9 minutes	1.0%	14.7 per 1,000 residents
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust	9.4 minutes	42.3 minutes	9.6%	15.6 per 1,000 residents
West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust	8.2 minutes	25.1 minutes	22.4%	15.2 per 1,000 residents
Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust	8.3 minutes	28.0 minutes	0.9%	16.4 per 1,000 residents

What each measure counts

- **Category 1 (life-threatening): average response** Mean time from the call to the first ambulance response arriving, for category 1 calls (cardiac arrest and other life-threatening conditions), against the national ambulance response standards for England (Ambulance Response Programme, 2017). Target: 7 minutes (category 1 mean).
- **Category 2 (emergency, such as stroke or heart attack): average response** Mean response time for category 2 calls. The standard is 18 minutes; NHS England's planning ambition for 2025-26 was a mean of 30 minutes. Target: 18 minutes (category 2 mean).
- **Handovers taking over an hour** Share of handovers with a known time that took over 60 minutes (AmbSYS A146 ÷ A140).
- **Incidents per 1,000 residents** Incidents in the month per 1,000 residents of the area the trust serves (ONS mid-year estimates; the area is the trust's integrated care boards).

What people say about it

What is behind ambulance delays?

Those who say ambulance service funding and capacity are the main cause

- “The greatest pressure used to be in winter but underfunding and staff shortages now mean it's frantic all year round.” Helga Pile, head of health, UNISON (6 June 2025)
- “Without enough staff, ambulances cannot operate at full capacity and response times suffer.” Jas Athwal MP (Labour), House of Commons (6 March 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).
- “Ambulance services are under incredible pressure but resources have not increased in line with rising demand.” Rachel Harrison, national officer, GMB (30 January 2020) Older statement (2020), outside the preferred window.

Those who say hospital handover delays and social care flow are the main cause

- “Hospital handover delays continue to be a major issue affecting ambulance service performance and the quality of patient care, as they have been for several years now, something the data underlines heavily.” Anna Parry, managing director, Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (23 April 2025)
- “A huge amount of time is lost to ambulance handover delays because there is no space for patients.” Ashley Dalton MP (Labour), Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health, House of Commons (6 March 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).
- “Inability to admit to hospital is a key point in the handover delay problem, and the social care talks are a key measure in solving it.” Helen Morgan MP, Liberal Democrat health spokesperson, House of Commons (6 March 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Each nation measures response times its own way.** England uses categories 1 to 4 with national standards; Wales moved to a new model in July 2025, which breaks its series; Scotland and Northern Ireland publish their own measures. Times are compared within a nation, never across.
- **No Treasury figure for ambulances.** HM Treasury counts ambulance services inside medical services, so the UK figure here is the sum of the services’ own accounts, for years all of them have.
- **Handover delays are hospital as well as ambulance.** Time lost at hospital handover depends on the hospital’s capacity as much as on the ambulance service.
- **Vehicle numbers are not published** as official statistics for any nation.
- **Nothing here shows cause and effect.**

Figures from data/services/ambulance.json, generated 19 November 2026.

The armed forces: spending, people and commitments

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/armed-forces/

£65.4bn was spent on defence in Defence, United Kingdom in 2025-26, **£941** per resident. That is −0.7% on a year earlier after inflation (+2.7% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £48.5bn in 1955-56 to £65.4bn. On NATO's measure the UK spends 2.56% of GDP on core defence (2026, NATO estimate). 137,482 people served in the regular forces on 1 July 2026.

Key figures

£65.4bn
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+2.7% on a year earlier
As of 16 July 2026

−0.7%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£65.4bn in 2025-26 prices
As of 16 July 2026

£941
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 16 July 2026

2.56%
Of GDP on core defence, NATO measure, 2026 (estimate)

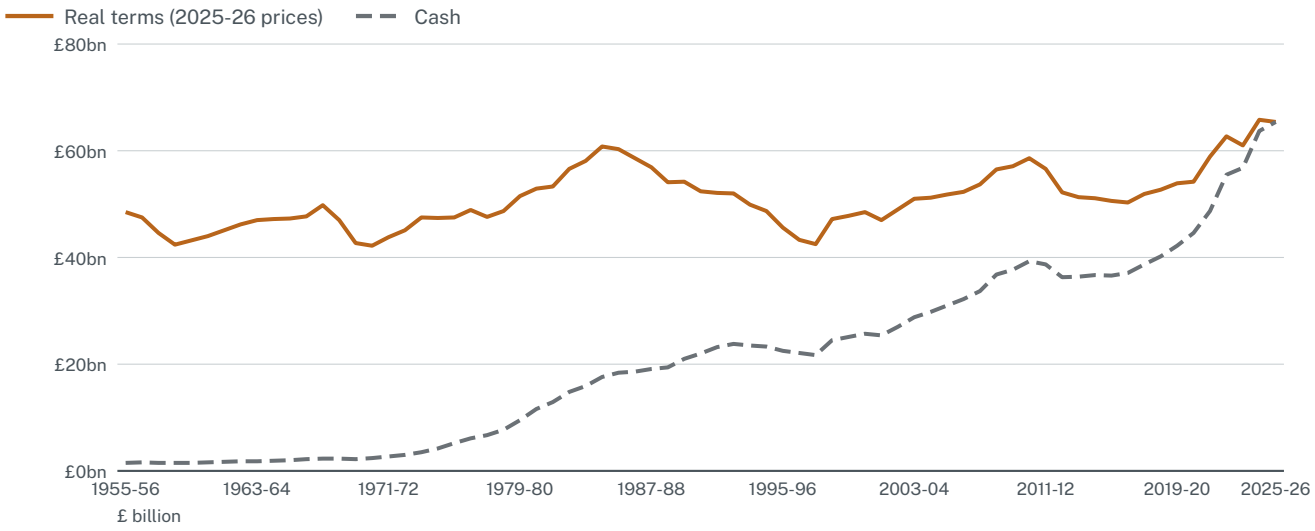
137,482
UK regular forces, 1 July 2026
As of 23 September 2026

The short version

- **Three measures of defence spending:** HM Treasury's by function, the MOD's own budget, and NATO's core defence, which the commitments use. They are shown apart.
- **Defence is spent for the UK as a whole,** so there is no nation or local breakdown.
- **The last Equipment Plan was unaffordable by £16.9bn;** its replacement has no affordability table yet.

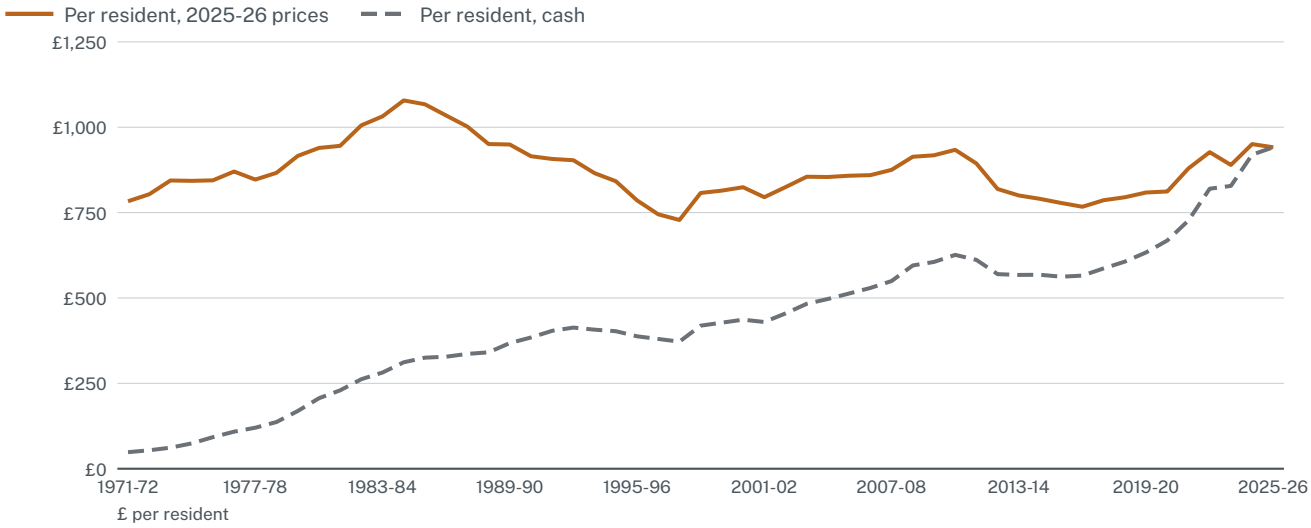
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

Defence, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ billion



Line chart of Defence, United Kingdom spending from 1955-56 to 2025-26: £1.5bn to £65.4bn in cash; £48.5bn to £65.4bn in 2025-26 prices.

Defence, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices

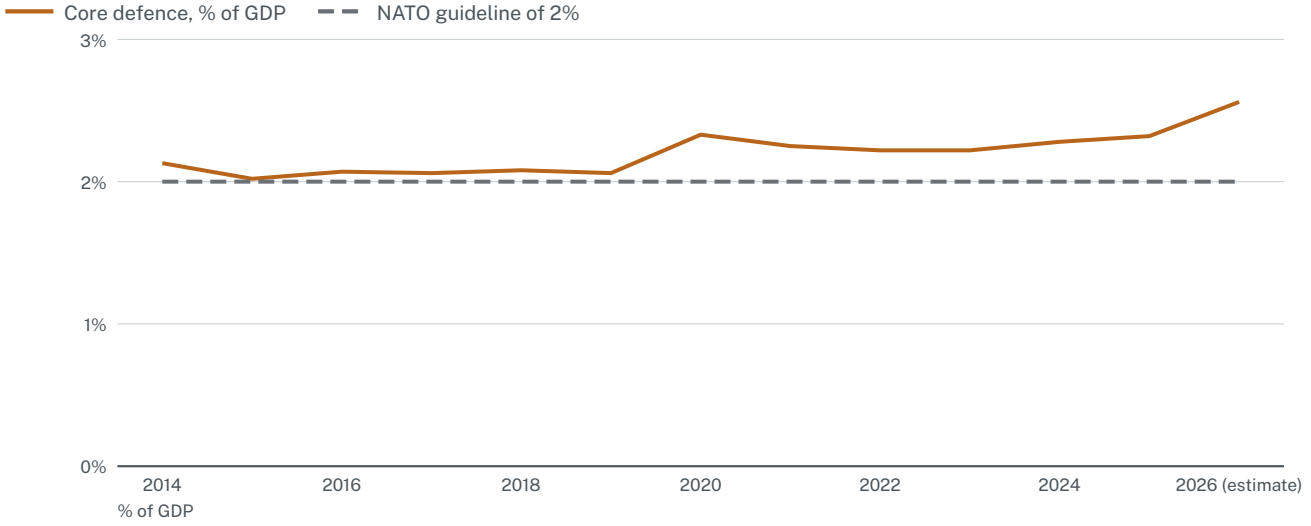


Line chart of Defence, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 1971-72 (£783) to 2025-26 (£941).

Source: HM Treasury, PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables, published 16 July 2026; HM Treasury, PESA 2021: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2016: chapter 4 and 5 tables; HM Treasury, PESA 2011: chapter 4 and 5 tables; Office for Budget Responsibility, Historical public finances database.

Against the commitments: defence as a share of GDP

UK core defence spending as a share of GDP, NATO measure



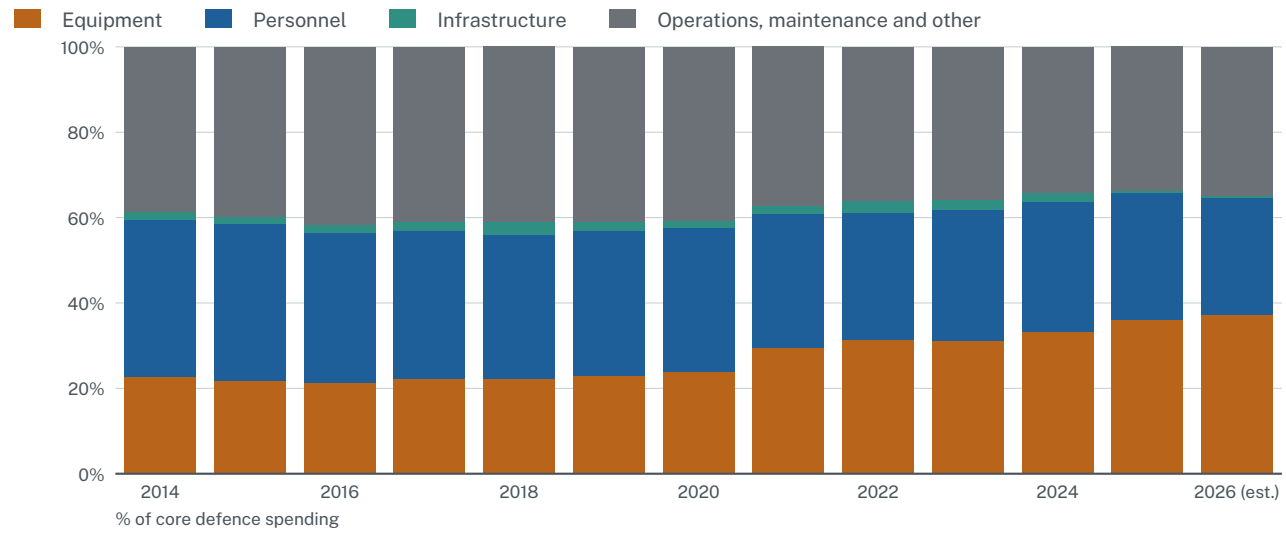
Line chart of UK core defence spending as a share of GDP on NATO's measure, from 2014 (2.13%) to 2026e (2.56%).

UK defence spending commitments

- **25 February 2025** 2.5% of GDP on defence from April 2027, with an ambition of 3% in the next Parliament (Prime Minister's Office, statement of 25 February 2025)
- **24 June 2025** 5% of GDP on national security by 2035: 3.5% on core defence and 1.5% on resilience and security (UK Government, NATO Hague summit announcement)
- **30 June 2026** Defence Investment Plan: NATO core spending of 2.6% of GDP in 2026-27 and 2.7% in each year to 2029-30; 3% a commitment in the next Parliament (Ministry of Defence, the Defence Investment Plan: funding explainer)

Commitments checked against the sources on 24 September 2026.

What UK core defence spending goes on, % of the total, NATO measure



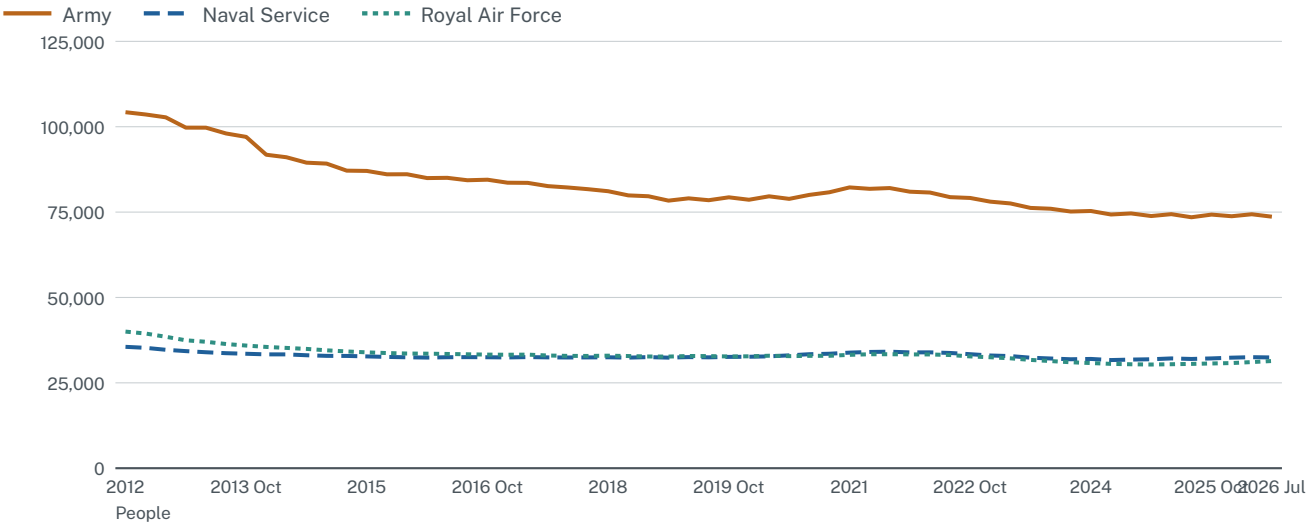
Stacked bar chart of the split of UK core defence spending from 2014 to 2026e: equipment 22.8% to 37.2%, personnel 36.6% to 27.5%.

How many serve

Armed forces headcount, 1 July 2026

Service	People
Army regulars	73,657
Naval Service regulars (Royal Navy and Royal Marines)	32,433
Royal Air Force regulars	31,392
All UK regular forces	137,482
Gurkhas	4,422
Volunteer reserves	32,134

UK regular forces by service, headcount



Line chart of UK regular forces from April 2012 (179,804) to July 2026 (137,482).

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation not published
3. Department or service body
4. Local body not published
5. Spending category

6. Line or transaction

Defence, United Kingdom

HM Treasury's spending on defence by function: military and civil defence, foreign military aid and defence research. It is not the NATO measure, which counts pensions and some other items differently.

£65.4bn in 2025-26 (cash); £65.4bn in 2025-26 prices; £941 per resident; +2.7% on a year earlier in cash, −0.7% in real terms.

Defence, United Kingdom: by department or service body, 2024-25

Department or service body	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Ministry of Defence	£68.5bn	£70.8bn	£989	+6.6%	Ministry of Defence	Broken down below

Ministry of Defence

Total departmental expenditure limits: day-to-day (resource) and capital spending, including depreciation. The categories are the MOD's own, from 2011-12.

£68.5bn in 2024-25 (cash); £70.8bn in 2025-26 prices; £989 per resident; +10.8% on a year earlier in cash, +6.6% in real terms.

Ministry of Defence: by spending category, 2024-25

Spending category	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Personnel Costs	£15.8bn	£16.4bn	£229	+4.9%	Ministry of Defence	Broken down below
Single Use Military Equipment (capital)	£10.7bn	£11.0bn	£154	+5.1%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Equipment Support Costs	£9.4bn	£9.7bn	£135	+8.8%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Other Capital (Fiscal) (capital)	£8.9bn	£9.2bn	£128	+27.2%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Depreciation and Impairment	£8.3bn	£8.6bn	£120	+0.3%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Infrastructure Costs	£5.7bn	£5.9bn	£82.61	+0.9%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Other Costs and Services	£3.5bn	£3.6bn	£50.46	+3.4%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Research and Development Costs (capital)	£3.0bn	£3.1bn	£43.45	+9.3%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.

Spending category	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Inventory Consumption	£1.7bn	£1.8bn	£24.58	−5.3%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
DE&S Bespoke Trading Entity	£1.3bn	£1.3bn	£18.25	−5.3%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
War Pension Benefits	£654m	£676m	£9.44	−3.3%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Cash Release of Provisions	£425m	£439m	£6.14	−10.9%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Arm's Length Bodies	£239m	£247m	£3.45	+5.0%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Research and Development Costs	£232m	£240m	£3.35	+24.0%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
DE&S Bespoke Trading Entity (capital)	£207m	£214m	£2.99	−20.6%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Conflict Stability and Security Fund	£52m	£54m	£0.75	−9.1%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Arm's Length Bodies (capital)	£41m	£42m	£0.59	+27.2%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Conflict Stability and Security Fund (capital)	£0m	£0m	£0.00	—	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
New Loans and Loan Repayments (capital)	−£5m	−£5m	−£0.07	—	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Fixed Asset/Estate Disposal Costs (capital)	−£98m	−£101m	−£1.42	+63.6%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.
Receipts and Other Income	−£1.5bn	−£1.5bn	−£21.37	−4.5%	Ministry of Defence	Line or transaction not published: The MOD publishes its individual payments over £25,000 each month, but not by these categories, so no finer breakdown is shown here.

Personnel Costs

£15.8bn in 2024-25 (cash); £16.4bn in 2025-26 prices; £229 per resident; +9.0% on a year earlier in cash, +4.9% in real terms.

Personnel Costs: by line or transaction, 2024-25

Line or transaction	Cash, 2024-25	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Service Personnel Costs	£13.2bn	£13.6bn	£190	+6.1%	Ministry of Defence	
Civilian Personnel Costs	£2.7bn	£2.8bn	£38.44	−1.0%	Ministry of Defence	

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

Search the department's payments over £25,000

Every payment of £25,000 or more the department published for the latest year, as published. See every department's spending over £25,000 for what each covers.

Ministry of Defence published **31,171 payments** worth **£15.17bn** to 1,424 suppliers and recipients from April 2025 to March 2026 (12 of 12 months published). Payments the MOD judges would harm national security are left out of its files; it publishes a note on these exemptions.

- The newest payment published is from 2026-03, 6 months before this was read.
- 5 rows were dropped because the date or amount could not be read.
- 41% of rows are under £25,000: the department lists individual lines of larger payments, or publishes some smaller ones. They are kept as published.
- 1 payment is dated after the day this was read, which cannot be right; left out.

Searching needs JavaScript. Every payment is in one JSON file.

Source: Ministry of Defence, spending over £25,000 on GOV.UK, Open Government Licence v3.0. 12 files read, newest updated 2026-05-19; every payment kept is in one JSON file.

- MOD's spending over £25,000 for March 2026 (2026-03): 3,378 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for February 2026 (2026-02): 2,206 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for January 2026 (2026-01): 2,201 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for December 2025 (2025-12): 2,669 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for November 2025 (2025-11): 2,241 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for October 2025 (2025-10): 4,944 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for September 2025 (2025-09): 2,562 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for August 2025 (2025-08): 1,936 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for July 2025 (2025-07): 2,526 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for June 2025 (2025-06): 2,161 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for May 2025 (2025-05): 2,163 rows. Read 2026-09-24.
- MOD's spending over £25,000 for April 2025 (2025-04): 2,185 rows. Read 2026-09-24.

Can the plans be paid for?

The last Equipment Plan, for 2023 to 2033, put forecast costs at £305.5bn against a budget of £288.6bn: a gap of **£16.9bn** (6%). The National Audit Office found the plan unaffordable: forecast costs exceeded the budget by £16.9bn, the largest gap since it began reporting on the plan in 2012. (National Audit Office, The Equipment Plan 2023 to 2033, 4 December 2023.)

No Equipment Plan has been published since. The Defence Investment Plan (30 June 2026) replaced it and does not include a costs-against-budget table; the National Audit Office has a review of its affordability under way.

MOD budget in the Defence Investment Plan, £ billion, cash

Year	£ billion
2026-27	£68.3bn
2027-28	£73.8bn
2028-29	£76.5bn
2029-30	£79.1bn

Planned figures, from Ministry of Defence, the Defence Investment Plan: funding explainer. They are plans, not spending, and are shown apart from the outturn figures on this page.

Major programmes

The Ministry of Defence had **44** projects in the Government Major Projects Portfolio at March 2026. 9 were rated red by the independent assessors, meaning successful delivery appeared unachievable without action; 10 amber, 1 green, and 24 had no published rating. Whole-life costs were published for 24, together £95.1bn; the other 20 were withheld, most as commercially sensitive.

The MOD's largest major projects with a published whole-life cost, March 2026

Project	Whole-life cost	Rating
ASTUTE BOATS 1-7	£14.4bn	Not rated
NAVAL SUPPORT INTEGRATED GLOBAL NETWORK (NSIGN)	£14.4bn	Not rated
ARMOURED CAVALRY 2025	£8.9bn	Red
CORE PRODUCTION CAPABILITY	£7.8bn	Amber
LAND ENVIRONMENT TACTICAL COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS	£7.7bn	Amber
DEFENCE ESTATE OPTIMISATION	£5.9bn	Not rated
MECHANISED INFANTRY PROGRAMME	£5.0bn	Amber
MENSA	£3.6bn	Amber

Costs in 2024-25 prices, as the portfolio publishes them. From April 2026 the portfolio was cut to about 80 projects, so next year's figures will not be comparable. Every major project, across government.

Source: Ministry of Defence, Defence departmental resources: 2025, published 15 January 2026; Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Defence annual report and accounts 2025 to 2026, published 15 July 2026.

What people say about it

Should defence spending rise faster towards 3% of GDP or beyond?

Those who say defence spending should rise faster or further

- "Rather than kicking the can down the road, waiting for a fiscal event in a future year, will the Prime Minister urgently commit to charting a pathway to reaching 3% of GDP being spent on defence by 2030?" Tan Dhesi MP (Labour), chair of the Defence Committee, House of Commons (3 September 2026) As quoted by UK Defence Journal (Prime Minister's Questions).
- "That's why we are setting out our plans to reach 3% on defence spending by the end of this Parliament through further cuts to welfare and restoring the two-child benefit cap." Kemi Badenoch MP, Conservative leader, Conservative Party (2 September 2026) As quoted by LBC.
- "Page one of the Review must include a firm commitment to boost defence spending to 3% of GDP as soon as possible." Sir Ed Davey MP, Liberal Democrat leader, Liberal Democrats (1 June 2025)

Those who stress affordability, or spending existing money better first

- "We are going to be in the situation, for the first time in a really long time, where we see both health and defence spending rising as a share of national income." Bee Boileau, economist, Institute for Fiscal Studies (26 September 2025) As quoted by The Telegraph (via Yahoo News). She also said the £36bn a year needed to reach 3.5% was "not a sum that can be found painlessly".

- “But in the midst of these issues, our report finds that the MoD is far behind the curve in preventing the loss of precious public funds which could be spent on keeping our nation safe.” Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP (Conservative), chair of the Public Accounts Committee (29 May 2026) He also said the committee welcomes the aim to spend a rising share of GDP on defence; his concern is the delayed Defence Investment Plan and money lost to fraud and cancelled projects.
- “Security is not just based on arms expenditure and threats, but on real leadership that uses diplomacy and development too.” Ellie Chowns MP, Green Party defence spokesperson (2 June 2025)

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Three measures, not one.** HM Treasury’s spending on defence (the long-run chart), the MOD’s departmental limits (the drill-down) and NATO’s core defence spending (the share of GDP) count different things and do not match.
- **Pensions are counted differently.** HM Treasury puts armed forces and war pensions under social protection; NATO counts them in defence.
- **Plans are not spending.** The Defence Investment Plan budget and the commitments are shown as plans, apart from outturn.
- **Headcount is not capability.** Numbers serving say nothing on their own about readiness or equipment.

Figures from data/services/defence.json, generated 19 November 2026.

Search and rescue: what the taxpayer funds and what charities do

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/search-and-rescue/

£451m was spent on HM Coastguard in HM Coastguard, United Kingdom in 2025-26, **£6.49** per resident. That is +0.8% on a year earlier after inflation (+4.2% in cash). In 2025-26 prices it has gone from £448m in 2024-25 to £451m. The RNLI, which runs most lifeboats, had £251.3m of income in its latest accounts, 60% of it from legacies, and reported £4.4m of government money. The 21 air ambulance charities had £305.2m between them.

Key figures

£451m
Spent in 2025-26, cash
+4.2% on a year earlier
As of 15 July 2026

+0.8%
Real-terms change, 2025-26 on a year earlier
£451m in 2025-26 prices
As of 15 July 2026

£6.49
Per resident, 2025-26
As of 15 July 2026

£251.3m
RNLI income, year to Dec 2024

£305.2m
Income of 21 air ambulance charities, latest accounts

The short version

- **Taxpayer-funded:** HM Coastguard, including the search and rescue helicopters flown under contract.
- **Charity-funded:** the RNLI and independent lifeboats, the air ambulances and mountain, lowland and cave rescue, from donations, legacies, lotteries and shops.
- **Every figure is from filed accounts,** with the date it was checked; years differ between charities.

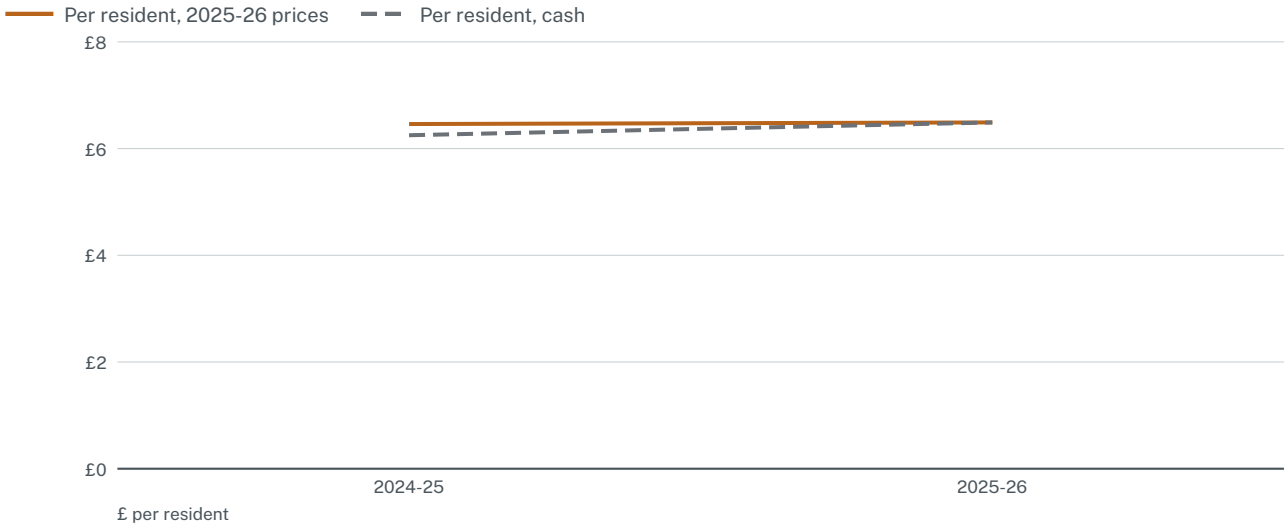
Over the longest run published: cash, real terms and per head

HM Coastguard, United Kingdom: spending in cash and in 2025-26 prices, £ million



Line chart of HM Coastguard, United Kingdom spending from 2024-25 to 2025-26: £433m to £451m in cash; £448m to £451m in 2025-26 prices.

HM Coastguard, United Kingdom: spending per resident, 2025-26 prices



Line chart of HM Coastguard, United Kingdom spending per resident in 2025-26 prices from 2024-25 (£6.46) to 2025-26 (£6.49).

Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Maritime and Coastguard Agency annual report and accounts 2025 to 2026, published 15 July 2026.

Where the money goes, level by level

1. UK total
2. Nation not published
3. Department or service body
4. Local body not published
5. Spending category
6. Line or transaction not published

HM Coastguard, United Kingdom

The taxpayer-funded part of search and rescue: the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's net operating spending, which also covers ship safety and other work.

£451m in 2025-26 (cash); £451m in 2025-26 prices; £6.49 per resident; +4.2% on a year earlier in cash, +0.8% in real terms.

HM Coastguard, United Kingdom: by department or service body, 2025-26

Department or service body	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	£451m	£451m	£6.49	+0.8%	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Broken down below

Maritime and Coastguard Agency

£451m in 2025-26 (cash); £451m in 2025-26 prices; £6.49 per resident; +4.2% on a year earlier in cash, +0.8% in real terms.

Maritime and Coastguard Agency: by spending category, 2025-26

Spending category	Cash, 2025-26	Real terms (2025-26 prices)	Per resident	Real change on a year earlier	Source	Below this
Coastguard operations, ship safety and the rest of the agency	£254m	£254m	£3.65	+7.3%	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Line or transaction not published: The agency's accounts do not split the rest of its spending between coastguard operations and its other work.
Search and rescue aviation	£197m	£197m	£2.84	−6.5%	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Line or transaction not published: The accounts give the helicopter contract's standing, flying and fuel charges in a note, not as data.

Cash is as published. Real terms are in 2025-26 prices, using HM Treasury's GDP deflator. Per resident divides by ONS mid-year population for the area the body serves. Changes compare the same body in consecutive years.

Who pays for what

Who pays: taxpayer-funded and charity-funded rescue services, latest year each

Service	Paid for by	Spending	Government money in it
HM Coastguard (Maritime and Coastguard Agency)	The taxpayer	£451m	all of it
Air ambulance charities (21 charities)	Donations, legacies, lotteries and shops	£281.4m	£3.2m
Lifeboats (RNLI and independent) (24 charities)	Donations, legacies, lotteries and shops	£250.7m (not all reported)	£4.4m
Mountain rescue (48 charities)	Donations, legacies, lotteries and shops	£8.6m	none reported
Lowland search and rescue (73 charities)	Donations, legacies, lotteries and shops	£50k (not all reported)	none reported
Cave rescue (1 charities)	Donations, legacies, lotteries and shops	£20k	not reported

Charity accounts checked against the registers on 24 September 2026.

Air ambulances

Most of the UK's air ambulances are run by charities. The NHS ambulance services dispatch them and, in many areas, supply the doctors and paramedics on board; Scotland also has two helicopters and planes of its own, run by the Scottish Ambulance Service. The helicopters, pilots and bases are paid for by donations.

Air ambulance charities, latest accounts filed

Charity	Income	Spending	Of income from legacies	Government money reported	Reserves, months of spending	Year ending
The Air Ambulance Service	£37.7m	£35.8m	23%	none	13	Dec 2025
London's Air Ambulance	£26.0m	£14.2m	3%	£380k	17	Mar 2025
Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex	£24.4m	£20.8m	22%	£2.2m	22	Mar 2025
Midlands Air Ambulance	£19.9m	£18.5m	39%	none	9	Mar 2025
East Anglian Air Ambulance	£18.8m	£18.3m	27%	none	13	Jun 2025
Wales Air Ambulance	£17.0m	£19.7m	20%	£140k	7	Jul 2025
Essex and Herts Air Ambulance	£16.9m	£18.3m	12%	none	33	Mar 2025
Devon Air Ambulance	£15.8m	£14.8m	53%	none	8	Dec 2024
North West Air Ambulance	£15.6m	£16.1m	20%	none	15	Mar 2025
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance	£13.9m	£11.8m	22%	none	19	Sept 2025
Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance	£13.3m	£11.9m	30%	none	12	Mar 2025
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	£12.3m	£8.2m	61%	none	81	Mar 2025
Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance	£11.0m	£10.1m	31%	none	52	Mar 2025
Great North Air Ambulance	£11.0m	£10.0m	35%	£380k	11	Mar 2025
Thames Valley Air Ambulance	£9.8m	£13.6m	12%	none	8	Mar 2025
Cornwall Air Ambulance	£9.8m	£8.2m	42%	none	6	Dec 2025
Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance	£9.7m	£9.7m	—	not reported	—	Mar 2026
Great Western Air Ambulance	£6.7m	£6.5m	15%	£90k	4	Dec 2024
Magpas Air Ambulance	£5.6m	£6.0m	3%	none	1	Jun 2025
Air Ambulance Northern Ireland	£5.2m	£2.4m	—	not reported	—	Mar 2025
Wiltshire Air Ambulance	£4.8m	£6.4m	—	none	10	Dec 2025

Lifeboats, mountain, lowland and cave rescue

Lifeboat and rescue charities, latest accounts filed

Charity	Income	Spending	Of income from legacies	Government money reported	Reserves, months of spending	Year ending
Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)	£251.3m	£250.7m	60%	£4.4m	7	Dec 2024
Mountain Rescue England and Wales (the national body)	£1.3m	£1.3m	22%	none	14	Dec 2024
Scottish Mountain Rescue	£1.5m	£1.3m	—	not reported	—	Mar 2025
Association of Lowland Search and Rescue	£90k	£50k	—	not reported	—	Mar 2025
British Cave Rescue Council	£14k	£15k	—	not reported	—	Jan 2025

Rescue team charities counted together

Group	Charities	Income	How counted
Mountain rescue team charities, England and Wales	46	£6.8m	Registered charities with 'mountain rescue' in their name, latest accounts on the register; some teams are named differently or are too small to register.
Lowland search and rescue team charities, England and Wales	72	£3.8m	Registered charities with 'lowland' or 'search and rescue' in their name, latest accounts on the register.
Independent lifeboat charities	23	£2.5m	Registered charities running lifeboats outside the RNLI, found by name, latest accounts on the register.

What people say about it

Should lifeboats, air ambulances and mountain rescue get more state funding?

Those who argue for more state funding

- “Government funding would make a major difference, including by helping to upgrade vessels, crew equipment and communication devices, which are all vital to saving lives at sea.” Paul Holmes MP (Conservative), House of Commons (29 October 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches). He asked for the rescue boat grant fund for independent lifeboats to be reinstated.
- “That is why we in the Liberal Democrats are encouraging the Government to increase their support for independent lifeboat organisations through targeted, practical assistance that strengthens the work of these volunteer teams.” Steff Aquarone MP (Liberal Democrat), House of Commons (29 October 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches).
- “The 2025 autumn Budget included the exemption of search and rescue vehicles from vehicle excise duty but, although that was warmly received, it does not address the structural funding gap that these organisations face.” Lisa Smart MP (Liberal Democrat), House of Commons (22 April 2026) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches). Debate on mountain rescue.

Those who stress independence from government funding

- “We will not seek funding from central government if this could jeopardise our independence.” RNLI (stated philosophy), Royal National Lifeboat Institution (5 August 2025) Undated policy page; date is the Internet Archive capture used to check the wording (rnli.org blocks automated fetches).
- “For all these institutions, their strength comes from their independence. Although state provision can provide funding and coverage, it comes at the very significant cost of disenfranchising local communities.” Jerome Mayhew MP (Conservative), House of Commons (29 October 2025) Checked against the official Hansard text via the Hansard API (the web page blocks automated fetches). He also backed restoring capital grants, saying "there is a difference between independence and funding".

Views are attributed to the people and organisations named, with the date and a link to where they said it. This site takes no side.

What these figures do and don't show

- **Different years.** Each charity’s figures are its latest accounts filed with its regulator, so year ends differ. They are not adjusted for inflation and are not a single year’s total.
- **Never added together.** Charity income and government spending are shown side by side; they measure different things.
- **Some public money does not show in charity accounts.** NHS ambulance services supply some air ambulance doctors and paramedics, and charities can reclaim VAT on some costs; neither is charity income.
- **Government money is as the charity reported it** to the regulator (contracts and grants); the register does not say what each contract was for.

Figures from data/services/search-rescue.json, generated 19 November 2026.

Funded or charity: who pays for each emergency service

Public services · Last updated 19 November 2026 · https://whereyourmoneygoes.co.uk/funded-or-charity/

Police, fire and rescue, NHS ambulances and HM Coastguard are paid for by the taxpayer. The lifeboats, most air ambulances and mountain, lowland and cave rescue are charities: the RNLI reported £4.4m of government money out of £251.3m of income. Figures are each body's latest.

Key figures

£451m
HM Coastguard, 2025-26, taxpayer-funded
As of 15 July 2026

£305.2m
Air ambulance charities' income, latest accounts

£253.8m
Lifeboat charities' income, latest accounts

Side by side

Emergency services: who pays, and how much, latest year each

Service	Paid for by	Spending or income
Police	The taxpayer	£31.6bn (2025-26)
Fire and rescue	The taxpayer	£4.2bn (2025-26)
NHS ambulance services	The taxpayer	£5.5bn (2024-25)
HM Coastguard (Maritime and Coastguard Agency)	The taxpayer	£451m (2025-26)
Air ambulance charities	Charity	£305.2m income (latest accounts)
Lifeboats (RNLI and independent)	Charity	£253.8m income (latest accounts)
Mountain rescue	Charity	£9.5m income (latest accounts)
Lowland search and rescue	Charity	£3.9m income (latest accounts)
Cave rescue	Charity	£10k income (latest accounts)

The first rows are public spending for the UK or the nations covered; the charity rows are income from each charity's latest accounts. They are shown together to make clear who pays for what, not to be added up.

Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Maritime and Coastguard Agency annual report and accounts 2025 to 2026, published 15 July 2026; Charity Commission for England and Wales, Register of charities: financial history of each charity; Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, Scottish Charity Register; Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, Register of charities in Northern Ireland.

Should lifeboats, air ambulances and mountain rescue get more state funding?

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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
PESA 2026: chapters 4 and 5 tables	HM Treasury	16 July 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where the £ goes: public spending by function; What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body; Police funding: grant, precept and each force; Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents; The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
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Population estimates (UK and nations time series; local authorities on Nomis)	Office for National Statistics	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where the £ goes: public spending by function
https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates				
GDP deflators at market prices, and money GDP	HM Treasury	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where the £ goes: public spending by function
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/gdp-deflators-at-market-prices-and-money-gdp				
PESA 2011: chapter 4 and 5 tables	HM Treasury	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where the £ goes: public spending by function; What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body; Police funding: grant, precept and each force; Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents; The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
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Historical public finances database	Office for Budget Responsibility	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Where the £ goes: public spending by function; What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body; The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
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PESA 2021: chapter 4 and 5 tables	HM Treasury	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body; Police funding: grant, precept and each force; Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents; The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
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PESA 2016: chapter 4 and 5 tables	HM Treasury	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; The NHS: spending by nation, down to your health body; Police funding: grant, precept and each force; Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents; The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
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Source	Publisher	Figures as of	Licence	Used in
NHS providers: trust accounts consolidation (TAC) data, 2024/25, 2022/23, 2020/21 accounts	NHS England	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times
https://www.england.nhs.uk/financial-accounting-and-reporting/nhs-providers-tac-data-publications/				
Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26	Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times
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Scottish Ambulance Service Board, Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25	Scottish Ambulance Service	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times
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Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust, Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25	Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	What it buys: spending and what is published alongside it; Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times
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Police workforce open data tables	Home Office	22 July 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Police funding: grant, precept and each force
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a58d48c7eb057103bd945ba/open-data-table-police-workforce-220726.ods				
Police funding for England and Wales 2015 to 2027: data tables (Table 4a)	Home Office	19 August 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Police funding: grant, precept and each force
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Fire statistics data tables: FIRE0101, incidents attended by nation	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	28 October 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6ada2a579ea4857e15ab32fb/FIRE0101.xlsx				
Fire statistics data tables: FIRE1001, average response times	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	28 October 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6ada2bb9b62d80a107bc5c02/FIRE1001.xlsx				
Fire statistics data tables: FIRE1101, staff in post by role (FTE)	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	4 December 2025	Open Government Licence v3.0	Fire and rescue: funding, staff, stations and incidents
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/692ec7b82a37784b16ecf84a/FIRE1101.xlsx				
Ambulance Quality Indicators: AmbSYS, to October 2026	NHS England	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Ambulance services: funding, staff and response times
https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2026/11/AmbSYS-to-Oct-2026-b34sa.csv				
Defence expenditure of NATO countries (2026 release): tables	NATO	—	Quoted with attribution (the publisher's own terms) link only	The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
https://www.nato.int/content/dam/nato/webready/documents/finance/def-exp-2026-en.xlsx				

Source	Publisher	Figures as of	Licence	Used in
Quarterly service personnel statistics, 1 July 2026	Ministry of Defence	23 September 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	The armed forces: spending, people and commitments
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6ab2745d997a4b2950cced1a/Accessible_Excel_tables_to_the_UK_armed_forces_quarterly_service_personnel_statis.xlsx				
Maritime and Coastguard Agency annual report and accounts 2025 to 2026	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	15 July 2026	Open Government Licence v3.0	Search and rescue: what the taxpayer funds and what charities do; Funded or charity: who pays for each emergency service
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mca-annual-report-and-accounts-2025-to-2026				
Register of charities: financial history of each charity	Charity Commission for England and Wales	—	Open Government Licence v3.0	Search and rescue: what the taxpayer funds and what charities do; Funded or charity: who pays for each emergency service
https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/				

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