

Council Tax 2023/24



North
Tyneside
Council

   NTCouncilTeam
www.northtyneside.gov.uk

Key council phone numbers

General enquiries

0345 2000 101

Use a key word to be put through to the correct service area. Some examples of key words are council tax, benefits, environment, housing, payments etc.

Emergencies (24 hour)

0330 333 7475

Fraud hotline 0800 854440

or text 0800 3280512

Housing Benefit fraud is now dealt with by the Department for Work and Pensions.

You can report fraud online at

www.gov.uk/report-benefit-fraud

If you need us to do anything differently (reasonable adjustments) to help you access our services, including providing this information in another language or format, please contact

Telephone: 0345 2000 104

Email: team.revenue@northtyneside.gov.uk

Contents

- 4 Mayor's message
- 7 Sharing information and data protection
- 8 What you will pay this year
- 9 Adult Social Care
- 10 Where each £ comes from (2023/24)
- 11 How each £ is spent
- 12 North Tyneside Council budget
- 13 How to pay your Council Tax
- 14 Benefits, exemptions and discounts
- 18 Empty Homes Premium
- 19 Financial help
- 20 Querying your Council Tax band
- 21 Northumbria Police Authority budget
- 22 Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Authority budget
- 23 North of Tyne Combined Authority budget
- 24 Environment Agency budget
- 25 How to get in touch with the council

Elected mayor's message



Dear residents,

As we look towards the year ahead, the Council will continue building the foundations of our recovery from the pandemic, deliver our priorities and provide support to our residents.

We are committed to making North Tyneside a great place to live, work and visit.

This commitment is clear through the priorities of the Council's Our North Tyneside Plan, supporting a borough that is thriving, secure, family-friendly, caring and green.

Every year, the Council must set a balanced budget. Faced with reduced funding from Government and increasing demand for many of our services, setting this year's budget has been difficult. Like many of you, the Council has been impacted by rising energy costs, inflation, increased demand and uncertainty about central Government funding.

As a result of underfunding by central Government and cost pressures, over the next four years we face a potential funding gap of over £35 million.

In North Tyneside, we have a strong track record of sound financial management and we have once again produced a budget that is fair, flexible, and that will help us manage these pressures whilst continuing to deliver on our priorities.

This budget puts a clear focus on supporting our most vulnerable residents and those most impacted by the rise in the cost-of-living.

As part of our wide range of support, we have created the Warm Welcome Scheme, continued to invest in our Council Tax Support Scheme

and this year have created a £3 million funding pot to support council house tenants who are struggling due to the cost-of-living crisis. We have made sure families are provided with direct support for essential costs, including food and clothing, and expanded the advice for anyone who is struggling with debt. We have done this with the continued support of our fantastic voluntary and community sector who deliver community based support, and we will do everything we can to make sure our residents live healthy, safe and fulfilling lives.

We remain committed to investing in all parts of North Tyneside, including with our multi-million pound projects underway in North Shields, our ambitions to redevelop Wallsend and plans for Whitley Bay and the north west of the borough, improving our transport network and supporting our climate change action plan which is helping the Borough work towards becoming carbon net-zero by 2030.

We will do all of this whilst improving our frontline services that we know are essential to our residents, investing in green spaces, sport, leisure and library facilities, tackling health inequalities, building more affordable housing and attracting new businesses and visitors.

Changes to Government funding means our budget has been stretched for many years and whenever we set our budget, we are faced with difficult decisions. Our allocation of funding is based on the Government's assumption that Council Tax will increase by 4.99%.

In line with what the Government expects us to do, we need to raise Council Tax by 2.99%, plus a 2% Adult Social Care precept which will help fund care of the elderly and vulnerable. We must do this to cover the gap created by reduced Government funding and the increased demand on our services. If we didn't, we would need to look at further difficult decisions around the level of services we could provide and the amount of support available for our vulnerable residents.

Elected mayor's message (continued)

As always, we will continue to drive down costs and deliver efficiencies in the coming year by looking to improve our digital systems; helping residents to think digital first and have the confidence to use the latest technology. We will make sure we use our assets to their full potential and look at how we contract for services that we can't deliver in-house, making sure we get the best value for money.

We are proud to be a council that listens and cares. We know we cannot achieve our goals without working closely with our residents, communities, and businesses. Our ambitions are bold, and we can only realise them by working together. We continue to improve our approach to Customer Services in line with what you, our customers, tell us your needs are.

This year's budget was shaped by residents, businesses and communities following a consultation and we are working to address the needs and concerns you care greatly about; we will continue to be a council that works better for you.

There are challenges ahead for us all over the course of the next 12 months, but North Tyneside Council will ensure that it supports all of our residents, businesses and communities when they need it. We can continue to build on our strong foundations for recovery, deliver on our investment programme across our Borough and make North Tyneside a great place to live, work and visit.

Norma Redfearn.

Dame Norma Redfearn DBE
Elected Mayor of North Tyneside



How we will use and share your information

Data Protection

The information held on your account by the council's Revenue and Benefit Service will be used for administering and collecting Council Tax and Business Rates and for the processing of Housing Benefit, Discretionary Housing Payments and Local Council Tax Support claims.

It may be used to make sure you are receiving all the benefits, discounts, exemptions and entitlements to which you are eligible for and to ensure you are paying the correct amount of Council Tax.

This information might include name, address, contact telephone number, reference numbers, email address and information relevant on how we communicate with you, such as large print and any other contact arrangements you have specified.

Your information may be used to improve communication with you.

We will use this information to identify hard to reach groups to promote benefit, discount and entitlement take up and to improve access to our services.

Your information may be used by other departments within the council, where appropriate, to enable the council to effectively carry out its functions, duties and to deliver services.

Information will be held on appropriate secure systems and may be used for the purposes of improving call centre and customer service centre waiting times and to resolve your query as quickly as possible.

The council must protect the public money it handles and for this purpose we may pass your information to other parties who may use the information to detect and prevent crime and fraud, and to assist us in collecting outstanding debt owed to the authority.

These include:

External agencies: such as the Police, HM Revenue and Customs, and HM Inland Revenue.

Government departments: such as the Cabinet Office, for participation in the National Fraud Initiative data matching exercise, Debt Recovery and Vulnerable Support pilot and the Department for Work and Pensions for data matching.

Private sector companies: such as companies that help the authority to collect outstanding debt.

Other organisations responsible for auditing or administering public money, such as the National Audit Office.

For further information on how the council may use your information, how we maintain the security of your information and your rights to access the information we hold on you, please visit our website; www.northtyneside.gov.uk

North Tyneside Council

What you will pay this year

Most homes are subject to Council Tax. There is one bill per home and it makes no difference if it is owner occupied or rented. The Valuation Office Agency, not the council, allocates a valuation band to every home in North Tyneside. The banding is based on the value of your home at April 1, 1991. The property is then placed into one of eight bands. The council uses the valuation banding to work out your Council Tax bill. Your bill shows which band applies to your home. The tax levels for 2023/24 are listed below.

Council Tax Bands						
Tax Band	Value Range	Proportion of Band D	Council Tax £	Single Adult Council Tax (25% Discount) £	Per cent Increase %	
A	up to £40,000	6/9	1,408.23	1,056.17	5.39	
B	£ 40,001 – £ 52,000	7/9	1,642.93	1,232.20	5.39	
C	£ 52,001 – £ 68,000	8/9	1,877.63	1,408.22	5.39	
D	£ 68,001 – £ 88,000	9/9	2,112.34	1,584.25	5.39	
E	£ 88,001 – £120,000	11/9	2,581.74	1,936.30	5.39	
F	£120,001 – £160,000	13/9	3,051.15	2,288.36	5.39	
G	£160,001 – £320,000	15/9	3,520.57	2,640.43	5.39	
H	Over £320,000	18/9	4,224.68	3,168.51	5.39	

North Tyneside Council Valuation Bands (2.99% increase)							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1,071.33	1,249.89	1,428.44	1,607.00	1,964.11	2,321.22	2,678.33	3,214.00

North Tyneside Council Adult Social Care Precept (2% increase)							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
162.77	189.89	217.02	244.15	298.40	352.66	406.92	488.30

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria Valuation Bands (£15 increase at a band D)							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
112.56	131.32	150.08	168.84	206.36	243.88	281.40	337.68

Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Authority Valuation Bands (£5 increase at a band D)							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
61.57	71.83	82.09	92.35	112.87	133.39	153.92	184.70

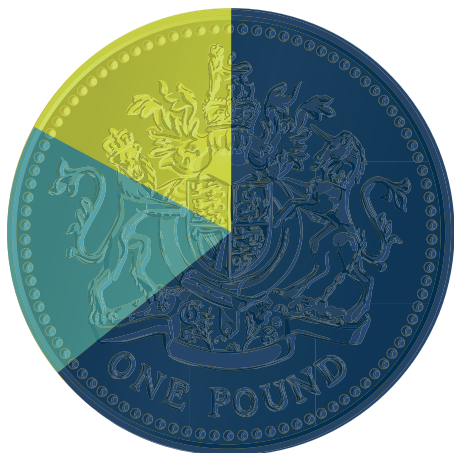
Total Council Tax (5.39% increase)							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1,408.23	1,642.93	1,877.63	2,112.34	2,581.74	3,051.15	3,520.57	4,224.68

Adult Social Care

The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities. (“Adult social care authorities” are local authorities which have functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014, namely county councils in England, district councils for an area in England for which there is no county council, London borough councils, the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly.)

The offer was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional “precept” on its Council Tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

Where each £ comes from (2023/24)



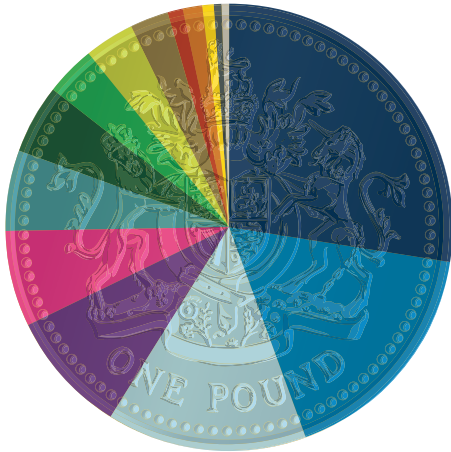
- 64.3p Council Tax**
£117,289,741
- 18.6p Government funding
(Revenue Support Grant
and Top Up Grant)**
£33,975,590
- 17.1p Business Rates
retention**
£31,193,251

Total funding: £182,458,582



**North
Tyneside
Council**

How each £ is spent



NorthTyneside Council budget

2022/23			2023/24		
Gross Expenditure £000s	Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
EXPENDITURE					
17,075	-28,763	-11,688	20,302	-34,779	-14,477
408	0	408	417	0	417
49,277	-37,059	12,218	48,744	-34,469	14,275
4,567	-1,102	3,465	5,074	-1,102	3,972
52,869	-16,394	36,475	57,295	-16,627	40,668
1,211	-672	539	1,955	-737	1,218
155,348	-78,577	76,771	154,311	-70,891	83,420
12,172	-13,775	-1,603	12,092	-14,123	-2,031
16,825	-6,227	10,598	17,096	-6,227	10,869
70,608	-56,629	13,979	71,390	-56,879	14,511
380,360	-239,198	141,162	388,676	-235,834	152,842
		2,341			-1,117
		7,739			17,702
		12,270			13,032
		0			0
		163,512			182,459
		184,788			197,763
		348,300			380,222
SOURCES OF FINANCE					
		-1,324			1,237
		109,720			116,052
		11,797			13,285
		184,788			197,763
		22,814			31,193
		20,505			20,692
		348,300			380,222
ESTIMATED FINANCIAL RESERVES AT YEAR END					
		17,249			13,497
		64,431			95,737
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
		11,881			12,597
		207			216
		57			57
		125			162
		12,270			13,032

How to pay your Council Tax

Please note payment must reach us on or before the instalment due date as shown on the bill. Payments made at a PayPoint Outlet can take up to 5 days to reach the council.

By Direct Debit

To set up a Direct Debit for Council Tax

visit: www.northtyneside.gov.uk/counciltax
or telephone: 0345 2000 101.

To set up a Direct Debit for Business Rates

contact: (0191) 643 2365.

By Debit or Credit Card

You can pay your bill by Maestro, Delta, MasterCard or Visa, either:

- online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk and search 'pay for it'
- by telephoning **0345 2000 107** – please have your card details and Council Tax account number ready when you call.
- At a payment kiosk at our Customer First Centres (see back page) you will need to bring your Council Tax account number with you.

At any PayPoint Outlet or Post Office (by cash or card)

Simply take your bill with barcode on along to any PayPoint outlet or Post Office.

For more details about methods of payment

telephone: 0345 2000 101

email: team.revenue@northtyneside.gov.uk

Benefits, exemptions and discounts

How to claim them

Council Tax Support

People on low incomes may receive help to enable them to pay their bill.

You can claim support by completing an electronic application at www.northtyneside.gov.uk/benefits

Don't delay in making a claim. In normal circumstances, the council can only pay benefit from the Monday immediately following the day your claim is received.

Appeals

You can appeal against your Council Tax bill if you consider that you are not liable to pay the amount you have been charged. This may be because you are not the owner or do not live in the property, or because the property is exempt, or the council has made a mistake when calculating your bill.

If you wish to appeal, you must write to the council so that it has the opportunity to reconsider your case.

Making an appeal does not allow you to withhold payment. If your appeal is successful any overpaid tax will be returned to you.

For more details on the appeals process, write to:

**North Tyneside Council,
Team Revenue, Quadrant,
Cobalt Business Park,
North Tyneside NE27 0BY.**

or email:
team.revenue@northtyneside.gov.uk

Benefit fraud

People caught making false claims for housing benefit and Council Tax Support may be fined or even jailed.

Anyone who suspects a person of making a false benefit claim can ring the hotline in confidence.

**Don't ignore it,
REPORT IT**

**Fraud hotline
0800 854440
or text
0800 3280512**

Benefits, exemptions and discounts

How to claim them – continued

Exempt Dwellings

Some dwellings are exempt from Council Tax. Exemption applies to properties which:

- are vacant and owned by a charity (exempt for up to six months)
- are left empty by someone who has gone into prison, or who has moved to receive personal care in a hospital or a home or elsewhere
- are left empty by someone who has moved in order to provide personal care to another person
- are left empty by students
- are vacant following the death of the occupier and where relatives are waiting for probate or letters of administration to be granted (and for up to six months after)
- have been repossessed by a mortgagee
- are the responsibility of a bankrupt's trustee
- are empty because to live in them is forbidden by law
- are waiting to be occupied by a minister of religion
- are a pitch for a caravan or a mooring for a boat which has been left empty

- are occupied only by people under 18 years of age
- are unoccupied annexes which cannot be let separately from the main dwelling
- are occupied only by people who are severely mentally impaired or who are students
- are occupied by a person liable for Council Tax who benefits from diplomatic immunity
- are the home of a dependent relative of a person living in a dwelling within the same single property.

Forces barracks and married quarters are exempt; their occupants contribute to the cost of local services through a special arrangement.

If you think your property may be exempt, download the appropriate application form from our website at:
www.northtyneside.gov.uk

You can contact any one of the council's Customer First Centres (see back page) or telephone **0345 2000 101**.

If your bill shows that an exemption has been allowed, you must tell the council of any change of circumstances which affects your entitlement. If you fail to do so, you may be required to pay a financial penalty.

Benefits, exemptions and discounts

How to claim them – continued

Discounts

The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are a minimum of two adults living in a dwelling. An adult is defined as a person aged 18 or over. If only one adult lives in a dwelling, the Council Tax bill is reduced by a quarter (25 per cent).

People in the groups listed below do not count towards the number of adults treated as living at a property:

- full-time students, non-British spouses of students, student nurses, apprentices earning no more than £195 per week and Youth Training trainees
- patients living in a hospital
- people who are being looked after in care homes
- people who are severely mentally impaired
- people staying in certain hostels or night shelters
- 18 and 19 year-olds who are at, or have just left, school
- careworkers working for no more than £44 per week
- people caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner, or child under 18
- members of visiting forces and certain international institutions

- diplomats, or people who benefit from diplomatic immunity
- discount may be available to a relative living in a self contained annex of the main dwelling
- members of religious communities (monks and nuns)
- people in prison (except those in prison for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine).

If you think you may be entitled to a discount, you can download the appropriate application form from our website at: www.northtyneside.gov.uk

You can contact any one of the council's Customer First Centres (see back page) or telephone **0345 2000 101**.

If your bill shows that a discount has been allowed, you must tell the council of any change of circumstances which affects your entitlement. If you fail to do so you may be required to pay a financial penalty.

Benefits, exemptions and discounts

How to claim them – continued

People with Disabilities

If you or someone who lives with you needs a room, or an extra bathroom or kitchen, or extra space in your property to meet special needs arising from a disability, you may be entitled to a reduced Council Tax bill. This may apply, for example, to a room used to house a kidney dialysis machine or to store wheelchairs.

The bill may be reduced to that of a property in the band immediately below the band for your property.

Special rules extend this form of relief to properties in Band A, to ensure a similar level of relief is awarded.

For further details of this scheme, download the appropriate application form from our website at: www.northtyneside.gov.uk

You can contact any one of the council's Customer First Centres (see back page) or telephone **0345 2000 101**.

If your home has any special fixtures added for a disabled resident, which reduce the value of your home, and you do not think they have been taken into account in the valuation band given to your home, you should contact the Valuation Office Agency. Contact methods are set at www.gov.uk/contact-voa

Empty Homes Premium

At its meeting on the 16 January 2020, it was determined by Council that, from 1 April 2020, the Authority would implement an Empty Homes Premium. This is an increase in the Council Tax charge and is applied when a property is empty and substantially unfurnished over a certain period of time. Over 330 properties in the Borough have currently been empty and substantially unfurnished for a period in excess of two years. This premium is being applied to encourage owners of long-term empty properties to bring them back into occupation and is in line with Government legislation. Using funding generated from this additional premium, the Authority will work with owners to assist them to bring them back into use. From 1 April 2020 the Empty Homes Premiums being applied are as follows:

- where a property has been empty and unfurnished for two years but less than five years an additional 100% Council Tax Premium will be applied; and
- where a property has been empty five years or more the Council Tax Premium is increased to 200%.

In addition, Council also determined on 16 January 2020 that from April 2021, where a property has been empty for ten years or more, the Council Tax Premium would increase to 300%.

Financial help

Council Tax is a priority debt and, like your rent or mortgage, should be paid before all other debts or spending.

There are a number of options available to make payment easy for you.

- 10 or 12 monthly instalments by direct debit on the 1st, 8th, 15th or 25th day of the month
- weekly or monthly payment using a barcode at any of our Customer First Centres, PayPoint outlets or Post Offices
- over the internet at our website www.northtyneside.gov.uk
- via the telephone on **0345 2000 107**

If you have a low income, you may be entitled to Local Council Tax Support. There are also a number of Council Tax discounts available depending on your household circumstances. Make sure you claim all your entitlements to reduce the amount you have to pay.

We want to make payment as easy as possible for you. So if you are finding it difficult to pay, make sure you talk to us and get help as early as possible and before you incur additional fees and charges. For people who are struggling to pay we will offer as much help and support as we can. For those who are simply reluctant to pay we will use all the legal powers that are available to us to collect the money that is due.

- For Council Tax & Benefit enquiries, contact **0345 2000 101**
- To pay by direct debit, contact **0345 2000 101**
- To email us, send your message to team.revenue@northtyneside.gov.uk

If you do need independent debt advice, please contact one of the free advice organisations listed below.

Citizens Advice Bureau	0808 278 7822	www.citizensadvice.org.uk
Civil Legal Advice	0345 345 4345	www.gov.uk/civil-legal-advice
Step Change	0800 138 1111	www.stepchange.org
Money Helper	0300 500 5000	www.moneyhelper.org.uk
National Debt Line	0808 808 4000	www.nationaldebtline.org

Querying your Council Tax band

The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) values domestic properties for Council Tax. This valuation is used to set your Council Tax band. You might need to contact the VOA if you think your Council Tax band is wrong.

You can find out more about when you can challenge your band and what you need to do at [gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band](https://www.gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band).

If you challenge your band, you must continue to pay Council Tax at your current band until your appeal is decided.

You can contact the VOA at [gov.uk/contact-voa](https://www.gov.uk/contact-voa). If you are unable to use the online service, you can also contact the VOA on **03000 501 501**.

If, after raising your query with the agency, you still believe your banding is incorrect you may be able to make a formal appeal but only under limited circumstances.

Generally you can only appeal within SIX MONTHS of:

- Becoming a new Council Tax payer for a property
- The agency notifying you that your banding has changed

You can also appeal at any time if:

- Your property has been demolished
- Physical changes have occurred in the proximity of the property, which have an effect on the April 1, 1991 market value
- Your property has been adapted to make the property suitable for someone with a disability.

For a full list of circumstances when a valid appeal is permitted, visit www.voa.gov.uk

You must continue to pay your Council Tax bill while you have any banding query or appeal pending.

Northumbria Police Authority budget

Message from the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

This precept sets the funding increase for Northumbria Police in 2023/24 to give a major boost to neighbourhood policing teams and help protect the force from the impact of significant budget pressures and spiralling inflation. Raising the precept really isn't an easy decision but as Police Commissioner I feel I have been forced into a corner on this. If Government won't foot the bill, I'm left with turning to local people – those who care about our region being safe and free from crime.

People here in the North East repeatedly tell me they want more police officers out on the streets, in the heart of our local communities, and I'm with them on that. To deliver this, we need more money from somewhere.

To address the challenges facing Northumbria Police I have approved an increase of 125p per month for a Band D property. For the majority of households in Northumbria, those in a Band A property, the increase is 83p per month. The increase in the precept will provide over £6m in extra funds for 2023/24 which will help deliver a shake-up to neighbourhood policing that will make officers more visible across communities. The Band D council tax precept for Northumbria will increase from £153.84 to £168.84 for the year. This remains, by far, the lowest precept of any Police and Crime Commissioner in England and Wales. You can find more information on the OPCC website www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

2022/23				2023/24		
Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s		Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
363,594	24,262	339,332	SERVICE	388,145	40,617	347,528
		339,332	Police			
			General			
			BUDGET REQUIREMENTS			347,528
			LESS			
		265,227	Formula Grant			266,147
		3,423	Special Pension Grant			3,423
		6,867	Council Tax Support Grant			6,867
		1,301	Legacy Council Tax Freeze Grants			1,301
		694	Constituent Authorities' Net Surplus (Deficit)			905
		61,820	COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT			68,885
		£9.573m	Charge on North Tyneside			£10.585m
		£153.84	Band 'D' Equivalent Charge			£168.84
			Change in Council Tax Requirement between years is attributable to:			
			Pay awards, inflation, recruitment, budget pressures and other budget adjustments			30,164
			Budget reductions and efficiencies			(9,600)
			Increase in government grant funding			(920)
			Increase in ring-fenced Uplift grant			(4,312)
			Increase in Council Tax Net Surplus			(211)
			Planned use of Earmarked Reserves			(8,056)
						7,065

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority budget

2022/23			2023/24			
Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s		Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
55,681	6,444	49,237	FIRE SERVICE	59,305	5,757	53,548
2,291	0	2,291	Contingency Provision	4,266	0	4,266
0	41	(41)	Interest on Balances	0	613	(613)
57,972	6,485	51,487	BUDGET REQUIREMENTS	63,571	6,370	57,200
			SOURCES OF FINANCE			
0	11,457	(11,457)	Revenue Support Grant	0	12,162	(12,162)
0	9,263	(9,263)	Top Up Grant	0	10,203	(10,203)
0	3,341	(3,341)	Business Rate Local Share	0	3,415	(3,415)
0	1,589	(1,589)	Business Rates Under Indexation Grant	0	2,747	(2,747)
0	1,072	(1,072)	Service Delivery Grant	0	629	(629)
0	222	(222)	Council Tax Collection Fund Net (Surplus)/Deficit	0	385	(385)
1,071	0	1,071	Business Rates Collection Fund Net (Surplus)/Deficit	0	155	(155)
59,043	33,429	25,614	COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	63,571	36,066	27,505
		4,090	Estimated General Fund Balances		31/03/2023	4,090
			Variance		31/03/2024	4,090
		10,350	Estimated Loans Outstanding at 31/03/2023			0
		12,655	Forecast Capital Expenditure for 2023/2024			9,919
		856	Employees (Full time Equivalent)			14,184
						878

The Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority comprises members from each of the five districts of Tyne and Wear County and is responsible for running our fire brigade.

The Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority will spend **£57.201 million** this financial year. This is **£5.714 million** more than in **2022/23 budget**. The net increase in Council Tax Requirement is **£1.891 million** compared with 2022/23.

For **2023/24** the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority have raised their element of Council Tax by £5.00.

This is an overall sum of **£5,789,606** in North Tyneside which is the equivalent to **£92.35** per Band D.

Changes in Council Tax requirement from 2022/23 are due to

	£000s
Net Cost Pressures	5,173
Decrease in Net Use of Reserves	516
Increase in net Government Funding	(2,335)
Increase in Business Rates Local Share	(73)
Increase in Collection Fund Net Surplus	(1,390)
Increase in Council Tax Requirement	1,891

North of Tyne Combined Authority

On 2 November 2018, the boundaries of NECA were changed by the Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2018. As a result of these governance changes the boundaries of NECA now cover the Local Authorities of Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland. NECA and the Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority will work together on a number of areas to support the region, including Transport. The North East Joint Transport Committee (JTC) has been established to exercise the functions of the two Transport Authorities, including the setting of levies and budgets for transport activity.

	2022/23 Transport Budget	2023/24 Transport Budget
	£000s	£000s
GROSS TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE		
Tyne Tunnel	32,778	36,553
Transport co-ordination and former ITA	3,163	4,504
NEXUS (Grant from JTC* & External Grants - net of commercial income)	97,533	106,206
Durham (Grant from JTC*)	15,609	16,902
Northumberland (Grant from JTC*)	6,347	6,448
	155,430	170,613
INCOME		
Tyne Tunnels	(32,780)	(36,141)
	(32,780)	(36,141)
NET TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE	122,650	134,472
Reserves		
Contribution from Tyne Tunnel Reserves	0	(412)
Contribution from Tyne and Wear Transport Reserves	0	(1,108)
Contribution from Nexus Reserves	(5,600)	(7,992)
EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENT	117,050	124,960
Funded by		
Tyne and Wear Transport Levy	(65,225)	(67,800)
Durham Transport Levy	(15,619)	(16,912)
Northumberland Transport Levy	(6,357)	(6,458)
Rail Grants and Miscellaneous Grants	(29,849)	(33,790)
FUNDING AGREED BY AUTHORITY	(117,050)	(124,960)

A comparison with previous NECA Transport budget:	
	£000
Inflation and other cost pressures	15,183
Increased income	(3,361)
Movement on contributions from reserves	(3,912)
	7,910

Please note: the Tyne Tunnels expenditure requirement is met fully from Tunnels reserves and tolls income, with no levy funding.

* The JTC agrees an annual grant to the Tyne & Wear Integrated Transport Executive (Nexus), Durham County Council and Northumberland County Council in respect of revenue support and concessionary travel.

Environment Agency budget

The Council Tax (Demand Notices) (England) Regulations 2011

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Functions under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Environment Agency (Levies) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Environment Agency has powers in respect of flood and coastal erosion risk management for 1642 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. Money is spent on the construction of new flood defence schemes, the maintenance of the river system and existing flood defences together with the operation of a flood warning system and management of the risk of coastal erosion. The financial details are:

2022/23		2023/24
£000s		£000s
21,272	Gross Expenditure	30,073
2,494	Levies Raised	2,619
749	Total Council Tax Base	759

The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). However, under the new Partnership Funding rule not all schemes will attract full central funding. To provide local funding for local priorities and contributions for partnership funding the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees recommend through the Environment Agency a local levy.

A change in the gross budgeted expenditure between years reflects the programme of works for both capital and revenue needed by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to which you contribute. The total Local Levy raised by this committee has increased by 5.0%.

The total Local Levy raised has increased from £2,494,462 in 2022/2023 to £2,619,185 for 2023/2024.

How to get in touch with the council

We want to make it easy for you to contact the council – and that includes online, by phone, email, in writing, or in person.

Online

www.northtyneside.gov.uk
mycare.northtyneside.gov.uk
www.livingwellnorthtyneside.co.uk

   **NTCouncilTeam**

Email

contact.us@northtyneside.gov.uk

Telephone

0345 2000 101

Weekdays between 7.30am – 8pm.

Other main numbers:

- **Emergencies (24 hour)**
0330 333 7475
- **Housing and repairs**
0345 2000 102
- **Envirolink**
0345 2000 103
- **Council tax and benefits**
0345 2000 104

Post

North Tyneside Council
Quadrant, The Silverlink North
Cobalt Business Park
North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

In person

Staff can provide advice and information on a range of council services, including housing and benefits. We also have self-service PCs and free Wifi to help you complete Council forms.

- **Killingworth Customer First Centre**
White Swan Centre, Citadel East
Killingworth, NE12 6SS
Monday to Thursday, 9am – 4.30pm
Friday, 9am – 4pm
- **North Shields Customer First Centre**
Northumberland Square
North Shields, NE30 1QU
Monday to Thursday, 9am – 4.30pm
Friday, 9am – 4pm
- **Wallsend Customer First Centre**
Forum House, Segedunum Way
Wallsend, NE28 8LX
Monday to Thursday, 9am – 4.30pm
Friday, 9am – 4pm
- **Whitley Bay Customer First Centre**
York Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 1AB
Monday to Thursday, 9am – 4.30pm
Friday, 9am – 4pm

We can help with most enquiries at our reception desk, you may need to make an appointment to see an advisor for some enquiries. You can book a Customer Service appointment at our reception desk or by calling **0345 2000 106**.

