

## Did you know Council Tax makes up more than half of the funding we receive each year?

Here is where our funding will come from in 2025/26 - and the broad areas it will be spent.



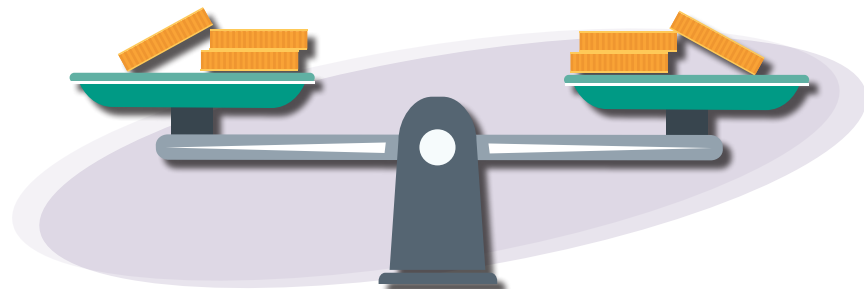
- Council Tax (£109.6m)
- Adult Social Care precept (£22.1m)
- Retained Business Rates (£30.6)
- Social Care Funding (£22m)
- Other grants/Collection fund (£2.7m)



- Adult Social Care and Public Health (41%)
- Children's Social Care and Education (23%)
- Place (Planning, Economy, Public Protection, Environment, Transport, Waste and Recycling) (20%)
- Resources (Corporate Services) (8%)
- Capital Financing (8%)

## Our spending plans for 2025/26

Making West Berkshire greener, fairer, and more prosperous, with thriving communities and services we are proud of





**Councillor Jeff Brooks**  
**Leader of West Berkshire Council**

In setting our budget we must find the right balance between protecting the most vulnerable people across our District, improving the services we provide to all our residents and investing in our local economy.

And we must make sure that our financial reserves are healthy to respond to growing pressures, particularly within our children and adult care needs, and to be available as “rainy day money.”

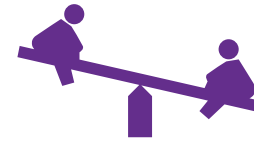
There are tremendous financial demands across the country within local councils and we are not immune to these pressures. We are spending much more on children and adult care – investing over £8m extra in this area in the next year as demand continues to grow.

We are also transforming the way we do things, and you should see continuing improvements in our services. Greater efficiency has enabled us to invest in our sports centres and our libraries as well as our roads, where we will spend nearly £10m next year on re-surfacing, white lining and other essential works.

We must protect, invest in and improve our services and I am confident that this budget will achieve these aims. Together – councillors and council officers - we will continue to deliver services you can be proud of, and which we are proud to deliver.



**Our £73m capital programme is funding these projects in 2025/26 - and many others too.**



**£100,000**  
on new playground  
equipment



**£12m**  
improving our roads



**£400,000**  
to improve pavements



**£146,000**  
on new library  
books



**£50,000**  
to provide real-time  
passenger  
information and  
other public  
transport  
infrastructure



**£2.4m**  
on nutrient neutrality  
projects to improve  
the River Lambourn



**£1.6m**  
on active travel  
projects



**£1m**  
providing two additional  
classrooms at Brookfields School



**£18.6m**  
delivering a new  
solar farm