

# **Council Tax Information**

# **Council Tax Charges - Enquiries**

For queries concerning your charges please refer your enquiries to the relevant charging authority on the following telephone numbers:-

Nottinghamshire County Council (Customer Voice) 0300 500 8080 Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner 101 Combined Fire Authority 0115 967 0880 Rushcliffe Borough Council (Customer Services) 0115 981 9911 Parish Charges - please contact individual Parish Clerk

### **Valuation**

The valuation of domestic property for Council Tax purposes is not carried out by Rushcliffe Borough Council. The value of your home has been assessed by the Valuation Office Agency, which is part of HM Revenue & Customs. Your home has been placed in one of eight valuation bands based on its estimated sale price on 1st April 1991. The fact that homes may be worth more today does not mean they have been put into the wrong band – the banding date was chosen in order to establish how much homes were worth relative to similar properties in the area and the bandings are not affected by any general movement in house prices. You can appeal if you think your house has been put in the wrong valuation band, but the rules are quite strict. **No appeals will be allowed if they are solely on the grounds of the general movement in house prices.** 

### Appeals may only be lodged if:

- there has been a material increase or reduction in the dwelling's value resulting from a physical change to the building or;
- you start or stop using part of the building to carry out a business or the balance between domestic and commercial use changes or;
- where you become the taxpayer in respect of that dwelling and less than six months have elapsed from that date.

Full details on how to appeal are available on the Valuation Office Agency website.

# **Council Tax Bandings**

Band A Property worth up to £40,000

Band B over £40,000 and up to £52,000

Band C over £52,000 and up to £68,000

Band D over £68,000 and up to £88,000

Band E over £88,000 and up to £120,000

Band F over £120,000 and up to £160,000

Band G over £160.000 and up to £320.000

Band H over £320,000

#### **Discounts Allowable**

Council Tax is made up of two equal parts. One part relates to the property and the other to the people who live there. The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are two adults living in a dwelling, so if there is only one adult resident in the property you may qualify for a 25% discount.

Certain groups of people are not counted when looking at the number of adults resident in a dwelling for Council Tax purposes, provided they meet certain conditions. These include:-

- Full-time students, student nurses, apprentices and Youth Training trainees
- 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
- Care workers working for low pay, usually for Charities
- People caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner, or child under 18
- Members of visiting overseas forces and certain international institutions
- Members of religious communities
- People in prison (except those in prison for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine)
- Diplomats and members of international organisations headquartered in the U.K.

If you fall into one of these categories, then please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0115 981 9911 to check if you are entitled to a discount.

### **Empty properties**

The Council has discretionary powers to vary the level of discounts awarded and has used these powers as follows:-

- Properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished for less than 4 weeks are entitled to a 50% discount.
- Properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished for more than 4 weeks are not entitled to a
  discount and council tax is charged at the full rate.
- After 2 years, a 100% premium will be applied and for properties that have been empty for over 5 years, the premium rises to 200%. From 1 April 2021, the premium for properties that have been empty for over 10 years increases to 300%.

## Council Tax is not payable on some dwellings

The Government has decided that Council Tax will not be payable on some properties (including those occupied only by students). Below are the main descriptions of exempt properties:

- Properties owned by charities which have been empty for less than 6 months.
- Properties left empty by someone going to prison.
- Properties left empty by someone going to live in a hospital, care home or a nursing home.
- Properties left empty after someone has died and probate or letters of administration have not been granted. The exemption lasts until probate is granted and for 6 months after this whilst unoccupied.
- Empty properties which the law says cannot be occupied.
- Empty properties waiting to be used by a Minister of Religion.
- Properties left empty by someone who has moved to receive care, other than to a hospital, care home or nursing home. For example, a disabled person moving to live with a caring relative.
- Properties left empty by someone who has moved to care for another person.
- Empty properties owned and last used by a student (exemption lasts as long as the person who would normally pay the Council Tax is a full-time student).
- Empty properties repossessed because of non -payment of a mortgage.
- Student Halls of Residence.
- Properties in which only full-time students live.
- Properties used by the Armed Forces.
- Properties for which a member of a visiting force is liable.
- Properties for which a trustee of a bankrupt person is liable.
- A caravan pitch or boat mooring that is not used.
- Properties where only people under 18 live.
- Empty properties which are part of a bigger building and cannot be let separately because of planning rules. For example, this could apply to empty granny flats.
- Properties where only people who are severely mentally impaired live.
- Properties in which a diplomat or member of an international organisation headquartered in the UK live (as defined in regulations).
- Annexe/self-contained properties occupied by elderly or disabled relatives.

If you are receiving an exemption, you must tell the Council about any changes which may affect the exemption within 21 days of the change. More advice on exempt properties, including discretionary reductions, is available from our Customer Service Centre.

#### Other discounts

There are the following discounts also available:

- Occupied annexe discounts
- Certain young people who have been in local authority care
- Discretionary discounts following financial hardship
- Tied accommodation

If you think any are applicable to you please contact us for further details.

### If you are disabled

You may qualify for a one band reduction in your Council Tax banding if you, or someone who lives with you, is substantially and permanently disabled. Properties in Band A will qualify for a reduction equal to 1/9th of a Band D property charge. To qualify, the disabled person must be living in the dwelling for which the reduction is being sought and there must be:-

- a room which is predominantly used by and required for meeting the needs of the disabled person; or
- a second bathroom or kitchen adapted for the needs of the disabled person; or
- a need to use a wheelchair indoors by the disabled person.

## Help & Advice

If you need any help or advice regarding your Council Tax, then please call our Customer Service Centre on 0115 981 9911 or <u>visit the Council Tax webpages</u>.

Please visit here for our contact details and opening times.

For information about paying your Council Tax, please see the back of your bill or <u>visit the Pay council tax webpage.</u>

### **Business Rates**

For information regarding Business Rates, please visit the Business Rates webpages.

# **Complaints**

If you have a problem or complaint about any of the services provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council, please visit the complaints webpage.

# **Council Tax Recovery**

If you have arrears, then please contact us to discuss this. Click here to access our recovery policy.

#### **Fraud Prevention**

To help prevent fraudulent claims for Council Tax discounts, Council Tax data will be shared with the Audit Commission and other organisations for comparison with their records.

# Help us to help you

You are required to inform the Council, in writing, within 21 days, of any changes in your circumstances which may affect your entitlement to any discounts, exemptions and disabled reductions. Failure to do so may result in a penalty of  $\mathfrak{L}70$  being imposed in the first instance and  $\mathfrak{L}280$  for each subsequent failure.

Any notification should be addressed to Revenues Services, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7YG.

Alternatively, if you are unsure of the effect of a change, contact us to discuss what has changed.

## What Do You Get For Your Money?

Rushcliffe Borough Council provides a wide range of services for the Rushcliffe community costing a household living in a band D property £2.96 per week. In fact due to the types of property within Rushcliffe more than 55% of households will pay less.

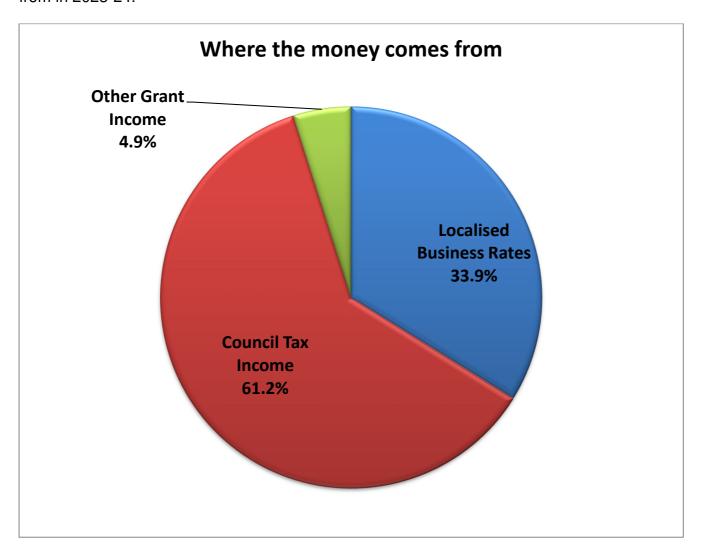
The Borough Council administers the following services.

### Protecting the environment and the community through:

- Environmental Initiatives
- Pollution Control including air quality, contaminated land and noise
- Environmental crime including fly tipping and litter
- Health and safety
- Food safety / Hygiene
- Pest Control & Dog Warden
- Control of Development
- Consideration of Planning Applications
- Emergency Planning
- Collection and recycling of refuse
- Street cleaning
- · Licensing including taxis, alcohol and gambling
- Crime prevention and Community Safety including anti-social behaviour
- Community areas and leisure facilities including
- Recreation Facilities which consist of 5 Leisure Centres, Edwalton Municipal Golf Course, Rushcliffe Country Park and maintenance of open spaces
- Promoting special events
- Electoral Registration and Elections
- Responsibility for housing
- Improving housing
- Homelessness
- Collection of income Council Tax, Business Rates and invoices for chargeable services
- Administration of Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support
- Crematorium

RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL EXPENDITURE & INCOME 2023-24						
2022-2023	Service	2023-2024				
Net		Gross	Gross	Net	Per	
Expenditure		Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Head £	
£'million		£'million	£'million	£'million		
2.02	Chief Executive	2.35	(0.03)	2.31	19.41	
4.33	Finance & Corporate Services	18.30	(14.20)	4.10	34.39	
0.09	Growth & Econ Dev	4.76	(4.91)	(0.15)	(1.30)	
6.75	Neighbourhoods	13.89	(6.24)	7.65	64.17	
13.19	Net Service Expenditure	39.30	(25.38)	13.91	116.67	
(1.90)	Depreciation	(1.90)	0.00	(1.90)	(15.90)	
1.29	Minimum Revenue Provision	1.31	0.00	1.31	11.00	
(1.34)	Transfer to/(from) reserves	0.00	(0.33)	(0.33)	(2.79)	
11.24	Cost of services for council tax purposes	38.71	(25.71)	13.00	108.98	

The net service expenditure is £13.91m, the chart below illustrates where this money will come from in 2023-24.



- Council Tax £7,952,900 (£7,667,100 2022/23)
- Retained Business Rates including Small Business Rate Relief £4,398,900 (£3,300,300 2022/23)
- Other Grant Income £639,600 (£273,000 2022/23)

The amount to be raised from the Council Tax represents a band "D" rate of £153.95 for Borough Council Services and an average Band "D" tax rate of £228.11 including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses

### **Special Expenses**

In West Bridgford there is no Parish Council. Local recreation and community facilities that are provided by Parish Councils elsewhere are provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council at a cost of £836,900. A small amount - £11,100 – is spent by Rushcliffe in the Parishes of Ruddington and £12,700 in Keyworth. Special charges are made to cover these expenses. The special charge on a band D property in West Bridgford is £55.95, in Keyworth it is £4.38 and in Ruddington it is £3.68 with other amounts payable in different bands.

### **Capital Investment**

The Council has approved a Capital Programme for 2023/24 of £9.60m. Larger schemes include; Traveller site acquisition £1.0m, Vehicle Replacement £1.1m, Support for Affordable Housing £2.6m and Leisure Centre enhancement works £1.4m.

### **Parish Expenditure**

The table below shows the amount each Parish Council requires from its own local residents to pay for services in the Parish. The precept shown is for both 2023/24 and the preceding year, together with the additional council tax rate that applies to a band D property in the area.

	Parish Band D Tax Rate	Parish Band D Tax Rate	Precept	Precept
Parish Area	2023/24	Increases/	2023/24	2022/23
	£	(Decreases) £	£	£
Aslockton	34.10	1.16	15,148	14,372
Barton-in-Fabis	25.92	0.00	5,446	5,446
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Bingham	95.09	4.39	366,024	341,724
Bradmore	27.73	4.13	4,700	4,000
Bunny	83.67	3.77	24,750	23,570
Car Colston	0.00	0.00	0	0
Clipston	0.00	0.00	0	0
Colston Bassett	76.53	(6.93)	10,400	11,200
Costock	64.75	2.02	20,000	19,000
Cotgrave	101.13	4.71	246,135	234,660
Cropwell Bishop	153.59	5.45	105,334	99,490
Cropwell Butler	46.66	9.94	12,500	12,500
East Bridgford	50.73	0.05	43,370	43,325
East Leake	94.61	(3.04)	313,450	318,550
Elton-On-The-Hill	0.00	0.00	0	0
Flawborough	0.00	0.00	0	0
Flintham	80.54	(23.82)	17,750	23,000
Gotham	63.45	0.63	39,490	39,100
Granby cum Sutton	65.16	5.95	12,120	10,700
Hawksworth	172.07	15.65	12,320	11,200
Hickling	38.51	5.02	10,051	8,740

	Parish Band D Parish Band D Tax Rate Tax Rate		Precept	Precept 2022/23	
Parish Area	2023/24 Increases/ (Decreases)		2023/24		
	£	£	£	£	
Holme Pierrepont & Gamston	36.32	2.26	39,925	37,450	
Keyworth	72.27	0.00	209,395	201,710	
Kingston-on-Soar	37.71	1.35	5,275	5,000	
Kinoulton	15.38	0.00	6,710	6,626	
Kneeton	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Langar cum Barnstone	124.33	7.81	45,220	42,158	
Newton	59.77	0.00	23,000	20,065	
Normanton-on-Soar	78.24	2.35	14,881	14,435	
Normanton-on-the-Wolds	58.14	3.23	9,000	8,500	
Orston	47.60	5.84	10,830	9,500	
Owthorpe	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Plumtree	48.80	5.36	6,080	5,365	
Radcliffe-on-Trent	101.47	4.83	312,852	328,605	
Ratcliffe-on-Soar	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Rempstone	39.18	11.48	8,240	5,815	
Ruddington	116.57	3.42	351,420	329,130	
Saxondale	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Scarrington	8.87	0.00	750	750	
Screveton	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Shelford	112.07	25.86	13,000	10,000	
Shelton	0.00	(12.68)	0	790	
Sibthorpe	30.50	(0.01)	1,873	1,840	
Stanford-on-Soar	64.29	4.50	4,500	4,000	
Stanton-on-the-Wolds	47.40	13.51	10,500	7,340	
Sutton Bonington	68.69	9.78	45,000	38,500	
Thoroton	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Thrumpton	49.80	0.00	3,830	3,680	
Tollerton	89.41	4.97	73,180	69,115	
Upper Saxondale	78.91	78.91	31,100	0	
Upper Broughton	50.45	(1.44)	8,500	8,500	
West Leake	33.63	2.93	2,300	2,100	
Whatton-in-the-Vale	54.19	(0.24)	20,755	20,755	
Widmerpool	53.31	3.37	9,350	8,500	
Willoughby-on-the-Wolds	37.42	0.00	11,090	11,090	
Wiverton & Tithby	0.00	0.00	0	0	
Wysall & Thorpe	86.04	0.17	18,000	17,800	

# **Council Tax Charge Increases 2023-24**

Band	Nottinghamshire County Council	Nottinghamshire County Council – Adult Social Care	Fire	Police	Borough	Total
Α	31.13	21.92	3.33	9.96	2.01	68.35
В	36.31	25.57	3.89	11.62	2.35	79.74
С	41.50	29.23	4.45	13.28	2.68	91.14
D	46.69	32.88	5.00	14.94	3.02	102.53
Е	57.07	40.19	6.11	18.26	3.69	125.32
F	67.44	47.49	7.22	21.58	4.36	148.09
G	77.82	54.8	8.33	24.90	5.03	170.88
Н	93.38	65.76	10.00	29.88	6.04	205.06

The Average charge for a band D property in Rushcliffe is: £2,310.53						
Average Council Tax at band D:	2022/23	2023/24	Increa	se		
	£	£	£	%		
County Council	1,447.02	1,493.71	46.69	2.84		
County Council – Adult Social Care	197.07	229.95	32.88	2.00		
Police Authority	254.25	269.19	14.94	5.88		
Fire Authority	84.57	89.57	5.00	5.91		
Borough Council	150.93	153.95	3.02	2.00		
Parish Council	71.75	74.16	2.41	3.35		
Total	2,205.59	2,310.53	104.94	4.76		

Enquiries about the content of this leaflet or any comments about the Council's finances should be directed to the Director – Finance and Corporate Services, at;

Rushcliffe Borough Council Rushcliffe Arena Rugby Road West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7YG

Tel: 0115 981 9911