

Council Tax 2026/27

Useful Information



A full "Guide to Council Tax and Business Rates 2026/27" is available on the Council's website at the following links:
www.richmond.gov.uk/council_tax and www.richmond.gov.uk/business_rates

Message from the Leader of The Council

Protecting essential services and investing in Richmond's future.

Richmond is a borough where people look out for each other, value their neighbourhoods, and expect good local services. As we set the budget for the year ahead, our priority is to protect the services residents rely on every day, while continuing to invest in the things that make this an exceptional place to live.

Thanks to the Council's long-term, responsible financial planning, we are able to balance our budget once again this year. That means libraries remain open and welcoming, our parks and green spaces continue to be looked after, leisure centres stay fit for purpose, and waste and recycling collections continue to run reliably. These are the basics residents expect, and we are committed to getting them right.

We are also honest about the pressures. Demand for social care continues to rise sharply, particularly for older residents, disabled adults, and children with additional needs. Social care now accounts for more than 60% of our entire budget. At the same time, many families are still feeling the strain of higher costs, and the number of people needing support with housing or temporary accommodation is growing. These pressures are nationwide, but they are very real here in Richmond too.

Over the past year, we have sustained efforts to secure continued support for the Household Support Fund and wider cost of living assistance for those who need it most. We have also worked hard to make the case to Government for a fairer funding settlement that reflects local needs. While the most recent settlement now offers some short-term protection, it still leaves Richmond facing a significant reduction in real terms funding over the next three years. We will continue to push for a more sustainable, long-term deal, but we must also take responsible decisions now to protect local services.

Even with these challenges, we remain focused on investing in Richmond's future. Over the past year, we have continued to improve the borough's transport and active travel network – from record investment in roads and pavements to major repairs on

well used routes like the Teddington Lock Footbridge and the Thames Towpath. Our work to support safer cycling has included expanding secure parking facilities, such as the new Richmond Cycle Hub with more than 650 spaces and making it easier for families to travel sustainably.

We have also made meaningful progress for children and young people. The expansion of local specialist Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) places means more families can access support closer to home. The recognition of our children's services as Outstanding by Ofsted reflects the commitment of the teams who work tirelessly to support young people across the borough.

Housing remains a significant priority. Regeneration schemes such as Ham Close are delivering new, genuinely affordable homes, while our ongoing work to improve council housing conditions is ensuring residents live in safe, warm, well-maintained homes. Major projects like Twickenham Riverside are progressing too, bringing new public spaces and long-awaited improvements to our town centres.

Our climate and nature work also continues to grow in importance. From tree planting and habitat restoration to flood resilient streets and boroughwide climate initiatives, we are taking practical steps to protect our environment and prepare for the future.

To support these investments in our borough and safeguard the essentials – particularly for those who rely on care – we have agreed a 2.99% increase in core Council Tax, alongside a 2% increase in the Adult Social Care precept. The precept charged by the Mayor of London will rise by 4.1%, bringing the total Band D bill to £2,486.10 – an overall increase of £114.03 per year (£2.19 per week) or 4.8%.

This is never an easy decision. We know some households are under pressure, and I want to assure residents that help is available. If you are worried about your bill, please speak to us early. Through our Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Cost of Living Hub, we will do everything we can to support those who need it most.

How much will I pay in 2026/27?

BAND	RICHMOND COUNCIL (2026/27)	GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY (2026/27)	TOTAL COUNCIL TAX (2026/27)
	£	£	£
A	1,317.06	340.34	1,657.40
B	1,536.57	397.06	1,933.63
C	1,756.08	453.79	2,209.87
D	1,975.59	510.51	2,486.10
E	2,414.61	623.96	3,038.57
F	2,853.63	737.40	3,591.03
G	3,292.64	850.85	4,143.49
H	3,951.17	1,021.02	4,972.19

Alongside this, we are driving a major transformation programme to deliver efficiency savings – making sure every pound is used effectively and improves outcomes for residents. This builds on our track record of thinking innovatively and transforming services. We will be delivering a further £11 million in 2026/27, bringing our total efficiency savings delivered since 2018 to a total of almost £60 million.

Finally, we remain firmly committed to standing up for residents on issues that matter to our community. That includes leading the opposition – alongside other councils – against any expansion of Heathrow. We will continue to challenge proposals that risk increasing noise, pollution or disruption in our borough.

Richmond's strength comes from the people who live here and the pride we all take in our community. Our commitment as a Council is clear: to protect essential services, support those who need help, and invest in the long-term future of our borough. Together, we will ensure Richmond remains a place we can all be proud to call home.



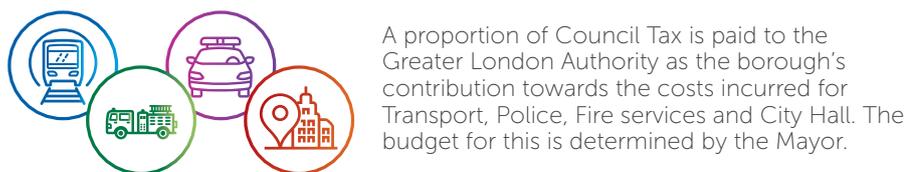
Councillor Gareth Roberts

Leader of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

What does the Richmond Council Tax pay for?



What does the Greater London Authority charge pay for?



Has the amount changed since last year?

OVERALL COUNCIL TAX INCREASE FOR THIS YEAR **4.81%**

2.99% RICHMOND ELEMENT INCREASE, PLUS INCREASE FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE PRECEPT OF **2%**

THE GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY (GLA) ELEMENT IS AN INCREASE OF **4.10%**

Council Tax Support and Housing Benefit

If you are on a low income or receiving a benefit, like Universal Credit, you may be entitled to Council Tax Reduction. For pensioner age applicants, in some circumstances if other adults in your home (other than your husband, wife or partner) are living on a low income, you could also be entitled to a reduction of up to 25% of your Council Tax (this is called a Second Adult Rebate). For most working age applicants in Band F, G or H properties, the maximum Council Tax Reduction is still limited to Band E.

Housing Benefit or Universal Credit is also available to help people on a

low income with their rent payments. For example, if you are working but earning a low wage or you are living on a pension or other benefits, you may be entitled to some help. If you would like further information, please call us on 020 8891 1411, visit our website at www.richmond.gov.uk or visit the Government website www.gov.uk



www.richmond.gov.uk/cost_of_living_housing

Further information and contact details

Please visit our website for more information on Council Tax, Benefits and Business Rates:

- Council Tax: www.richmond.gov.uk/council_tax
- Benefits: www.richmond.gov.uk/help_council_tax
- Business Rates: www.richmond.gov.uk/business_rates

Or Telephone:

- Council Tax, Benefits and Business Rates: **020 8891 1411**

Or Email:

- Council Tax: counciltax@richmond.gov.uk
- Benefits: benefits@richmond.gov.uk
- Business Rates: businessrates@richmond.gov.uk

Customer Service Team contact details

The Customer Service Team is responsible for providing information on all Council services.

Telephone: **020 8891 1411** (Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm)

Online: www.richmond.gov.uk/contacting_the_council

For the latest news from the Council, go to:

www.richmond.gov.uk/news or follow [@LBRUT](https://twitter.com/LBRUT) on X (formerly Twitter) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LBRUT).

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