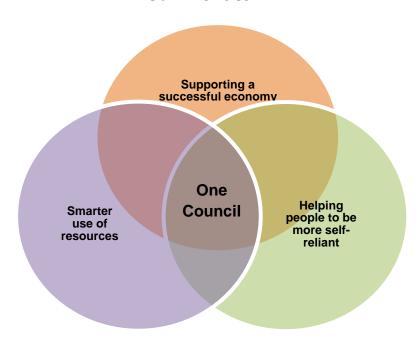


MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017-18

Our Priorities



Bridgend County Borough Council Working Together to Improve Lives



Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg. This document is also available in Welsh.

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INTRODUCTION

This document sets out Bridgend County Borough Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for 2017-18 in a summarised format, together with other financial information

It contains a summary of the budget approved by full Council on 1 March 2017, and other information regarding the funding of the overall budget, and the way in which the Council Tax is set. It also contains the Capital Programme which runs up until 2020-27.

The information contained within this document is to help assist the Public, Members, Chief Officers, and their staff in understanding the current financial position and in preparing for future budgets.

Any enquiries about the content of this booklet should be made to the Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or email Randal.Hemingway@bridgend.gov.uk

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FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Although year-on-year reductions in Aggregate External Finance (AEF) have necessitated significant budget reductions across different service areas, the Council still plays a very significant role in the local economy of Bridgend County Borough and is responsible for annual gross revenue expenditure approaching £400 million and is the largest employer in the county borough.

As we look towards next year, the Council faces both reduced Welsh Government funding as well as financial pressures. We need to find additional funds to meet inescapable increases in our budget such as the apprenticeships levy or an increase to the national living wage.

As well as having reduced income to fund services, there are other pressures that squeeze resources. One of these is legislative changes. This includes regulations and legislation from Government either directly or indirectly – for example the requirements to meet the new Welsh Language standards, consultation requirements associated with making changes to schools, schools transport and indeed most services that the Council operates.

Another significant pressure arises through demographic changes. People are living longer which is good news but that also can bring increased dependency through people living with more complex or multiple conditions.

The Council's corporate plan sets out the approaches that it will take to manage these pressures whilst continuing to ensure that, as far as possible, services can be provided that meet the needs of the Bridgend community within the medium term financial strategy of the authority.

In 2017-18 Bridgend County Borough Council will have a forecast gross revenue budget of £394 million to support core business and the corporate priorities¹ which are set out in our Corporate Plan.

Whilst the 2017-18 budget settlement is favourable compared to recent years, there is considerable uncertainty around 'Brexit' negotiations and the Council forecasts the need to achieve budget reductions of nearly £33 million from service and corporate budgets between 2017-18 and 2020-21.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 1. Supporting a successful economy.
- 2. Helping people to be more self-reliant.
- 3. Smarter use of resources



FUNDING OF THE COUNCIL'S SERVICES

Council Services

The Council is responsible for providing services such as education, social care, maintaining highways, parks and open spaces, public transport, rights of way and road safety, refuse collection, street cleaning, revenues and benefits, public protection, registrars and sports, arts and libraries through our partners HALO and Awen.

The Council incurs two types of expenditure – revenue expenditure and capital expenditure.

Revenue Expenditure

Revenue expenditure covers spending on day to day costs of services such staff salaries, maintenance of buildings and general supplies, commissioning and equipment. This expenditure is paid for from the income received from council tax payers, business ratepayers, the fees and charges levied for certain services and by grants received from government.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure covers spending on assets such as roads, new schools, redevelopment and the major renovation of buildings. These assets will provide benefits to the community for several years and the expenditure is mainly financed from borrowing, capital grants and the sale of unwanted land and buildings.

Sources of Funding

The main sources of income that the Council receives are fees and charges, grants, business rates and council tax.

Fees & Charges

Sources of income from fees and charges vary from parking charges to residential accommodation for the elderly, school meal charges, planning charges, bulky waste collection, hire of facilities and income from commercial lets such as industrial units.

Government Grant and (Business) Rates

The Welsh Government provides funding for local authorities through a number of sources, including the largest single grant known as the Revenue Support Grant, which can be used for any purpose they choose in delivering the services for which they are responsible. Other funding provided to Councils by Welsh Government, includes grants for specific purposes. In addition to the funding authorities received from the Welsh Government, they receive some hypothecated grants from other government bodies (these grants can only be used for the specific purposes for



which they are provided). In addition, they receive income from nationally set non-domestic (business) rates and from locally set council tax.

Local authorities also receive grants from the Welsh Government for capital spending, and they can determine how much they can afford to borrow based on a prudent assessment of their finances using professional codes of practice (Prudential Code). Money borrowed under the code is referred to as Prudential Borrowing.

Council Tax

After taking account of income from fees and charges, government grants and non-domestic rates, revenue expenditure is financed by a Council Tax, levied on each property within the Council's area, subject to certain discounts and exemptions.

The Council Tax is the only tax based element of the Council's funding which is not determined by the government. In 2017-18, Council Tax income represents 18% of the Council's Gross Revenue Expenditure.



SUMMARY OF CHARGES TO BE LEVIED

Council Tax Requirement 2017-18

To finalise its budget the Council must set a council tax requirement – the amount of money to be raised by council tax. This is after funding all pressures and assessing the levels of income from the government and elsewhere. The council tax only accounts for 18% of the money that the Council receives. The level of the increase seeks to strike an appropriate balance between the needs of the Council and its citizens. The Council Tax base for Bridgend for 2017-18 is 52,759.01, which gives a band D council tax of £1,335.42, as detailed in the table below:

The average Bridgend County Borough Council Tax is calculated as shown below:

Bridgend County Borough Council	2016-17	2017-18
	£	£
Expenditure charged to Revenue Account	390,934,937	394,272,302
Income credited to Revenue Account	-136,043,747	-136,179,000
Sub-Total	254,891,190	258,093,302
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	-145,232,718	-141,610,389
NNDR (Business Rates) Distribution	-42,282,679	-46,027,476
Sub-Total	63,375,793	70,455,437
Council Tax Requirement	63,375,793	70,455,437
Net Council Tax Base (Band D Equivalent)	51,916.19	52,759.01
Band D Council Tax Requirement	£1,297.78	£1,335.42
Percentage Change over previous year	3.9%	2.9%

Dwellings are valued on the basis of what they might reasonably have been expected to realise on the open market if sold on 1 April 2003. The use of this data for all valuations means that they do not have to be adjusted for changes in price through time. A new dwelling built in April 2017 will be valued on the basis of its open market value as if it had been sold on 1 April 2003. The table below shows the level of Council Tax for Bridgend County Borough Council's residents by property band.

Council Tax 2017-18 Bands A -I

Band	Council Tax band limits (property value at 1.4.2005)	Council Tax 2017-18	Council Tax 2016-17
Α	Up to £44,000	£890.28	£865.19
В	£44,001 to £65,000	£1,038.66	£1,009.38
С	£65,001 to £91,000	£1,187.04	£1,153.58
D	£91,001 to £123,000	£1,335.42	£1,297.78
Е	£123,001 to £162,000	£1,632.18	£1,586.18
F	£162,001 to £223,000	£1,928.94	£1,874.57
G	£223,001 to £324,000	£2,225.70	£2,162.97
Н	£324,001 to £424,000	£2,670.84	£2,595.56
1	£424,001 and over	£3,115.98	£3,028.15



Band D Council Tax Charges by Community Council Area 2017-18

The council tax bill for 2017-18 financial year (1 April 2017 to 31st March 2018) is made up of charges from Bridgend County Borough Council, the Police & Crime Commissioner for South Wales and Community/Town Councils. The Council collects the charges for the other two bodies via the council tax mechanism. The monies collected are then paid over to the relevant bodies in line with the amount they have included in their budget to be charged to households in the county borough of Bridgend. In 2017-18 the amounts making up the council tax are £11.514 million for the Police & Crime Commissioner for South Wales, £2.053 million for Community Councils and £70.455 million for Bridgend County Borough Council.

The previous table showed the Council Tax for Bridgend County Borough Council's residents by property band. Community Council precepts vary across the County producing variations and the table below shows the total payable by community council area for 2017-18:

Community Council	Band D	Community Council	Police	Total
Brackla Community Council	1,335.42	34.02	£ 218.24	1,587.68
Bridgend Town Council	1,335.42	77.43	218.24	1,631.09
Cefn Cribbwr Community Council	1,335.42	44.95	218.24	1,598.61
Coity Higher Community Council	1,335.42	18.02	218.24	1,571.68
Cornelly Community Council	1,335.42	34.98	218.24	1,588.64
Coychurch Higher Community Council	1,335.42	29.76	218.24	1,583.42
Coychurch Lower Community Council	1,335.42	23.81	218.24	1,577.47
Garw Valley Community Council	1,335.42	30.56	218.24	1,584.22
Laleston Community Council	1,335.42	30.52	218.24	1,584.18
Llangynwyd Lower Community Council	1,335.42	46.75	218.24	1,600.41
Llangynwyd Middle Community Council	1,335.42	50.85	218.24	1,604.51
Maesteg Town Council	1,335.42	54.00	218.24	1,607.66
Merthyr Mawr Community Council	1,335.42	15.28	218.24	1,568.94
Newcastle Higher Community Council	1,335.42	24.56	218.24	1,578.22
Ogmore Vale Community Council	1,335.42	26.22	218.24	1,579.88
Pencoed Town Council	1,335.42	43.92	218.24	1,597.58
Porthcawl Town Council	1,335.42	32.65	218.24	1,586.31
Pyle Community Council	1,335.42	32.20	218.24	1,585.86
St Brides Minor Community Council	1,335.42	23.26	218.24	1,576.92
Ynysawdre Community Council	1,335.42	30.89	218.24	1,584.55



Percentage of Dwellings by Property Band as at 6.2.2017

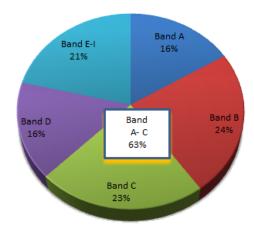
Properties are allocated to bands by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), an independent agency which is not part of the Council. Since 2005, council tax has been calculated by using nine valuation bands (bands A to I) that were established in 2005 using 2003 house values.

For Band A properties, which account for just over 16% of properties in Bridgend County Borough, the council's element of Council tax is £890.28. The table below provides details of the percentage of council dwellings by council tax band.

Band	Value at 1.4.2005	Ratio	Number of Dw ellings	% of dw elling in band	BCBC Council Tax 2017-18
А	Up to £44,000	6/9	10,382	16.34%	890.28
В	£44,001 to £65,000	7/9	15,114	23.78%	1,038.66
С	£65,001 to £91,000	8/9	14,297	22.50%	1,187.04
D	£91,001 to £123,00	9/9	10,211	16.07%	1335.42
Е	£123,001 to £162,000	11/9	7,495	11.79%	1,632.18
F	£162,001 to £223,000	13/9	4,231	6.66%	1,928.94
G	£223,001 to £324,000	15/9	1,437	2.26%	2,225.70
Н	£324,001 to £424,000	18/9	277	0.44%	2,670.84
I	£424,001 and over	21/9	105	0.17%	3,115.98

63% of properties in Bridgend County Borough pay less than the 'Band D equivalent' which is the band commonly used to compare levels of Council Tax across Authorities.

% of Dwellings By Band





Non- Domestic (Business) Rates (NDR)

NDR are the means by which businesses and other users of non-domestic property contribute towards the costs of local authority services. The National Business rate multiplier is set by Welsh Government.

Non-Domestic (Business) Rates	2017-18	2016-17
National Business Rate (set by Welsh	49.9p per £	48.6p per £
Government)		

Empty business properties are exempt from paying business rates for 3 months after the property becomes vacant. There are also additional exemptions for certain types of property or for properties under a set rateable value.

Under the Small business rate relief (which has been extended in Wales until 31 March 2018), business premises with a rateable value of up to £6,000 will receive 100% relief and those with a rateable value between £6,001 and £12,000 will receive relief on a tapered basis from 100% to zero.

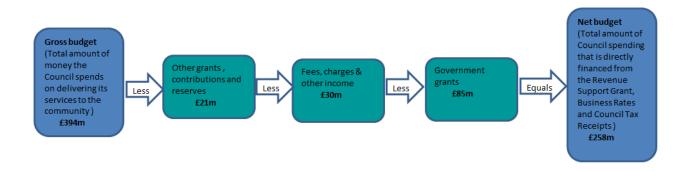


REVENUE BUDGET 2017-18

Gross Budget to Net Budget

As part of the budget and the Council Tax setting process, the Council is required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (section 32) to produce a calculation of estimated net expenditure known as the budget requirement.

The diagram below explains the difference between gross and net budget:



Revenue Account

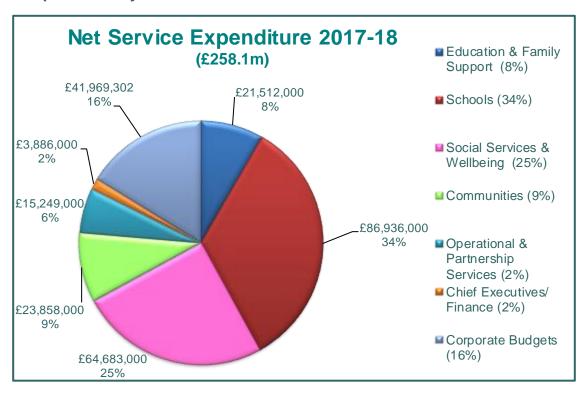
This is the account from which day to day spending on a local authority's services is met. It is the most scrutinised and publicised expenditure as it covers all of the Council's services and it is funded in part, although not solely, from Council Tax Income.

Net Revenue Expenditure by Service Directorate - Summary

Service Expenditure	Net Budget £'000	Notional Band D Equivalent £
Education & Family Support	21,512	111.31
Schools	86,936	449.82
Social Services & Wellbeing	64,683	334.68
Communities	23,858	123.45
Operational & Partnership Services	15,249	78.90
Chief Executives/ Finance	3,886	20.11
Corporate Budgets		
Capital Financing	10,184	52.69
Levies	7,020	36.32
Repairs & Maintenance	900	4.66
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	14,254	73.75
Apprenticeship Levy	700	3.62
Pension Related Costs	1,258	6.51
Insurance Premiums	1,559	8.07
Other Corporate Budgets	6,094	31.53
Net Expenditure to be funded	258,093	1,335.42

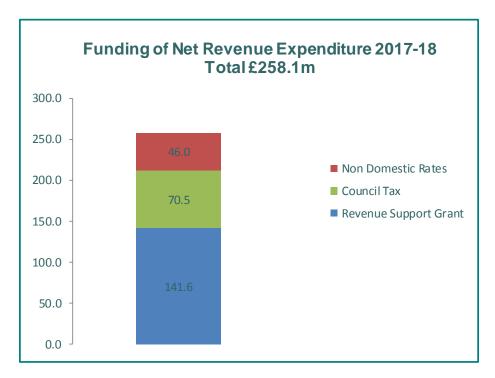


Net Expenditure by Service



Funding of Net Revenue Expenditure

The following chart analyses the principal sources of funding of net expenditure for 2017-18:

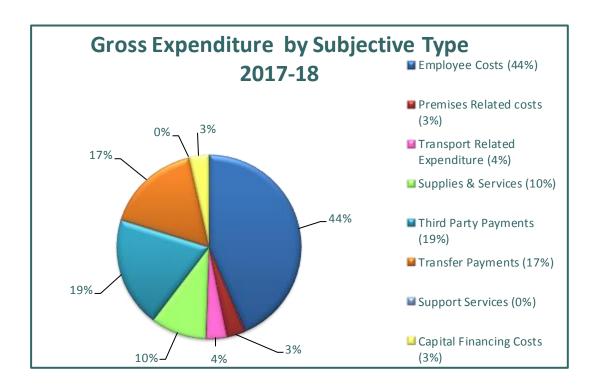




Net Services Expenditure by Subjective Type

	Budget £'000	%
Employee Costs	171,684	44%
Premises Related costs	13,238	3%
Transport Related Expenditure	14,379	4%
Supplies & Services	38,648	10%
Third Party Payments	76,755	19%
Transfer Payments	65,595	17%
Support Services	362	0%
Capital Financing Costs	13,611	3%
Gross Expenditure	394,272	100%
Income		
Specific Government Grants	(85,022)	
Other Grants & Contributions	(20,954)	
Fees, Charges & Other Income	(30,203)	
Total Income	(136,179)	
Net Expenditure	258,093	

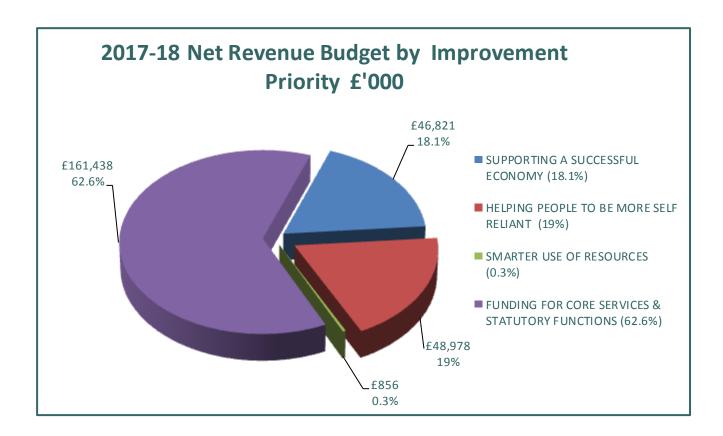
A breakdown of the gross revenue expenditure by category is provided in the table below:





Net Budget By improvement Priority

The authority's net revenue budget of £258,093 million supports the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities and core services and statutory functions. The chart below provides details of how this has been allocated for 2017-18.

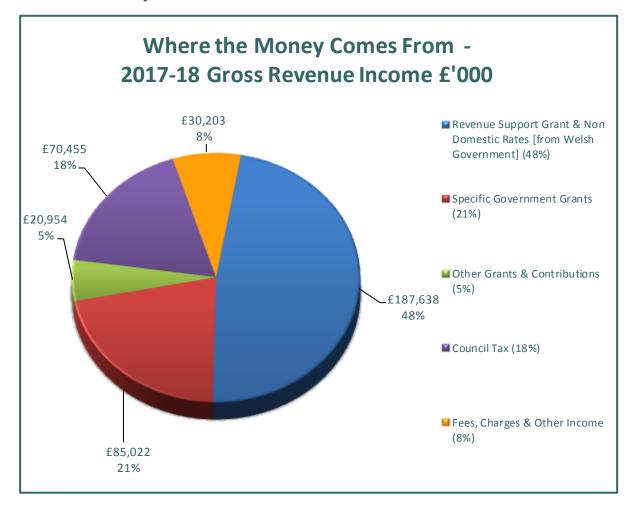


Gross Revenue Expenditure

The charts below outline our income and spending plans for 2017-18. The gross cost of revenue services provided by the Council in 2017-18 is £394 million; this includes expenditure financed by other income streams including other government grants, other grants and contributions, customer and client receipts and interest on investments.

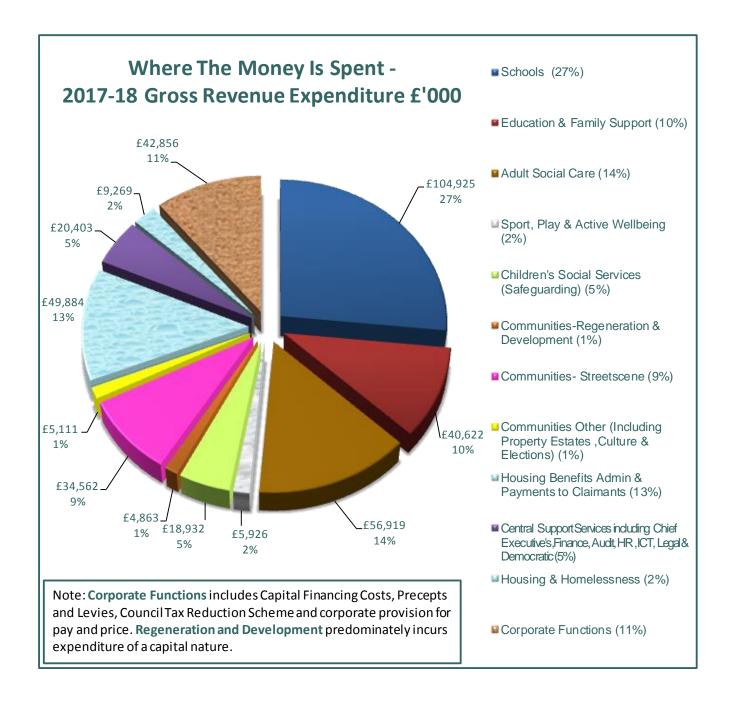


Where the Money Comes From





Where the Money Is Spent





CAPITAL BUDGET

In addition to spending money on providing services on a day to day basis, the Council also spends money on providing new facilities, improving assets and the infrastructure, enhancing assets or providing capital grants to others. The Capital Budget includes expenditure on a number of significant strategic investment projects that support a number of the proposed new corporate priorities (Supporting a successful economy, Helping people to be more self-reliant and Making smarter use of resources).

The 2017-18 capital budget includes expenditure on the following projects:

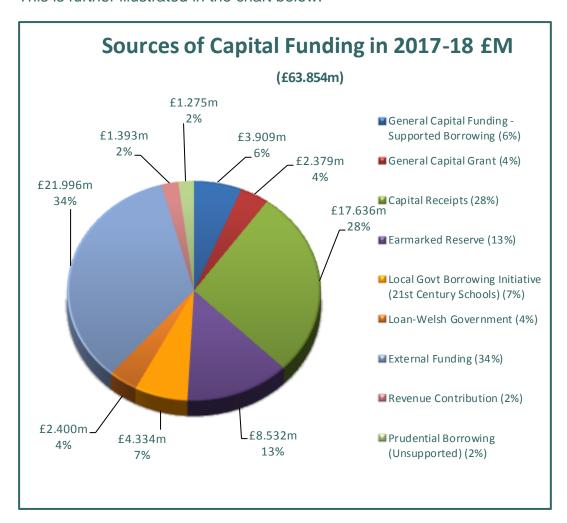
- 21st Century schools
- Cardiff Capital Region City Deal
- Extra care facilities

The funding of the Capital Programme is detailed in the table below:

Service Areas	2017-18 £'M
General Capital Funding - Supported Borrowing	3.909
General Capital Grant	2.379
Capital Receipts	17.636
Earmarked Reserve	8.532
Local Govt Borrowing Initiative (21st Century Schools)	4.334
Loan-Welsh Government	2.400
External Funding	21.996
Revenue Contribution	1.393
Prudential Borrowing (Unsupported)	1.275
Gross Funding	63.850



This is further illustrated in the chart below:

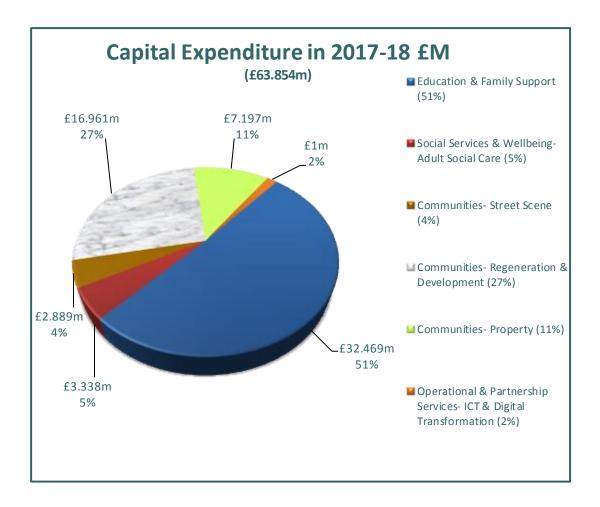


The Capital Budget has been allocated as follows:

Service Area	Budget 2017-18 £M	%
Education & Family Support	32.469	51
Social Services & Wellbeing- Adult Social Care	3.338	5
Communities- Street Scene	2.889	4
Communities- Regeneration & Development	16.961	27
Communities- Property	7.197	11
Operational & Partnership Services- ICT & Digital Transformation	1.000	2
Total : Capital Budget	63.854	100



This is further illustrated in the chart below:





BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

KEY STATISTICS

Area in hectares: 25,073



The Electorate:

Number on Roll (February 2015)

The Council:

Number of Councillors	54
Political Representatives as at 3.2.2017	
Conservative	1
Independent Annibynwyr	4
Independent	12
Labour	33
Liberal Democrats	3
Plaid Cymru	1





SERVICE STATISTICS



Services for Education & Family Support

Population (Mid-Year Estimate 2017)	Statistical Data
Population aged 3 (used for modelled nursery school pupil numbers)	1,751
Population aged 3 to 11	14,845
Population aged 3 to 16	22,576
Population aged 11 to 15 (used with secondary school pupils)	7,699
Population aged 11 to 20	15,286
Population 16 and over	117,635
Population aged 16 to 18 (for use with secondary school pupil numbers)	4,844
Population aged 0 to 17 (used for weighted under 18 indicator)	29,274

Type of Educational Establishment	Number of Units	Number on Roll (from 2016 return to WG)
Nurseries(including nursery classes in primary and special schools)	48	1,795
Primary Schools	48	11,165
Secondary schools	9	9,202
Special Education schools or Facilities	2	352

Services for Social Services & Wellbeing

Service	Number of Units	Approx Number of People
Residential Care- Older People (Local Authority Establishments) at 31/03/2016	4	94
Supported Living- for adults with learning disabilities (Local Authority Establishments)	12	38
Day Care - Older People (Local Authority Establishments)	2	145
Day Care- for adults with learning disabilities (Local Authority Establishments)	6	192
Number of Older People Supported in Care Homes at 31/03/2016		415
Number of Adults Under 65 Supported in Care Homes at 31/03/2016		45
Number of people receiving domiciliary care at 31/03/2016		1,111
Number of people receiving equipment at 31/03/2016		2,118



Adult Service Provided in 2015-16	Number
Hours of homecare provided by the local authority to clients aged 18 and over	232,460
Hours of homecare provided by the independent sector under contract	364,615
Total Number of Aduts Receiving Services Aged 18-64	864
Total Number of Adults Receiving Services Aged 65 and over	2,634
Total Number of Adults Receiving Services	3,498
The number of clients with a care plan at 31 March who had their care plan reviewed as	
required during the year	1,617
The number of clients with a care plan at 31 March that should have been reviewed during	
the year	1,974
The number of carers of adults who were offered an assessment or review of their needs	
in their own right during the year	2,003
The number of carers of adults who were assessed or re-assessed in their own right	
during the year who were provided with a service	154
The number of carers of adults who had an assessment or review of their needs in their	
own right during the year	417
The number of carers of adults	2,102
The number of adults assessed during the year	3,203

Looked After Children Service Provided in 2015-16	Number of Children
The number of children in need	772
Total looked after children away from home children	380
Foster placements	305
Placed for adoption	15
Local authority homes	20
Placed with own parents or other person with parental responsibility	40



Services for Communities

	Statistical
Service	Data
Streetscene	
Number of planning applications received in 2015-16	914
Total street lighting units	19,733
Total Municipal solid waste tonnage (anticipated 2016-17)	69,900
Total Recycling Tonnage (anticipated 2016-17)	40,500
Recycling % (anticipated 2016-17)	57.9%
Target for financial value of externally funded town centre regeneration	
projects underway/ in development 2016-17	00014
2016-17	£23M £16M
2017-16	£IOIVI
Transport & Engineering	
A county road length (km)	104
B and C road length (km)	139
Minor surfaced road length (km)	536
Built-up A County road length (km)	52
Built-up B and C road length (km)	83
Built-up minor surfaced road length (km)	434
Motor vehicle traffic on all principal roads *	45,118,096
Number of infrastructure facilities maintained:	
Bridges	101
Tunnels	0
Culverts	103
Footbridges (includes community routes/BRB rail bridges etc.)	102
Underpasses /subways	13
Retaining Walls	155
Signalised Junctions	46
Pedestrian Crossings	23

^{*} Figures produced centrally by the Department for Transport for 2015. The Traffic flow figures are compiled on the basis of the Department for Transports manual traffic counts and statistically manipulated to derive the flow in million vehicles per kilometer.



Services for Operational & Partnership Services

	Statistical
Service	Data
Housing & Homelessness	
Households found to be eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and in priority	
need during the year in 2015-16	57
Amount spent on mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants completed in 2015-16 (Capital	
Funding)	£2,313,187
Number of Disabled Facilities Grants completions within 2015-16	225
Regulatory Services	
Number of Trading Premises at March 2016	3,441
Number of Food Premises at March 2016	1,291
Customer Services	
Number of customers visiting the Customer Contact Centre 1 st Jan 16 to 31 st	33,148
Number of telephone calls received by the Telephone Contact Centre	183,537
Legal & Democratic Services	
Registered Number of Live Births 1st Jan 16 to 31st Dec 2016	2,201
Registered number of Deaths 1st Jan 16 to 31st Dec 2016	1,723
Registered number of marriages 1st Jan 16 to 31st Dec 2016	513
Number of Taxi Licenses issued 1st Jan 16 to 31st Dec 2016	592
Number of Hackney Carriage & Private Hire vehicle licences issued issued 1st Jan 16	
to 31st Dec 2016	460
Number of new alcohol/entertainment licences issued 1 st Jan 16 to 31 st Dec 2016	19
Number of new personal licences to sell alcohol issued 1st Jan 16 to 31st Dec 2016	79
Human Resources	
Corporate workforce 2016 FTE	2,185.3
Schools workforce 2016 FTE	2,196.2

Corporate Governance

	Statistical
Service	Data
Council Tax- Approximate number of chargeable dwellings as at 06/02/2017	63,549
Council Tax- Net Collectable Charge 2017-18	70,455,206
Non- Domestic Rates- Number of commercial properties as at 06/02/2017	4,306
Non- Domestic Rates- Net Collectable Charge as at 06/02/2017	52,727,273
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Expenditure 2016-17 as at 01/03/2017	13,391,663
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Caseload as at 1/03/2017	14,074
The total number of households with single person discount as of 13/02/17	20,357
Number of Housing Benefit Claimants as at 13/02/2017	10,898



WALES COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Local Authority Gross Revenue Expenditure Budgets

	2016-17		2015-16		
	£ million	£ per head *	£ million	£ per head	
Neath Port Talbot	342.5	2,438	343.6	2,456	
Bridgend	322	2,280	320.9	2,285	
Vale of Glamorgan	275.2	2,156	285.9	2,248	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	594.7	2,511	574	2,431	
Wales All County & County Borough Borough Councils Average		2,268		2,267	
*The 2016-17 £ per head calculations	use the 2014	mid-year estima	tes of population		

^{** 2015-16 £} per head calculations use the 2013 mid-year estimates of population. **Local Authority Gross Revenue Expenditure Outturn**

	2015-16		<u>2014-15</u>	
	Consillian	£ per head *	Contillion	£ per head **
	£ million		£ million	
Neath Port Talbot	342.3	2,428	360	2,562
Bridgend	327.4	2,304	326	2,308
Vale of Glamorgan	273.3	2,142	276.2	2,163
Rhondda Cynon Taf	569.3	2,398	592.2	2,500
Wales All County & County Borough				
Borough Councils Average		2,260		2,309
* The 2015-16 £ per head calculations	use the 2015 n	nid year estimate	s of population.	

^{** 2014-15 £} per head calculations use the 2014 mid year estimates of population.

** 2014-15 £ per head calculations use the 2014 mid year estimates of population

Capital Expenditure Outturn by Authority

	<u>2015-16</u>	5		<u>2014-15</u>		<u>15</u>	
	£ million		Total Capital Expenditur e £ per head *		£ million		Total Capital Expenditur e £ per head *
Neath Port Talbot	63		447		57.8		411
Bridgend	26.3		185		28.5		202
Vale of Glamorgan	108.3	***	849		58		454
Rhondda Cynon Taf	66.9		282		71.5		302
Wales All County & County Borough Borough Councils Average			630				312

^{*} The 2015-16 £ per head calculations use the 2015 mid-year estimates of population.



** 2014-15 £ per head calculations use the 2014 mid-year estimates of population.

*** Vale of Glamorgan - £79.2m of the expenditure in 2015-16 related to Public Sector Housing [Council Housing Improvement Programme (£16M) and the buyout out from the Council House Subsidy system (£63M)].

Estimated Populations mid 2015

No oth Dout Talls of	140.002
Neath Port Talbot	140,992
Bridgend	142,092
Vale of Glamorgan	127,592
Rhondda Cynon Taf	237,411
Total Wales	3,099,086



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aggregate External Finance (AEF)

The total external support for local authorities' revenue expenditure which is not funded from the council tax. It comprises revenue support grant and payments from the redistributed yield of non-domestic rates.

Budget

The statement defining the Council's financial plans over a specified period of time, usually a year.

Band D

The Council Tax that is supposed to cover the average home. It covers properties worth up to £123,000(valuation as based on 2003 property values). Newer properties are assessed on what the valuation would have been in 2003.

Band D Equivalent

The number of band D properties in an area which would raise the same council tax as the actual number of properties on all bands. Properties are converted to an equivalent base to that of a band D. For example, one band H is equivalent to two band D properties, because a taxpayer in a band H property pays twice as much council tax.

Capital Expenditure

The definition for capital purposes is set out in section 16 of the 2003 Local Government Act, which states that expenditure must be capitalised in accordance with proper practices.

Expenditure that can be capitalised will include:

- 1. The acquisition, reclamation, enhancement or the laying of land;
- 2. The acquisition, construction, preparation, enhancement or replacement of roads, buildings and other structures;
- 3. The acquisition, installation or replacement of moveable or immovable plant, machinery and vehicles;
- 4. The acquisition of share capital or loan capital in any body corporate
- 5. Works intended to increase substantially the thermal insulation of a building
- 6. Acquisition or preparation of a computer programme

Community Councils

Community Councils are the most local official representative bodies in Wales, of which members are chosen every four years to represent the entire community council area.

Corporate Plan

The Corporate Plan gives strategic direction to the work of the Authority to achieve its vision and sets out the Council's key improvement objectives for the forthcoming years. It reflects the on-going commitment to work in partnership with others to



deliver services to our communities. It also outlines how our priorities will be taken forward.

Council Tax

This is the source of local taxation to the authority. Council tax is levied on households within its area by the billing authority, and includes council tax for Police authorities and Community Councils as well as the authority's own Council tax levy. The proceeds are used for distribution to precepting authorities, and for use by its own general fund.

CTR Scheme

The Council Tax Benefit Scheme was replaced by the Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme in April 2013. The CTR Scheme in Wales is set by Regulations made under Schedule 1B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as inserted by the Local Government Finance Act 2012).

Estimates

These are the amounts, which are expected to be spent or received as income, during an accounting period.

Net Expenditure

Gross expenditure less income.

MTFS (Medium Term Financial Strategy)

A plan expressing how the Council will endeavour to use its resources to support the achievement of its corporate priorities and statutory duties, including the management of financial pressures and risks over a 4 year period.

National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR)

A means by which local businesses contribute to the cost of local authority services. NNDR is collected by billing authorities on behalf of WG and is then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities on the basis of Standard Spending Assessment and population. They are also known as 'Business Rates'.

Precept

A levy made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from council tax payers on their behalf.

Prudential Code Borrowing

Borrowing over and above that supported by the Welsh Assembly Government which the authority determines that it can afford to repay either from savings generated from the investment or from Council Tax.