

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol



BRIDGEND
County Borough Council

2023-24 Budget Book



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Section 1

**Revenue and capital
budgets 2023-24**

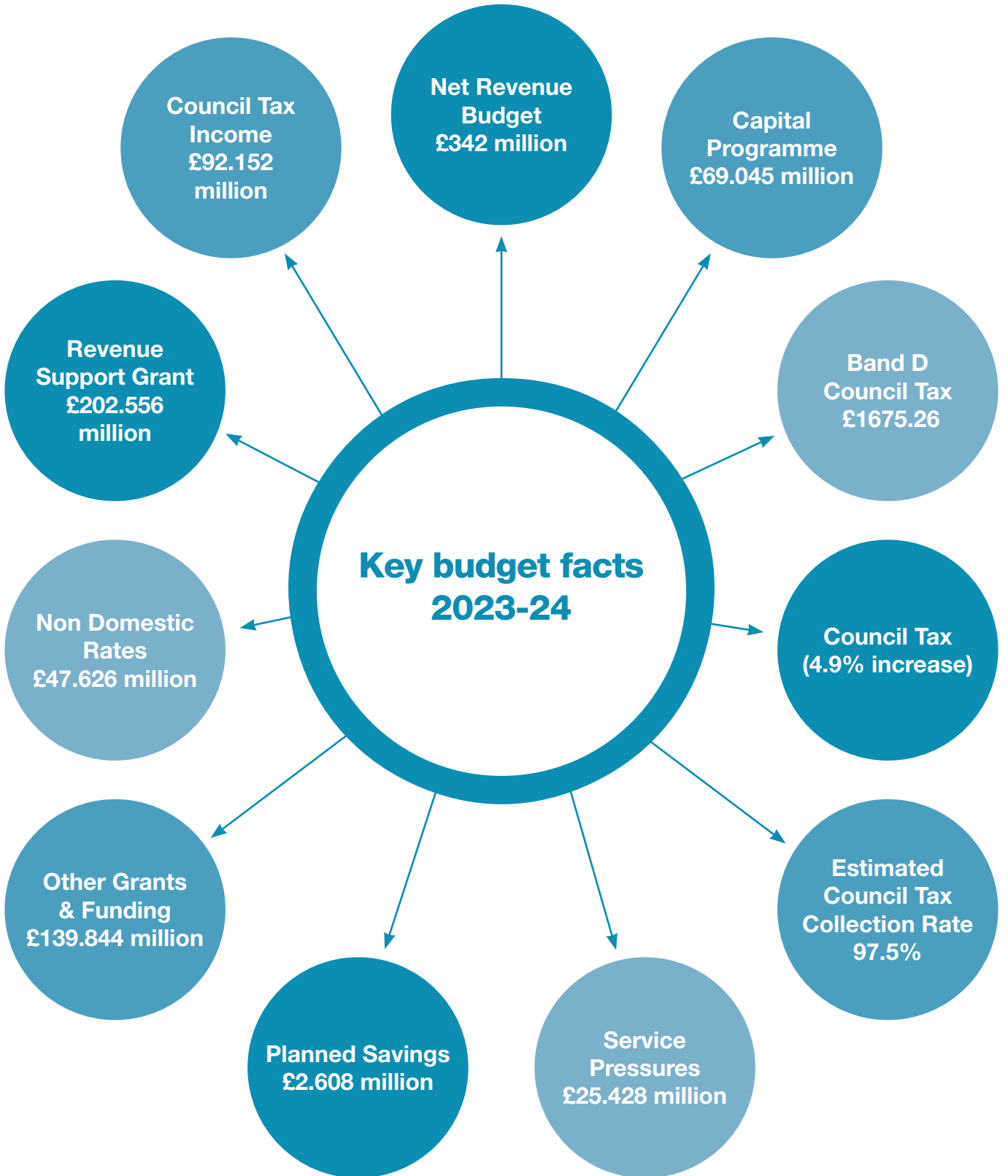
Section 1: Revenue and capital budgets 2023-24

1.1 Introduction

1. This document sets out Bridgend County Borough Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for 2023-24 in a summarised format, together with other financial information. It reflects a small change in the total budget* as a result of the publication of the Welsh Government Final Local Government Settlement on 27 February 2023, not included when Council approved the budget on 1 March 2023. It contains a summary of the budget and other information regarding the funding of the overall budget, including the way in which the Council Tax is set. The Council Tax has not changed as a result of the Final Local Government Revenue and Capital Settlement. It also contains the Capital Programme which runs up until 2032-2033. 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.
2. Any enquiries about the content of this booklet should be made to the Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change, and Section 151 Officer, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or email talktous@bridgend.gov.uk.

* The Final Local Government Settlement included an increase in the Revenue Support Grant of £287,106 for Bridgend for 2023-24, compared to the figure included in the Budget approved by Council on 1 March 2023.

1.2 Key budget facts 2023-24



1.3 Financial overview

- 1.3.1 Since austerity the Council has made almost £73 million of budget reductions. While the Council's net revenue budget is planned at £342.334 million for 2023-24, its overall expenditure far exceeds this. Taking into account expenditure and services which are funded by specific grants or fees and charges, the Council's gross budget will be around £482 million in 2023-24.
- 1.3.2 The local authority's annual revenue budget covers the day-to-day running costs of the local authority (including staff salaries, contracted services, utilities, building maintenance, operational costs etc.). £211.848 million of the gross budget is spent on the Council's own staff including teachers and school support staff. Much of the cost of the services provided by external organisations is also wage related – these include for example waste collection operatives, domiciliary care workers, leisure staff and foster carers. The Council gets the majority of its revenue funding from Welsh Government through the Revenue Support Grant and a share of Non-Domestic Rates. It supplements this through council tax collection, other grants and fees and charges. Council tax is a charge that local authorities charge to help to pay for their services. The proportion of council tax required to balance the Council's budget has steadily increased over recent years and it currently funds 27% of the net budget.
- 1.3.3 As well as having less real income to fund services, there are other pressures that squeeze resources. Amongst these are:
- Legislative changes e.g. the Environmental (Wales) Act 2016, the Welsh Government's commitment to eradicate homelessness, local authorities' responsibilities in respect of responding to climate change and meeting net zero carbon targets, the implications of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and legislative changes in social care including new adult protection safeguarding requirements and changes to the Public Law Outline for children.
 - Demographic changes – the population is increasing, and people are living longer which is obviously good news but that also can bring increased dependency through people living with more complex or multiple conditions which require social care and support. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic as there have been delays in access to NHS treatment and an impact on physical and mental health from extended lockdown periods. In addition, the complexities and challenges for children and families are very evident.
 - An increase in the number of pupils at our schools, which places increased pressure on school budgets, along with an increase in free school meals entitlement which brings additional funding pressures.
 - More recently, a reduction in the amount of council tax being collected, due to the difficult economic circumstances that people find themselves in. This is coupled with an increase in council tax support as more people find themselves on low incomes, claiming benefits or dealing with the cost of living pressure.
- 1.3.4 Budget planning for the financial year 2023-24 is still more uncertain than usual due to the residual impact of the global Covid-19 pandemic, the ongoing war in Ukraine, and the impact of high inflation. Whilst, on the whole, the UK and Welsh Governments had been supportive of the additional costs and burdens that emerged as a result of Covid, and covered most of the directly incurred costs, this level of funding is not going to be available going forward into 2023-24. In particular it is anticipated that some of the impact on levels of income in leisure, car parking and rental income, for example, may be a medium-term problem. In addition it is likely that there will be an additional call on the council tax reduction scheme in view of the inevitable economic impact of high inflation, and the level of council tax collection is estimated to be lower than previous years.

Furthermore, ongoing expenditure on matters relating to addressing homelessness more robustly, and supporting social care which is experiencing increased costs and need and demand for services, are likely to be significant. In these circumstances setting a balanced budget for 2023-24 has been even more challenging than usual, particularly on the back of multiple years of significant budget savings during the austerity years.

- 1.3.5 The Council has adopted a Corporate Plan that 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 citizens and communities in Bridgend. These approaches are:
- Though a large and complex organisation, the Council will make every effort to work as one single organisation. That means avoiding duplication and double handling of data through sharing of systems and processes. This is not always as easy as it sounds because often different rules or opportunities apply to different services. Nevertheless, acting as ‘One Council working together to improve lives’ is enshrined in the Council’s vision.
 - Wherever possible the Council will support communities and people to become more resilient by creating their own solutions and reducing dependency on the Council. This is because it is not sustainable for the Council to continue to aspire to meet all and every need that arises and because there is capacity, talent, and ideas in other parts of the community that can be encouraged to play an active and effective role in sustaining and often enhancing local services. The Council has a role in encouraging, enabling, and leading this approach and has adopted this as one of its underlying principles.
 - The Council has agreed a principle of focusing diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need. Parts of our community have long standing problems of poverty and disadvantage. The solutions to this are not all in the direct control of the Council (for example the effects of changes to the welfare system) but where possible the Council has agreed that it wants to both alleviate problems in these areas and develop longer term sustainable solutions. The new socio-economic duty on public bodies, which came into force on 31 March 2021, reflects these aims.

1.4 Funding of the council's services

1.4.1 Council services

The Council delivers or enables many hundreds of services across all the diverse communities within the county borough and is responsible for providing services such as education, social care, highways, parks and open spaces, public transport, rights of way, road safety, refuse collection, street cleaning, revenues and benefits, public protection, registrars and leisure services, arts and libraries through our partners HALO and Awen. The Council incurs two types of expenditure – revenue expenditure and capital expenditure.

1.4.2 Revenue expenditure

Revenue expenditure covers spending on day-to-day costs of services including staff salaries, maintenance of buildings and general supplies, commissioning, and equipment. This expenditure is paid for from the income received from council taxpayers, business ratepayers, the fees and charges levied for certain services and from grants received from Welsh Government.

1.4.3 Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure covers spending on assets such as roads, new schools, redevelopment schemes 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.

1.4.4 Sources of funding

The main sources of income that the Council receives are fees and charges, grants, business rates and council tax. A definition of these are provided below:

- **Fees and charges**

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

- **Government grants**

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 receive from the Welsh Government, they receive some ring-fenced grants from other government bodies (these grants can only be used for the specific purposes for which they are provided).

- **Business rates**

Local authorities also receive income via Welsh Government from nationally set non-domestic (business) rates.

- **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 Welsh Government. In 2023-24, council tax income represents 27% of the council's net revenue expenditure.

- **Capital financing**

Local authorities receive grants from 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.



Section 2

**Summary of charges
to be levied**

Section 2: Summary of charges to be levied

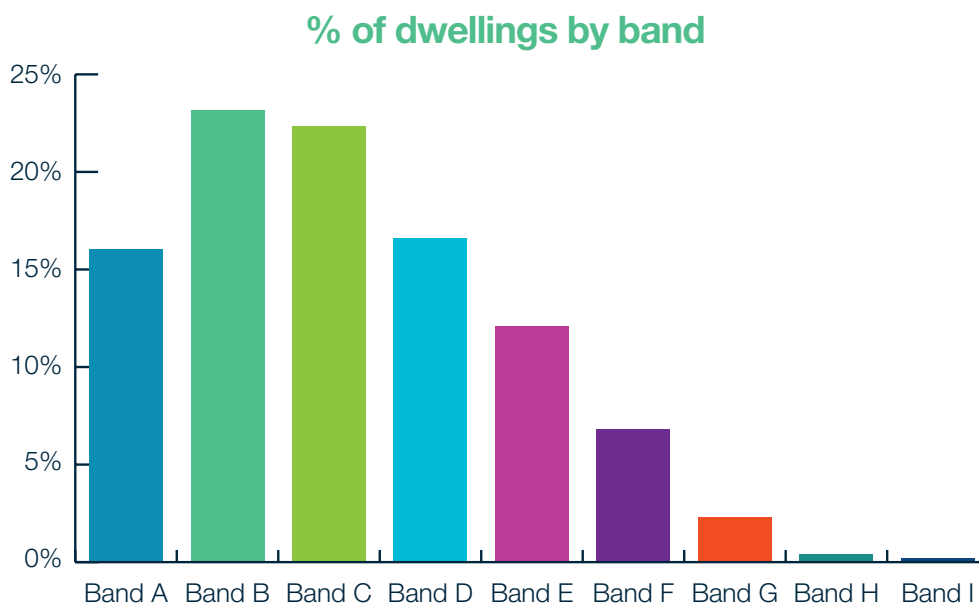
2.1 Council tax and band ranges values

2.1.1 The amount of council tax a resident pays depends on which band their property/ dwelling is in. Each dwelling is allocated to one of nine bands by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), an independent agency which is not part of the Council. Since 2005, council tax has been calculated using nine valuation bands (bands A to I) that were established in 2005 using 2003 house values. However, the VOA also assesses properties when asked to do so, such as during a council tax appeal or band review.

2.1.2 The table below provides details of the percentage of council dwellings by council tax band.

Band	Range of Dwelling Value (Property Value as at 1 st April 2003)	Ratio	Number of Dwellings	% of dwelling in band
A	Up to £44,000	6/9	10,544	16.01%
B	£44,001 to £65,000	7/9	15,309	23.25%
C	£65,001 to £91,000	8/9	14,761	22.42%
D	£91,001 to £123,000	9/9	10,945	16.62%
E	£123,001 to £162,000	11/9	7,945	12.07%
F	£162,001 to £223,000	13/9	4,439	6.74%
G	£223,001 to £324,000	15/9	1,507	2.29%
H	£324,001 to £424,000	18/9	291	0.44%
I	£424,001 and over	21/9	109	0.16%

The chart below shows the percentage of council tax dwellings in each banding.



61.7% of properties in Bridgend County Borough pay less than the 'Band D' equivalent which is the band used to compare levels of Council Tax across Local Authorities.

2.1.3 The table below shows the level of council tax for Bridgend County Borough Council's residents by valuation band. For Band D properties, which account for 16.62% of properties in Bridgend County Borough, the council's element of Council tax is £1,675.26.

Council Tax 2023-24 Band Range Values – Bridgend County Borough Council

Band	Range of Dwelling Value (Property Value as at 1 st April 2003)	Council Tax 2022-23 £	Council Tax 2023-24 £
A	Up to £44,000	1,064.67	1,116.84
B	£44,001 to £65,000	1,242.12	1,302.98
C	£65,001 to £91,000	1,419.56	1,489.12
D	£91,001 to £123,000	1,597.01	1,675.26
E	£123,001 to £162,000	1,951.90	2,047.54
F	£162,001 to £223,000	2,306.79	2,419.82
G	£223,001 to £324,000	2,661.68	2,792.10
H	£324,001 to £424,000	3,194.02	3,350.52
I	£424,001 and over	3,726.36	3,908.94

2.1.4 The council tax bill for the 2023-24 financial year (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) is made up of charges from Bridgend County Borough Council, the Police and 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.

2.2 Council tax requirement 2023-24

2.2.1 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. Council tax currently accounts for 27% 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 Gross Council Tax base for Bridgend for 2023-24 is 56,418.28 Band D equivalent properties and the estimated collection rate is 97.5%. The Net Council tax base is, therefore, 55,007.82, which gives a Band D council tax of £1,675.26, as detailed in the table below:

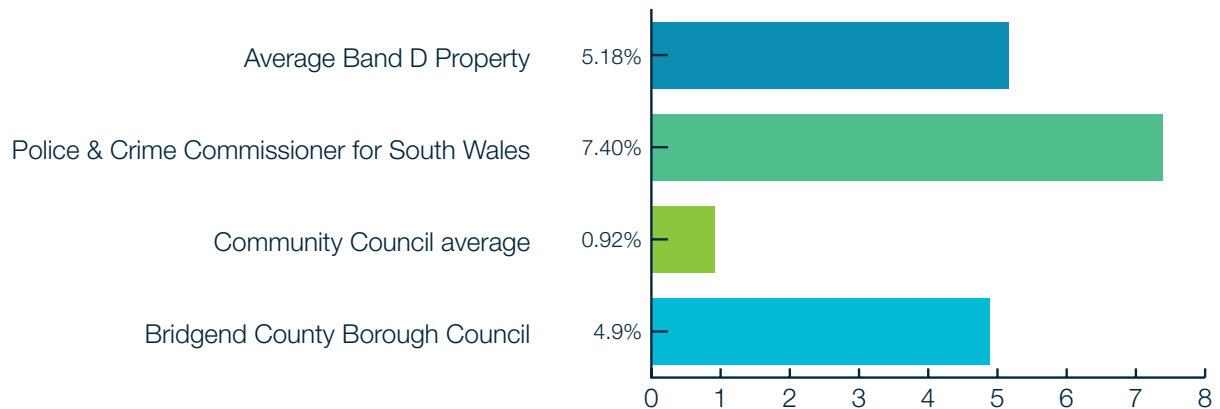
The average Bridgend County Borough Council Tax is calculated below:

Bridgend County Borough Council	2022-23 £	2023-24 £
Expenditure charged to Revenue Account	459,188,753	481,891,123
Income credited to Revenue Account	-139,674,340	-139,556,790
Net Expenditure Budget	319,514,413	342,334,333
Partly Funded by:		
Amount to be funded by BCBC	87,146,456	92,152,401
Council Tax Requirement	87,146,456	92,152,401
Net Council Tax Base (Band D Equivalent)	54,568.51	55,007.82
Band D Council Tax Requirement	£1,597.01	£1675.26
Percentage Change over previous year	0%	4.9%

2.3 Band D council tax % increase 2023-24

2.3.1 The amount to be met from council tax this year amounts to £92.2 million. There is a 4.9% increase to the average Band D charge for the county borough council element. This is due to the pressures the council is facing. The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales precept for a Band D property has increased by 7.4%, and the average Band D community council precept has increased by 0.92%. The total average overall increase in council tax for a Band D property is 5.18%.

Band D Council Tax % change 2023-24



2.4 Band D council tax charges by town and community council area 2023-24

2.4.1 The previous table showed the council tax for Bridgend County Borough Council's residents by property band. Town and Community Council precepts vary across the County Borough, producing variations in the total payable by a householder in the same council tax band in different areas of the County Borough, and the table below shows a breakdown of the total council tax charge, including the total payable by town and community council area for 2023-24 for a Band D property:

Community Council	Bridgend CBC £	Community/ Town Council £	Police £	Total £
Brackla Community Council	1,675.26	42.74	324.47	2,042.47
Bridgend Town Council	1,675.26	106.70	324.47	2,106.43
Cefn Cribbwr Community Council	1,675.26	76.12	324.47	2,075.85
Coity Higher Community Council	1,675.26	27.84	324.47	2,027.57
Cornelly Community Council	1,675.26	58.62	324.47	2,058.35
Coychurch Higher Community Council	1,675.26	31.25	324.47	2,030.98
Coychurch Lower Community Council	1,675.26	62.88	324.47	2,062.61
Garw Valley Community Council	1,675.26	52.72	324.47	2,052.45
Laleston Community Council	1,675.26	51.59	324.47	2,051.32
Llangynwyd Lower Community Council	1,675.26	57.05	324.47	2,056.78
Llangynwyd Middle Community Council	1,675.26	69.41	324.47	2,069.14
Maesteg Town Council	1,675.26	53.75	324.47	2,053.48
Merthyr Mawr Community Council	1,675.26	13.41	324.47	2,013.14
Newcastle Higher Community Council	1,675.26	27.51	324.47	2,027.24
Ogmore Valley Community Council	1,675.26	36.13	324.47	2,035.86
Pencoed Town Council	1,675.26	47.82	324.47	2,047.55
Porthcawl Town Council	1,675.26	51.44	324.47	2,051.17
Pyle Community Council	1,675.26	47.63	324.47	2,047.36
St Brides Minor Community Council	1,675.26	26.85	324.47	2,026.58
Ynysawdre Community Council	1,675.26	32.16	324.47	2,031.89

2.5 Non-domestic (business) rates (NDR)

2.5.1 NDR are the means by which businesses and other owners of non-domestic property contribute towards the costs of local authority services. Business rates are an annual, national tax. Ratepayers and owners of all non-domestic and business properties pay business rates, and examples of liable properties include shops, offices, pubs, warehouses and factories.

2.5.2 The National Business Rate multiplier is set by Welsh Government each year in accordance with paragraph 3B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Finance Act 1988. The calculation is based on a formula which takes account of the annual change in Consumer Price Index (CPI), and for the financial year 2023-24 the multiplier will remain at £0.535. Welsh Government has decided not to raise the multiplier again. This decision will ensure, prior to applying any reliefs, that there will be no increase in the amount of rates which businesses and other ratepayers across Wales pay in 2023-24 unless they are affected by a revaluation.

Non-Domestic (Business) Rates	2022-23	2023-24
National Business Rate Multiplier (set by Welsh Government)	53.5p per £	53.5p per £

2.5.3 Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) are calculated by taking the Rateable Value (RV) of a property and multiplying it by the NDR 'multiplier' for the year in question.

2.5.4 Bridgend County Borough Council collects business rates on behalf of Welsh Government. A share of the sum collected is then redistributed to Welsh local authorities, based on each authority's adult population, as part of the local government settlement, to pay for services.

2.5.5 Information on properties that are exempt from paying business rates, or pay a reduced rate is available at the following website address: <https://businesswales.gov.wales/business-rates-relief-in->



Section 3

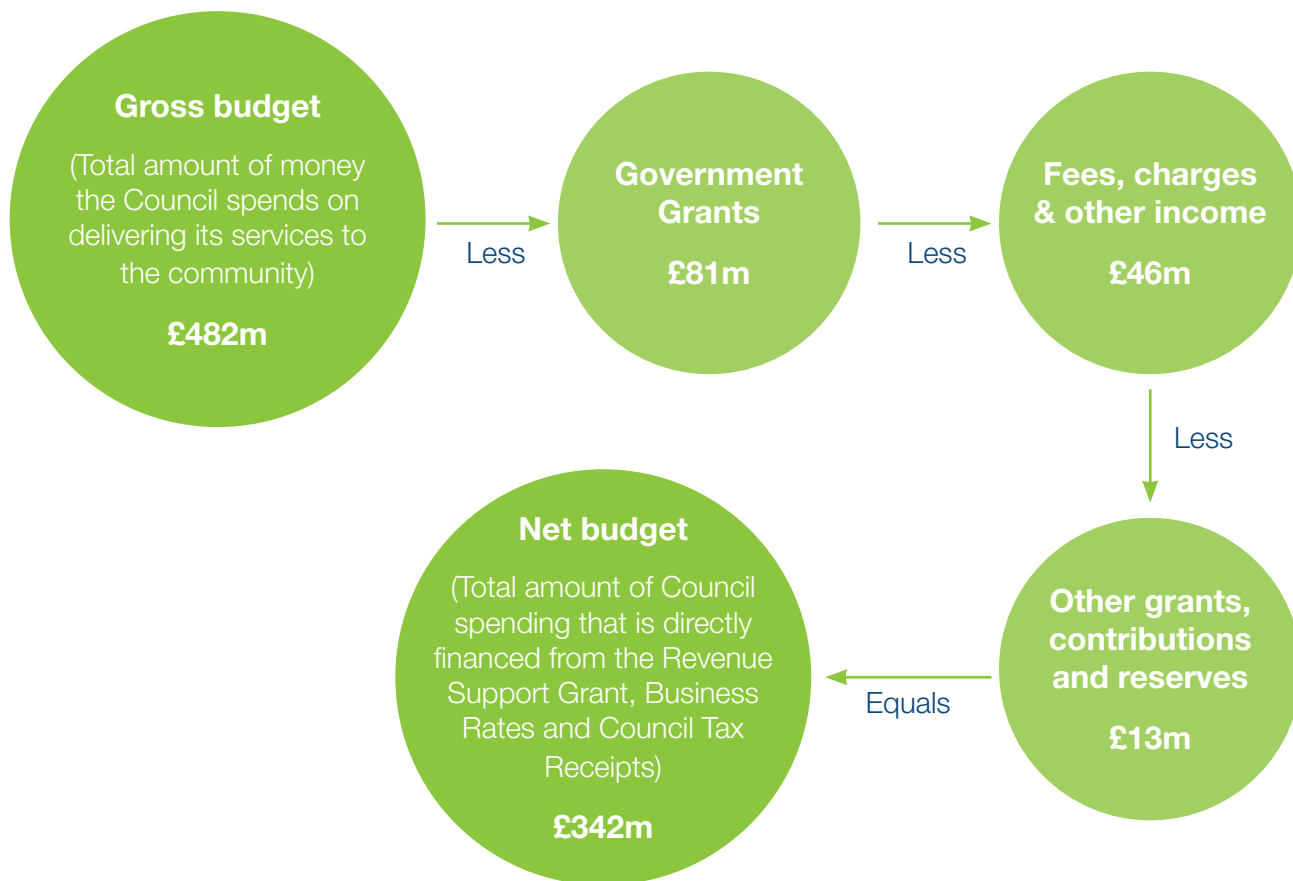
**Revenue budget
2023-24**

Section 3: Revenue budget 2023-24

3.1 Gross budget to net budget

3.1.1 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:



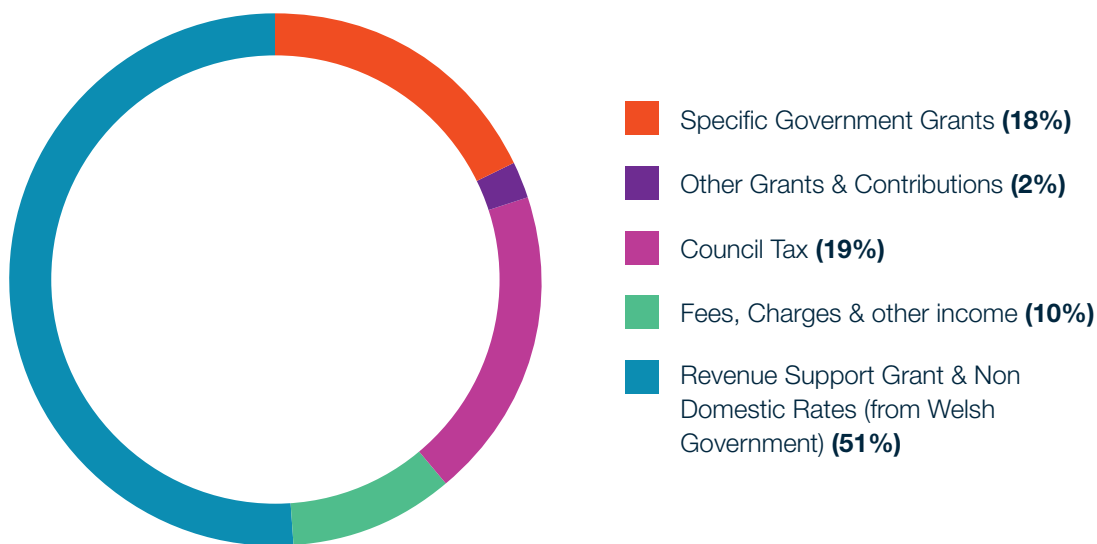
3.1.2 Revenue Budget

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.

3.2 Gross revenue budget

The charts below outline our gross income and spending plans for 2023-24. The gross cost of revenue services provided by the Council in 2023-24 is £482 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 Gross Revenue Income 2023-24 (£481.891m)



* Fees, Charges and Other Income includes transfers of funding from earmarked reserves (£4.511m), inter-directorate recharges (£7.531m), internal Income including contract related income (£12.650m) and income from customers and clients (£21.957m).

Where each £1 spent by the council comes from



- 52p** Welsh Government Revenue Support Grant and Non-Domestic Rates
- 19p** Council Tax
- 17p** Specific Government Grants
- 9p** Fees, Charges and Other Income
- 3p** Other Grants and Contributions

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

Where the money is spent - by category of spend

Gross expenditure by type of spend 2023-24 (£481.891m)

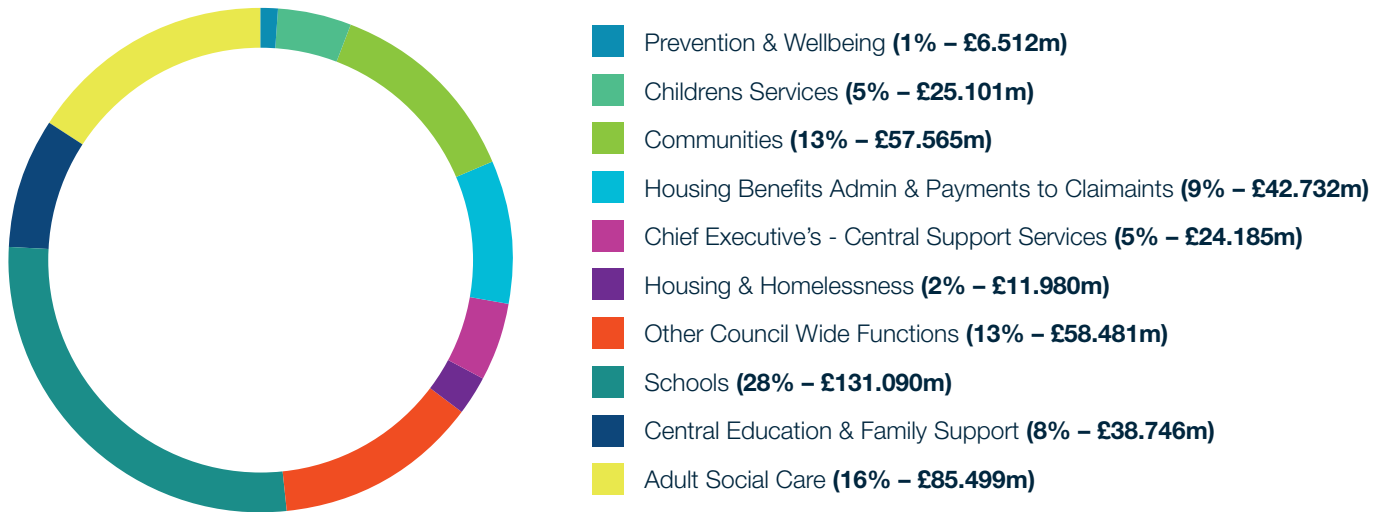


- Premises Related Costs (3% – £14.089m)**
- Transport Related Expenditure (3% – £16.025m)**
- Supplies & Services (14% – £61.598m)**
- Third Party Payments (20% – £103.088m)**
- Transfer Payments (14% – £63.533m)**
- Support Services (0% – £0.026m)**
- Capital Financing Costs (2% – £11.685m)**
- Employee Costs (44% – £211.847m)**

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

Where the money is spent – by service area

Where the money is spent Gross revenue expenditure 2023-24 (£481.891m)



Note: Other Council Wide Functions includes Capital Financing Costs, Precepts and Levies, Council Tax Reduction Scheme and corporate provision for pay and prices.

Chief Executive's - Central Support Services - includes: Finance, Audit, HR, ICT, Legal & Democratic & Regulatory Services, Housing & Homelessness, Business Support, and Elections & Partnerships.

Communities - includes Facilities & Asset Management, Planning & Development Services, Strategic Regeneration, Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability, Cleaner Streets & Waste Management, Corporate Landlord and Highways & Green Spaces.

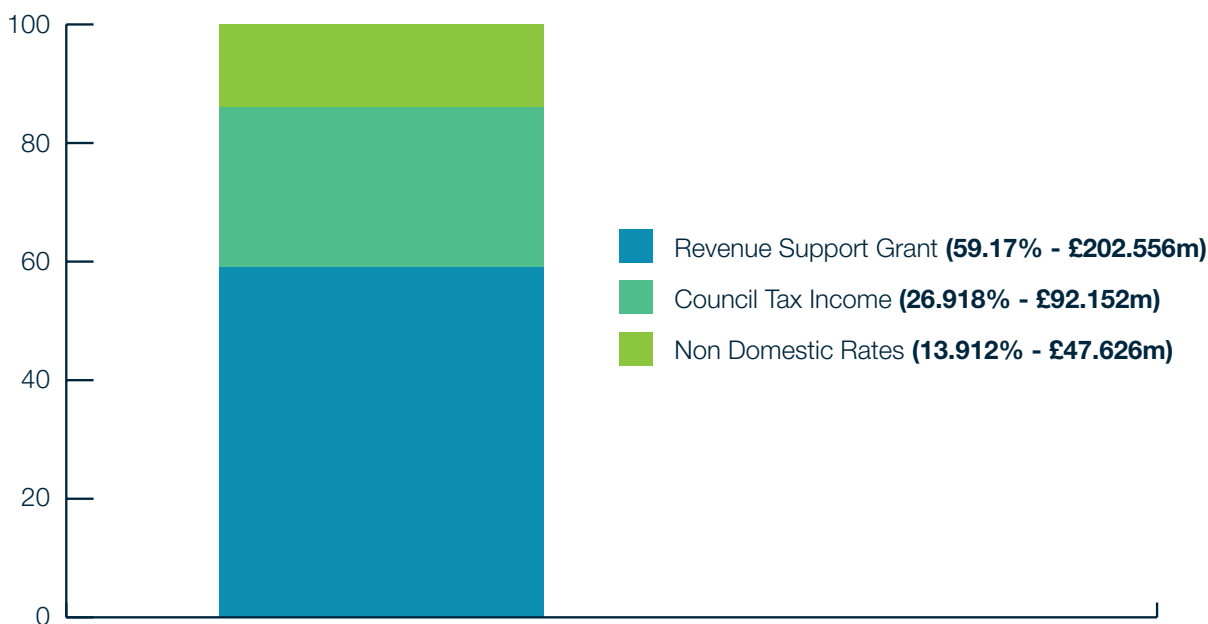
3.3 Net revenue budget

The charts below outline our net income and spending plans for 2023-24. The net cost of revenue services provided by the Council in 2023-24 is £342 million; this only includes expenditure financed by the revenue support grant, share of non domestic rates and council tax.

Funding of net revenue budget

The following chart analyses the principal sources of funding of net expenditure for 2023-24:

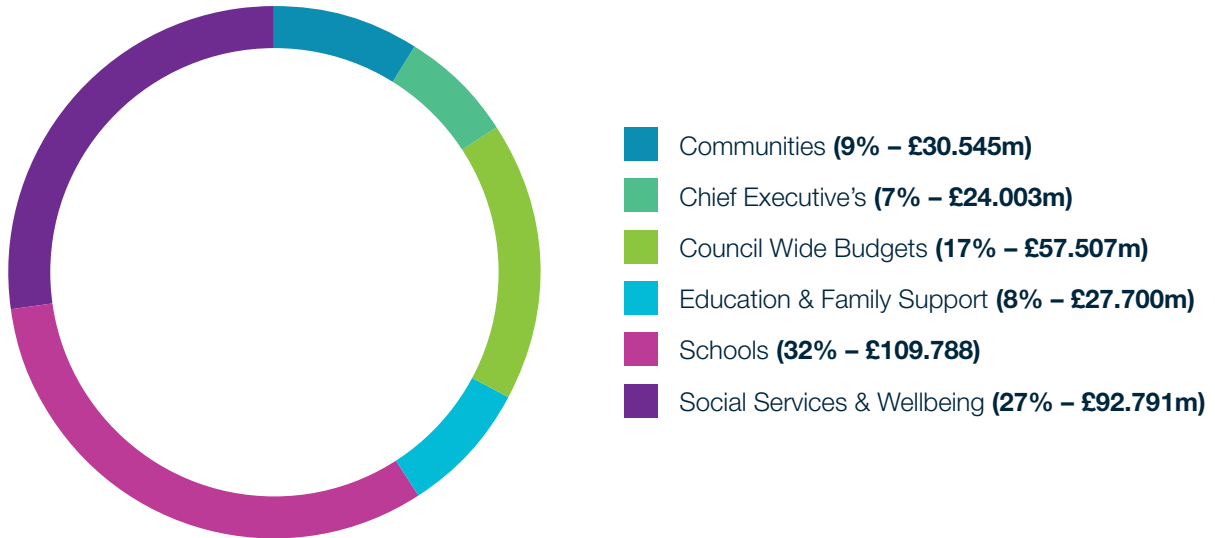
Funding of net revenue expenditure 2023-24
(Total £342.334m)



Net revenue budget by service

The chart below shows the net revenue budget of £342.334 million by service area:

Net service expenditure 2023-24 (£342.334m)



Net revenue budget by category of spend

The table below provides details of the net revenue expenditure by category of spend:

Bridgend County Borough Council	Budget £' million	%
Employee Costs	211.848	44.0%
Gross Budget	481.891	100
Net Budget	342.334	

Notional breakdown of Band D council tax by service

A notional breakdown of the 2023-24 net revenue budget based on a Band D equivalent of £1675.26 (4.9% increase), as an example, is provided in the table below:

Service Expenditure	Net Budget £	Notional Band D Equivalent £
Central Education And Family Support	27,700,000	£135.55
Schools	109,788,000	£537.26
Social Services And Wellbeing	92,791,000	£454.09
Communities	30,545,000	£149.48
Chief Executive's	24,003,000	£117.46
Council Wide Budgets		
Capital Financing	7,203,000	£35.25
Levies	9,188,964	£44.97
Repairs And Maintenance	670,000	£3.28
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	16,054,000	£78.56
Apprenticeship Levy	650,000	£3.18
Pension Related Costs	430,000	£2.10
Insurance Premiums	1,363,000	£6.67
Other Council Wide Budgets	21,948,369	£107.41
Net Expenditure to be funded	342,334,333	£1,675.26

3.4 Net revenue expenditure by directorate

3.4.1 Education and family support overview

The Council is proposing to spend £137 million on services delivered by the Education and Family Support Directorate in 2023-2024, prior to the allocation of additional funding for pay and price increases.

The majority of this money will be spent by the 59 schools across the County Borough.

Schools are the biggest single area of spend of the Council.

In addition to the £110 million proposed budget to be delegated to schools in 2023-2024, the Council has already spent £21.6 million in building and refurbishing schools as part of our 21st Century School Modernisation Band A Programme and has provisionally committed to a further £19 million as part of the newly renamed Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.

These sums comprise one-off capital expenditure across several years, including funding for land and infrastructure works, with significant match funding from Welsh Government.

3.4.1.1 Education and family support revenue: services provided

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Learning	
6,649,854	Sub-Total	6,658,920
	Strategic Partnership And Commissioning	
3,077,814	Sub-Total	3,182,850
	Business Support	
10,812,388	Sub-Total	10,785,850
	Schools Support	
669,300	Sub-Total	678,620
	Schools Modernisation	
3,774,350	Schools Modernisation	3,772,770
3,774,350	Sub-Total	3,772,770
	Vulnerable Group Support	
641,462	Vulnerable Group Support	792,210
641,462	Sub-Total	792,210
	Strategic Management	
1,870,640	Strategic Management	1,828,780
1,870,640	Sub-Total	1,828,780
	Delegated School Budgets	
110,437,286	Individual School Budgets	109,788,000
110,437,286	Sub-Total	109,788,000
137,933,094	Total: Education & Family Support	137,488,000

3.4.1.2 Education and family support revenue: type of spend

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	CENTRAL EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Employees	
3,106,590	Teachers	3,163,930
275,480	Chief Officers	272,050
13,158,614	Officers	13,713,380
299,260	Youth Leaders	306,010
453,520	Soulbury Officers	443,390
25,000	Agency Staff	25,000
984,640	Staff Training And Historic Pension Costs	960,270
	Premises Related Expenditure	
160,500	Repairs And Maintenance	160,500
15,000	Maintenance Of Grounds	15,000
20,770	Energy Costs	20,770
24,860	Rents	27,100
10,840	Business Rates / Council Tax	10,840
1,440	Water Services	1,440
3,100	Cleaning And Domestic Supplies	3,100
26,450	Shared Building Related Costs	26,450
2,800	Premises Insurance	2,800
23,270	Other Premises Related Costs	23,170
	Transport Related Costs	
10,700	Direct Transport Costs	10,700
29,170	Fleet Services Hire	29,170
7,886,860	Contract Hire & Operating Leases	7,845,930
6,280	Public Transport	6,330
139,970	Car Allowances	140,160

3.4.1.3 Schools' revenue budget: type of spend

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	DELEGATED SCHOOLS BUDGETS	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Employees	
80,057,100	Teachers	79,005,050
28,508,050	Officers	28,645,050
80,300	Youth Leaders	80,300
1,751,020	Agency Staff	1,751,020
108,200	Indirect Employee Expenses	108,200
	Premises Related Expenditure	
1,226,500	Repairs And Maintenance	1,226,500
186,520	Maintenance Of Grounds	186,520
2,092,930	Energy Costs	2,358,690
79,000	Rents	79,000
2,079,880	Business Rates / Council Tax	2,079,880
333,930	Water Services	333,930
138,400	Fixtures And Fittings	138,400
797,700	Cleaning And Domestic Supplies	797,700
34,300	Premises Insurance	34,300
88,000	Other Premises Related Costs	88,000
	Transport Related Costs	
30,950	Direct Transport Costs	30,950
500	Fleet Services Hire	500
187,500	Contact Hire & Operating Lses	187,500
4,680	Public Transport	4,680
15,700	Transport Insurances	15,700
29,600	Car Allowances	29,600

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	DELEGATED SCHOOLS BUDGETS (continued)	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Supplies And Services	
131,739,276	Total Expenditure	131,089,990
	Income	
(21,301,990)	Total Income	(21,301,990)
110,437,286	Total: Delegated Schools Budgets	109,788,000

3.4.2 Social services and wellbeing overview

After Education, the largest area of Council spend is on social care. This includes social work and social care for children and for adults with care and support needs. Within the Directorate there is a focus on safeguarding and protecting people from harm, supporting their well-being and connection, and high quality social work practice. The directorate works with others to ensure people's needs are met preventatively where possible which, when this works well, means statutory social care services are focussed on those with the highest level of needs. The Directorate continues to work with others to develop the most effective service delivery options, and this includes better support and outcomes for prevention, early intervention, and wellbeing. This approach supports the well-being objective of 'helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient' and is also part of the Council's transformation plan. Financial strategy and service strategy need to be aligned in an area where the budget is needs led and can be volatile, particularly as need for support increases with demographic changes, the long-term impact of pandemic lockdowns and the cost of living crisis. Our strategic plans are focused on embedding strength-based models of practice and supporting individuals- adults, children and families and carers to live their best lives, safeguarding where necessary and working with others for them to realign their services to impact and prevent escalation of need.

Social services is largely a needs led service and thus the long-term workforce, service and financial strategies need to align to enable people and families to live well and inter-dependently, connected to the people that matter to them and their communities. Demographics show that people are living longer, often with more complex conditions than ever before. This means that there are more people living in the community who would previously have remained in hospital or entered a care home. Children's social care is also needs led and the financial pressure to meet need can fluctuate very rapidly. Needs are met and personal outcomes achieved within available budgets. In total, the Council is proposing to spend £92 million on social care and wellbeing services in 2023-24.

3.4.2.1 Social services and wellbeing: services provided

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Adult Social Care	
57,653,084	Sub-Total	62,964,173
	Prevention And Wellbeing	
5,703,736	Recreation And Sport	5,696,460
5,703,736	Sub-Total	5,696,460
	Childrens Services	
21,599,100	Childrens Services	24,130,367
21,599,100	Sub-Total	24,130,367
84,955,920	Total: Social Services And Wellbeing	92,791,000

3.4.2.2 Social services and wellbeing budget: type of spend

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Employees	
489,531	Chief Officers	482,800
40,236,106	Officers	42,903,660
263,350	Indirect Employee Expenses	348,360
49,837	Off Payroll Working (IR35)	46,250
	Premises Related Expenditure	
231,890	Repairs And Maintenance	386,890
25,000	Maintenance Of Grounds	25,000
43,190	Energy Costs	43,190
248,650	Rents	251,650
5,970	Business Rates / Council Tax	5,970
11,950	Water Services	16,950
1,000	Fixtures And Fittings	1,000
16,250	Cleaning And Domestic Supplies	17,450
40,060	Shared Building Related Costs	53,930
149,610	Other Premises Related Costs	166,850
	Transport Related Costs	
54,530	Direct Transport Costs	62,540
222,200	Fleet Services Hire	222,200
162,760	Hire & Leasing Of Vehicles	168,760
20,810	Travel Expenses	20,770
666,984	Car Allowances	618,320

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING (continued)	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Supplies And Services	
108,689,825	Total Expenditure	117,111,210
	Income	
(23,743,905)	Total Income	(24,320,210)
84,945,920	Total: Social Services And Wellbeing	92,791,000

3.4.3 Communities overview

3.4.3.1 Regeneration

Whilst this is a Council priority, services such as regeneration and economic development as a discretionary service have nevertheless made significant reductions to their budgets over recent years. The Council has delivered this by employing fewer but more highly skilled staff, and focussing activity more narrowly on priority areas to maximise impact. Going forward, we will increasingly collaborate on a regional basis with the nine other Councils that make up the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) City Deal, particularly in areas such as transport, economic development and strategic planning.

The City Deal is creating a £1.2 billion fund for investment in the region over the next 20 years. This long-term investment will be targeted to focus on raising economic prosperity, increasing job prospects and improving digital and transport connectivity. To play an effective part in the City Deal, the Council will maintain as far as possible existing investment in its transport planning, spatial planning and regeneration teams to reflect this direction of travel.

The Council will be spending in the region of £2.2 million a year running these services, plus a further £700,000 as Bridgend's contribution to the Deal itself. These teams will ensure successful delivery of high profile regeneration projects, including the numerous regeneration projects in Porthcawl such as the regeneration of Cosy Corner, development of a retail store and the implementation of the Placemaking Strategy. Other schemes include the redevelopment of Ewenny Road in Maesteg for both housing and employment uses, where the remediation of the site is being funded by a £3.5 million Housing Viability Grant from the CCR. In addition, through its Metro programme, and together with Welsh Government, the Cardiff Capital Region provides the principal funding mechanism for large strategic transport projects within the region. Current projects include £3 million for the Porthcawl Metrolink bus facility.

The completion of the £8 million redevelopment and refurbishment of the Maesteg Town Hall in the summer of 2023, will bring state of the art community, music, performance and library facilities to the heart of the Llynfi valley and will safeguard this 141 year old listed-building for future generations. We are also in the process of delivering a replacement Local Development Plan (LDP). This has been submitted to Welsh Government's Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) for examination in public and if successful could be adopted by the summer of 2023.

The communities directorate has made and continues to make good progress in pursuit of the development of our main towns. These include the proposed regeneration of the waterfront at Porthcawl, including the Salt Lake site, the redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall as stated above, and investment in initiatives to improve the town centre in Bridgend. This includes the development of a new £48 million Bridgend College Campus on the former police station site at Cheapside, in the town centre.

The communities directorate will continue to operate a number of grant funded programmes of work to support our most vulnerable groups and those furthest away from employment, including training and skills and work support programmes under the Employability Bridgend programme. The Council has been awarded over £20 million from the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) to undertake various programmes with partners across the County over the next two years, including training and new business start-up grants. In addition, a bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund (LUF), for the complete refurbishment of the Grand Pavilion in Porthcawl was successfully made and an award of £18 million confirmed.

3.4.3.2 Public realm (street scene)

The communities directorate work on the public realm has a direct and visible impact on everybody. This includes our work to maintain highways, parks and open spaces, clean our streets, and collect and dispose of our waste.

In 2023-24 the communities directorate is anticipating receipt of around £4 million of direct Welsh Government grant for public realm services. This includes waste services, public transport, rights of way and road safety. The overall net budget that the Council proposes to spend on public realm communities' services is around £22 million.

Historical and ongoing budget reductions meant that, in many cases, the directorate has had to reduce levels of service. However, the services in the communities section have also been subject to service changes resulting in alternative delivery models that have increased productivity, as well as collaborative approaches that have increased both efficiency and service resilience. Investment in this area is proposed to continue into 2023-24.

Bridgend is consistently in the top 5 of best performing waste recycling authorities in Wales, However, the Council has seen higher overall domestic waste due to the impact of the pandemic and the high number of people continuing to work from home. We expect to spend in the region of £9.4 million on the collection and disposal of waste in 2023-24.

A major challenge for the Council is how to continue to meet public expectations for many highly visible and tangible services when the reduced available overall Council budget inevitably means the Council will be less able to deliver these services to the same level and frequency. Specific identified cost savings that will challenge public expectations for the 2023-24 year include, closure of Community Recycling Centres for one day per week and implementation of charging in car parks for Blue Badge holders.

We will continue to also develop alternative ways of delivering and sustaining services including greater and more effective collaboration and encouraging others to work with us or assume direct responsibility for services in some cases through, a flexible approach to community asset transfer (CAT), ensuring that appropriate advice and both capital investment (from the CAT fund in the capital programme) and revenue support (from the sports club support fund) are made available.

3.4.3.3 Communities: services provided

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	COMMUNITIES	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Corporate Landlord	
3,068,993	Sub-Total	2,926,630
	Strategic Management	
283,260	Strategic Management	275,970
283,260	Sub-Total	275,970
	Planning And Development Services	
691,020	Sub-Total	674,420
	Strategic Regeneration	
1,693,110	Sub-Total	1,682,300
	Economy, Natural Resources And Sustainability	
1,665,184	Sub-Total	1,660,520

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	COMMUNITIES (continued)	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Cleaner Streets And Waste Management	
11,986,567	Sub-total	11,862,100
	Highways And Green Spaces	
11,625,441	Sub-total	11,463,060
31,013,575	Total: Communities	30,545,000

3.4.3.4 Communities budget: type of spend

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	COMMUNITIES	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Employees	
280,720	Chief Officers	273,430
19,996,426	Officers	18,100,730
496,860	Agency Staff	496,860
10,220	Indirect Employee Expenses	10,220
	Premises Related Expenditure	
1,702,833	Repairs And Maintenance	1,817,450
190,260	Maintenance Of Grounds	190,260
555,461	Energy Costs	551,310
524,256	Rents	524,210
878,934	Business Rates / Council Tax	877,990
110,264	Water Services	109,710
9,550	Fixtures And Fittings	8,550
253,100	Cleaning And Domestic Supplies	320,130
2,500	Shared Building Related Costs	2,500
14,048	Premises Insurance	14,050
44,945	Other Premises Related Costs	59,570
	Transport Related Costs	
904,032	Direct Transport Costs	1,012,820
184,808	Fleet Services Hire	184,810
4,625,861	Concessionary Fares And Transport Grants	4,625,860
14,700	Public Transport	4,700
556,210	Car Allowances	550,450
	Supplies And Services	
2,096,840	Equipment, Materials And Furniture	2,086,120
20,510	Catering	20,510
24,625	Clothing, Uniforms, Laundry	24,630
97,720	Printing, Stationery, Etc.	97,080
323,232	Advertising	160,320
743,961	Grants And Subscriptions	666,960
4,720,808	Other Hired And Professional Services	2,524,380
239,311	Communications / Computing	252,450
7,800	Staff Expenses e.g. conference fees	7,800
294,904	Miscellaneous Supplies And Services	276,010

3.4.4 Chief Executive's directorate overview

3.4.4.1 The service area plays a key role as a provider of both front line services (e.g. Council Tax, Benefits and Housing) and internal support services across the Council. The following functions are undertaken within the service area:

- **Finance**

The Council has a central team that manages all of the financial management of the Council. The service fulfils certain legal requirements that ensures transparency and accountability in the way that public money is used.

- **Internal audit**

Our Regional Internal Audit Shared Service is provided by a joint service that we share with the Vale of Glamorgan, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Councils. The service carries out routine checks and investigations to ensure that the Council maintains good governance – especially as it relates to the proper accountability of money and other resources.

- **Human Resources (HR) and Organisational Development (OD)**

With almost 6,000 employees including schools, the Council needs a dedicated human resources service. The primary role of the service is to provide professional advice, guidance and support to managers and staff on a wide range of HR and OD issues as well as provide HR services for the payment of salaries, pension, agency staff, contracts and absence administration. Other services include training and development, recruitment and retention, developing employee skills and 'growing our own'. We intend making greater investment in recruiting more apprentices and graduates next year. Ongoing recruitment challenges across the authority, and the specific challenges of recruiting social workers has put additional cost and workload pressures on the HR service.

- **ICT**

We are continuing to invest in the automation and digitisation of services in line with our recently approved Digital Strategy, where it is appropriate to do so, and work is ongoing to identify priority areas through the Digital Transformation Programme which will help achieve savings in future years of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The Council spends in excess of £5 million on its ICT services provision to support main Council activities and schools.

- **Housing and community regeneration**

The Council does not have any housing stock of its own but retains a number of statutory functions relating to addressing housing need and combatting homelessness. The service is also responsible for the administration of mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant, which aims to keep people to live as independently as possible in their own homes. The service is facing significant pressures in terms of demand for housing, and as a result of legislative changes from Welsh Government, increased demand for temporary accommodation placements since the Covid-19 pandemic.

- **Legal services**

The Council needs to maintain effective legal support for all of its services. At a time when the Council is trying to transform services it is important to bring about these changes within the law. The service also directly supports front line services such as Education and Social Services, and is provided by a mix of permanent internal staff and expertise purchased from the private sector when necessary. Almost half of our in-house legal team is specifically focussed on child protection cases. Current pressures in Childrens Services have added to the significant workload and cost pressures on Legal Services.

- **Democratic services**

Provides support to democratic processes to ensure accountability and transparency in decision making, which includes providing democratic support to the Mayor and 54 elected members (Councillors) who make decisions, set policy direction and oversee the general performance of the Council. Like many Councils, Bridgend has a mayor whose job is to chair meetings of the Council and represent the Council in the community.

- Procurement**
 The Council has a central team that provides procurement support across the range of services that we provide to ensure good value for money across the Council.
- Regulatory services**
 This is a combined service with the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff City Councils and includes Trading Standards, Environmental Health, Animal Health and Licensing (Alcohol, Gambling, Safety at Sports Grounds, Taxis etc.). These services all ensure in different ways that the public is protected.
- Registrars**
 The Council operates a registrar's service that deals primarily with the registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths. The service also undertakes Civil Partnership and Citizenship ceremonies. The main base for the registrars' service was moved from Ty'r Ardd to the Civic Offices during 2020-21, creating efficiencies in terms of operating costs by rationalising the Council's estate and generating an additional capital receipt.
- Council tax and benefits**
 The taxation service collects over £85 million in Council tax from around 65,500 households across the county borough. Although benefits are funded by the central UK government, the administration of Housing Benefit and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme falls to the Council.

3.4.4.2 Chief Executive's: Services provided

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Chief Executive Unit	
483,160	Chief Executive Unit	481,370
483,160	Sub-Total	481,370
	Finance	
4,133,091	Sub-Total	3,933,000
	Human Resources / Organisational Development	
2,116,345	Human Resources And Organisational Development	2,103,540
2,116,345	Sub-Total	2,103,540
	Partnerships	
2,256,319	Sub-Total	2,240,320

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S (continued)	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Legal, Democratic And Regulatory	
5,485,704	Sub-Total	5,598,810
	ICT	
4,052,373	ICT	4,000,860
4,052,373	Sub-Total	4,000,860
	Elections	
113,590	Elections	132,060
113,590	Sub-Total	132,060
	Housing And Homelessness	
3,430,768	Housing And Community Regeneration	4,121,710
3,430,768	Sub-Total	4,121,710
	Business Support	
1,417,688	Business Unit	1,391,330
1,417,688	Sub-Total	1,391,330
23,489,038	Total: Chief Executive's	24,003,000

3.4.4.3 Chief Executive's budget: by type of spend

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Employees	
191,791	Chief Executive	194,570
368,515	Chief Officers	387,740
18,445,301	Officers	18,393,360
1,301,759	Members	1,297,110
6,000	Agency Staff	6,000
8,009	Staff Training	3,060
	Premises Related Expenditure	
20,500	Repairs And Maintenance	20,500
12,010	Energy Costs	12,010
5,400	Rents	5,400
2,290	Business Rates / Council Tax	2,290
100	Water Services	100
1,070	Fixtures And Fittings	1,070
4,080	Shared Building Related Costs	4,080
15,710	Other Premises Related Costs	15,710
	Transport Related Costs	
59,330	Direct Vehicle Running Costs Including Repairs and Mileage	59,330
22,500	Hire And Leasing of vehicles	22,500
7,360	Travel Expenses	7,160
41,550	Car Allowances	40,950
	Supplies And Services	
204,640	Equipment, Materials And Furniture	204,640
1,040	Catering	910
770	Clothing, Uniforms, Laundry	770
264,780	Printing, Stationery, Etc.	206,560
45,560	Advertising	43,170
162,250	Grants And Subscriptions	160,350
1,653,080	Other Hired And Professional Services	1,640,230
3,125,066	Communications / Computing	3,101,240
1,100	Staff Expenses e.g. conference fees	1,100
2,663,115	Housing Solutions, Software, and Development	3,328,410
5,000	Mayoral - Hospitality Fund	5,000

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S (continued)	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Third Party Payments	
78,373,391	Total Expenditure	78,897,480
	Income	
(54,875,490)	Total Income	(54,894,480)
23,497,901	Total: Chief Executive's	24,003,000

3.4.5 Council wide budgets

3.4.5.1 Council Wide Budgets represent those elements of expenditure which are Council wide and which cannot be directly attributed to any specific service.

Net Budget 2022/2023 £	COUNCIL WIDE	Net Budget 2023/2024 £
	Council Wide Budgets	
42,122,786	Total: Council Wide	57,220,227



Section 4

**Capital budget
2023-24**

Section 4: Capital budget 2023-24

4.1 Capital budget 2023-24

4.1.1 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, or providing capital grants to individuals and outside bodies. The Capital Budget includes expenditure on a number of significant strategic investment projects within the county borough.



The main areas of planned capital project expenditure for 2023-24 include:

- Sustainable Communities for Learning (formerly 21st Century schools) Band B
- Porthcawl Grand Pavilion
- Disabled Facilities Grants and other housing adaptation schemes
- Cardiff Capital Region City Deal
- Shared Prosperity Fund
- Maesteg Town Hall
- Fleet Vehicles
- Playgrounds Refurbishments
- Highways Refurbishments

4.2 Funding of capital programme

4.2.1 The funding of the Capital Programme for 2023-24 is £69.045 million as detailed in the table below:

Funding	2023-24 £'M	%
General Capital Funding - Supported Borrowing	3.951	5.72%
General Capital Funding - General Capital Grant	4.057	5.88%
External Grants And Contributions	18.834	27.28%
Prudential Borrowing (unsupported)	5.722	8.29%
Capital Receipts	16.776	24.30%
Earmarked Reserves	19.102	27.67%
Revenue Contribution	0.603	0.87%
Total Funding	69.045	100%

4.3 Allocation of capital budget

4.3.1 The Capital Budget of £69.045 million has been allocated as follows:

Service Areas	2023-24 £'M	%
Education & Family Support (Including schools)	26.917	38.98%
Social Services and Well-being - Adult Social Care	0.692	1.00%
Social Services and Well-being - Culture	6.009	8.70%
Communities - Street Scene	9.149	13.25%
Communities - Regeneration & Development	11.445	16.58%
Communities - Corporate Landlord	9.714	14.07%
Chief Executive's - ICT & Corporate Capital Fund	1.840	2.66%
Chief Executive's - Housing / Homelessness	2.800	4.06%
Council Wide Capital Budgets	0.479	0.69%
Total	69.045	100%



Section 5

**Bridgend County
Borough Council
– key statistics**

Section 5: Bridgend County Borough Council – key statistics

5.1 Bridgend County Borough Council

5.1.1. This section provides details of the key statistics for Bridgend County Borough Council.

Bridgend County Borough Council	
Size	98.5 square miles
Population (Est.2021)	145,760
Households	65,850
Average House Price	£198,975 (Bridgend) £213,091 (Wales) (UK HPI Wales : June 2022)
Active Businesses	4,505
Percentage of Population Economically Active *	74.2% (September 2022)



* Between 2010 and 2020 Bridgend’s population grew by 6.5% and this is expected to continue and reach around 151,600 by 2028, an increase of around 0.3% per annum. The age distribution of the County Borough is broadly in line with the average for Wales, however there is a higher percentage of 30 to 64 year olds, and lower percentage of 15 to 29 and 65+ year olds.

A growth in population places greater demand on Council services including housing, education, environment services and social care. The level of unemployment is also instrumental in determining the demand for Council funded benefits such as council tax reduction or concessions when paying for Council services.

A Snapshot of Bridgend	
The Electorate	
Total Electors on Roll (1 February 2023)	113,063
Representation	
Wards	28
Councillors	51
Constituency Members of Senedd	2
Regional Members of Senedd	4 (South Wales - West)
Members of Parliament	2

5.2 Service statistics

5.2.1 The following tables provides details of service statistics for Education & Family Support Services:

Services for education and family support

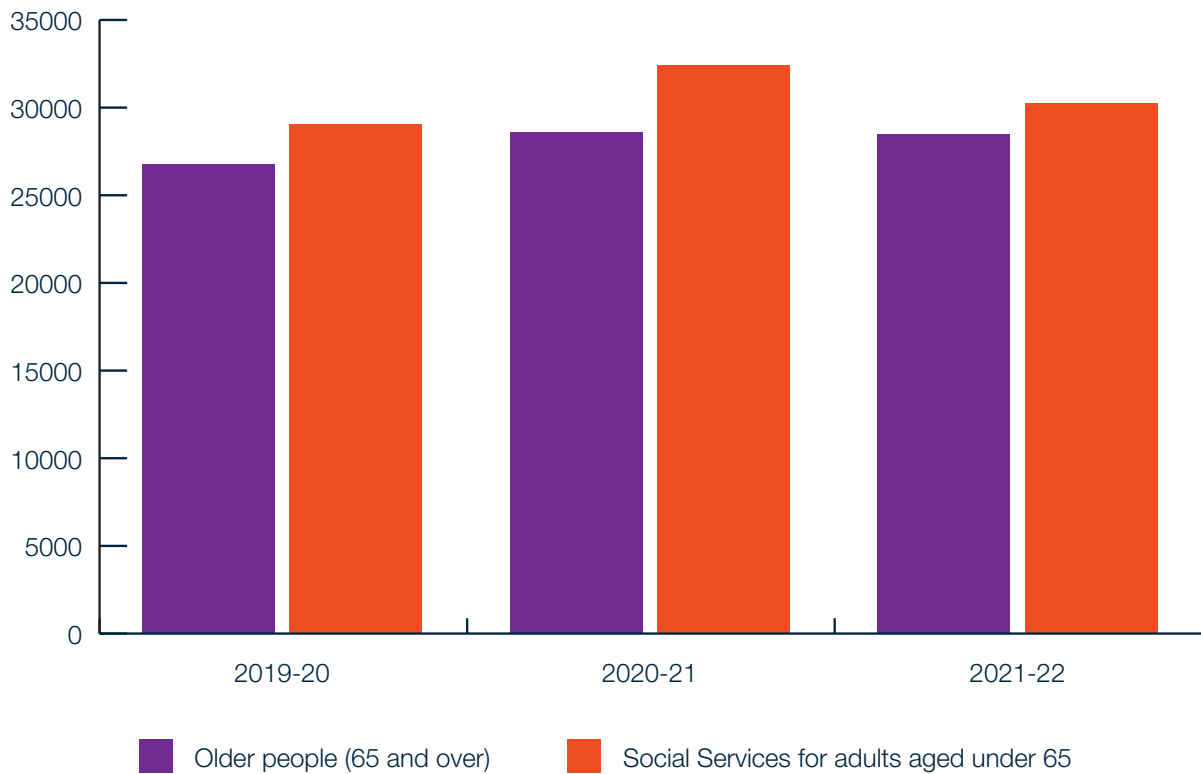
Projected resident population at 30 June 2023	Statistical Data
Population aged 3	1,638
Population aged 3 to 11	15,240
Population aged 3 to 16	23,904
Population aged 11 to 15	8,799
Population aged 11 to 20	16,239
Population 16 and over	121,687
Population aged 16 to 18	5,020
Population aged 0 to 17	30,301

The Council has a total of 59 schools (infant, junior, primary, secondary and special, Welsh medium and faith schools) and one pupil referral unit, with around 23,800 pupils.

Type of educational establishment	Number	Number on roll (2022 return to WG)
Primary schools	39	11,678
Secondary schools	7	8,023
Faith schools	6	1,944
Welsh-medium schools	5	1,735
Special schools	2	401
Pupil referral unit	1	60

5.2.2 The following tables provides details of service statistics for the Social Services & Wellbeing services.

Net Revenue Expenditure - Adults Receiving Services by Age Group £'000



Children's Services Provided	Number of Children** 31 March 2021	Number of Children** 31 March 2022
Total Children Looked After by placement type:	390	375
Foster placements	275	260
Placed for adoption	15	15
Residential Homes	20	25
Placed with own parents or other person with parental responsibility	80	70
Independent Living	*	*
Other	*	*

** All figures have been rounded to the nearest five. Where there are less than five children in any group, the actual number has been suppressed, and replaced by the symbol *. Data Source Stats Wales.

5.2.3 The following tables provides details of service statistics for Communities services:

Services for communities

The latest available data for communities is provided in the table below:

Service	Statistical Data
Street scene	
Number of planning applications received in 2021-22	1,062
Total street lighting units	19,761
Kilograms of residual waste generated per person 2021-22 (2020-21 target 123KG)	135
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted (anticipated 2022-23)	71%
Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling (anticipated 2022-23)	40%
Transport & Engineering	
A county road length (km)	104
Built-up A County road length (km)	52
B and C road length (km)	139
Built-up B and C road length (km)	83
Minor surfaced road length (km)	546
Built-up minor surfaced road length (km)	443

5.2.4 The following tables provide details of service statistics for Chief Executive's services:

Chief Executive's

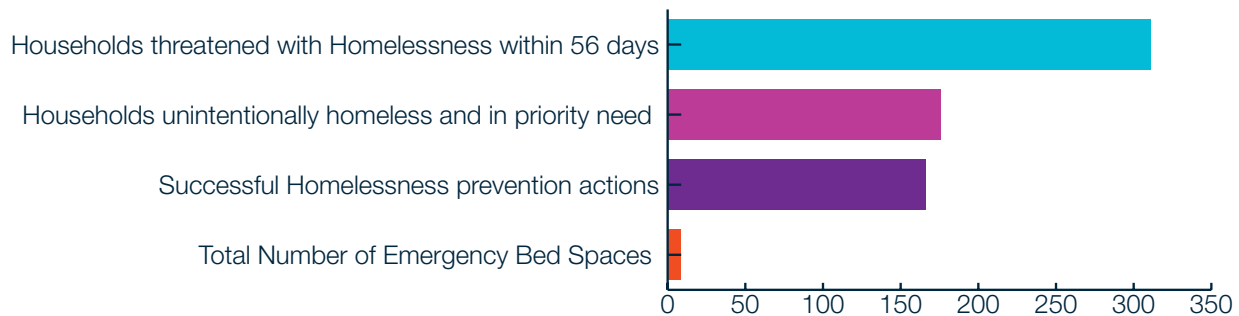
Service	Statistical Data
Housing And Homelessness	
Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless (target 2023-24)	60%
Regulatory Services	
Number of Trading Premises at March 2022	5,090
Number of Food Premises at March 2022	1,790
Customer Services	
Number of customers contacting the Customer Contact Centre via telephone 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022	118,057
Number of customers contacting the Customer Contact Centre via email 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022	27,943
Number of transactions carried out online by customers 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022	101,381
Legal & Democratic Services	
Registered number of marriages 1st January 19 to 31st December 2022	551
Number of new wedding premises licensed	1
Number of new Premises Licences issued 1st Jan 20 to 31st Dec 2022	15
Number of new Personal licences to sell alcohol issued 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022	122
Human Resources	
Corporate workforce FTE as at 31.12.2022	2,191.32
Schools workforce FTE as at 31.12.2022	2,261

The Council does not have any housing stock of its own but retains a number of statutory functions relating to addressing housing need and combatting homelessness. The Council continues to adopt a strategic approach to homelessness prevention and provision by working with Welsh Government and partner organisations and working with Registered Social Landlords to support new housing developments.

At 31 March 2022, there were 4,465 households placed in temporary accommodation across Wales. This is an increase of 20% on 31 March 2021, and is the highest figure recorded since the introduction of the current legislation in April 2015. This equated to 32.4 per 10,000 households. The corresponding figure for Bridgend was 199 households, a rate of 31.5 per 10,000 households.

The chart below provides further information regarding Housing & Homelessness support:

Housing & homelessness 2021-22



The number of Rough Sleepers calculated at November 2022 in Bridgend was 9

Homelessness can have a major impact on a person's and / or their family's life. It can be detrimental to a person's health, employment or education and training opportunities. Being 'threatened with homelessness' means you will not have a home within the next 56 days.

In 2021-22, 312 households within the borough were assessed as being threatened with homelessness within 56 days, and therefore owed a prevention duty, and of these 188 (53.2%) successful homelessness prevention actions were completed.

In April 2020 four pods designed to help keep rough sleepers safe during the coronavirus outbreak were set up in temporary locations in Bridgend county borough. These are still currently in use.

5.2.5 The following tables provides details of service statistics for corporate services:

Corporate

Service	Statistical Data
Council Tax - Approximate number of chargeable dwellings as at 26/02/2023	65,850
Council Tax - Net collectable Charge 2023-24	£92,152,401
Non-Domestic Rates - Number of commercial properties as at 01/02/2023	5,434
Non-Domestic Rates - Collectable Charge as at 01/02/2023	£47,625,526
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Expenditure 2022-23 as at 1/2/2023	14,861,338
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Caseload as at 01/02/2023	12,582
The total number of households with single person discount as of 01/02/2023	21,816
Number of Housing Benefit Claimants as at 01/02/2023	5,690



Section 6

Glossary of terms

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6.1 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, 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.

Council tax base

The council tax base is the measure of the relative taxable capacity of different areas within the County Borough and is calculated in accordance with prescribed rules. Every domestic property in the County Borough has been valued by the Valuation Office. Once valued, properties are allocated one of the nine valuation bands (Bands A to I). Each band is multiplied by a given factor to bring it to the Band D equivalent. The Tax Base represents the number of chargeable dwellings in the area expressed as Band D equivalents, taking into account the total number of exemptions, discounts, and disabled band reductions, with the net Tax Base calculated by taking account of the Council's estimated collection rate. Council tax is measured in 'Band D' equivalents as the standard for comparing council tax levels between and across local authorities

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).

Earmarked reserves

These are reserves set aside for a specific purpose.

Electorate

Those entitled to vote at an election.

Estimates

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

IFRS (International financial reporting standards)

This is a set of accounting standards developed by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The goal of IFRS is to provide a global framework for how public sector and private companies prepare and disclose their financial statements. Having an international standard is especially important for large organisations. Adopting a single set of world-wide standards will simplify accounting procedures by allowing a company to use one reporting language throughout. A single standard will also provide customers and auditors with a cohesive view of finances. IFRS should not be confused with IAS (International Accounting Standards), which are older standards that IFRS has now replaced.

Fees & charges

Some fee levels are fixed by the government – such as planning and licensing fees – whilst councils have control over others, such as parking charges, premises hire etc. There are a small number of services for which Councils are not allowed to charge – for instance, school education and elections.

Levy

The Levying Bodies (General) Regulations 1992 allow a levying body to issue to a relevant authority (e.g., a County Borough Council) in accordance with these Regulations a levy in respect of any financial year to meet the expenditure of the levying body in respect of which a relevant precepting power would have been exercisable. A "relevant precepting power is defined as "in relation to a levying body, means any power under any enactment which that body would have, apart from section 117 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, in respect of the financial year beginning in 1990 to issue a precept to, make a levy on, or have its expenses paid by a county council or a charging authority". Unlike a precept, a levy is not collected from council taxpayers.

Government grants

Assistance by government and inter-government agencies and similar bodies, whether local, national, or international, in form of cash or transfers of assets to a Council in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Council.

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.

Non-domestic rate (NDR)

A means by which local businesses contribute to the cost of local authority services. NDR 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 precept made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from council taxpayers on their behalf.

Prudential code borrowing

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