



# Bristol's Budget 2024 to 2025

What do you think?



Easy  
Read

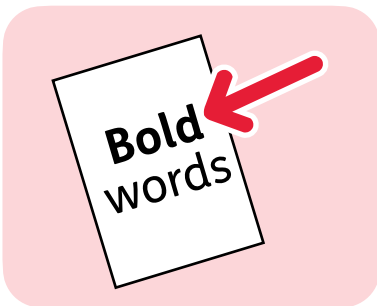
# Easy Read



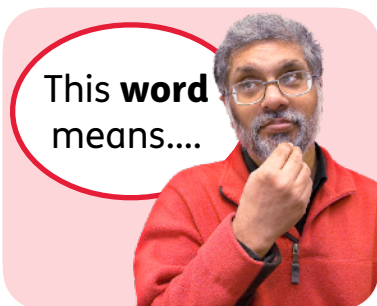
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. You may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

# What is in this booklet

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# About this booklet



Each year the council has to plan:

- How much money we will spend.



- Where to get the money we plan to spend.



This plan is called a **budget**.



This booklet has questions for you to answer to help us make our budget.

# About our budget

We think we will have to spend more this year because:



- More people live in Bristol.



- More people need our support.



- Lots of things are getting more expensive.



We get most of our money from:

- The Government.



- People who live in Bristol.



- Businesses in Bristol.



We do not know how much money we will get from the Government.



But we do not think we will get any extra money this year.

So we need to think about:



- The services we provide.



- How we provide services.



- How much money we ask people to pay.

# We want to know what you think



We still want to keep helping people in the ways that they need.



Before we decide how much we ask people to pay, we want to know what you think.



Please read this document and tell us what you think by answering the questions.



You do not have to answer all the questions if you do not want to.



We need your answers by Thursday, 21 December 2023.



When we find out how much money we will get from the Government, we might need to make more decisions.



If we need to make more decisions, we will ask you what you think again.

# Council Tax



Bristol City Council is looking at how much **Council Tax** we ask people to pay in the next year, from 2024 to 2025.



**Council Tax** is money that people pay to their local council for services like libraries, emptying bins and fixing the roads.



Our plan says we will need £8.2 million more from Council Tax to do all the things people need us to do.

**Question 1:** Which of these options would you prefer?



No increase to Council Tax. This means we will not be able to pay for all the services people need.



A small increase in Council Tax of about 30 pence a week for most people.  
This would give us £2.7 million out of the £8.2 million we need.



An increase in Council Tax of about 60 pence a week for most people.  
This would give us £5.5 million out of the £8.2 million we need.



An increase in Council Tax of about 90 pence a week for most people.  
This would give us the £8.2 million we need.

# Extra money for social care



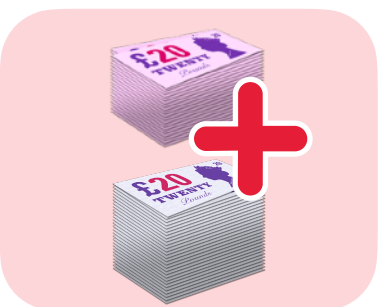
**Social care** is the extra support some people need with everyday things such as personal care.



Over the last year many more people in Bristol have asked for social care.



If the council asks people to pay money on top of Council Tax, it will help to pay towards the extra cost of social care.



The extra money on top of Council Tax is called a **social care precept**.



We think we will need £5.5 million of this extra money next year.

**Question 2:** Which of these options would you prefer?



People will not pay any extra money to pay for social care.

We would need to find the £5.5 million from somewhere else.



An extra 30 pence a week for most people, on top of Council Tax, to pay for social care.

This would raise £2.7 million out of the £5.5 million we need.



An extra 60 pence a week for most people, on top of Council Tax, to pay for social care.

This would raise the £5.5 million we need.

# Bigger increases in what you pay



The Government is thinking about telling councils that they can charge even more Council Tax and money towards social care.



This would help us to keep providing the services people in Bristol need.

**Question 3:** Which of these options would you prefer for Council Tax, if the Government allows it?



No extra increase in Council Tax.



An increase in Council Tax of about £1.19 a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £2.7 million to keep providing services.



An increase in Council Tax of about £1.49 a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £5.5 million to keep providing services.



An increase in Council Tax of about £1.79 or more a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £8.2 million to keep providing services.

**Question 4:** Which of these options would you prefer for payments for social care, if the Government allows it?



No extra increase in payments for social care.



An increase in payments for social care of about 90 pence a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £2.7 million to pay for social care.



An increase in payments for social care of about £1.19 or more a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £5.5 million to pay for social care.



An increase in payments for social care of about £1.49 or more a week for most people.

This would give the council an extra £8.2 million to pay for social care.



**Question 5:** Can you think of any other ways that the council could:

- Save money?



- Earn more money?

If you want to, you can tell us here any reasons for your answers to the earlier questions.

# Questions about you



Please answer these questions about you to help us make sure we are hearing from different groups of people.

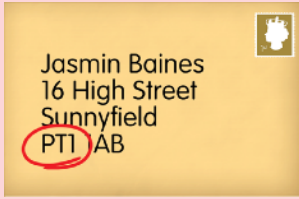


We will follow the law about keeping your information safe and private.



### Question 6: Are you...

- Someone who lives in Bristol
- Working in Bristol but living somewhere else
- Answering these questions for a local business
- Answering these questions for a housing association
- Answering these questions for a community organisation
- A councillor
- An MP
- Answering these questions for a health service
- Answering these questions for a school or college
- Answering these questions for a transport company
- A worker at Bristol City Council
- Other - please say



**Question 7:** What is your postcode?



**Question 8:** How old are you?

I do not want to say



**Question 9:** Are you disabled?

Yes

No

I do not want to say



**Question 10:** What is your ethnic group? *Only tick 1 box.*

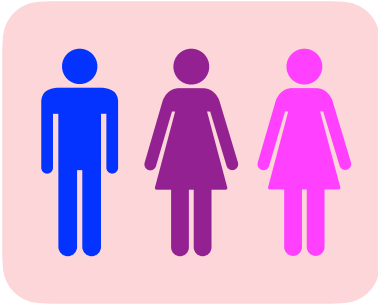
Your **ethnic group** means your race, background or the country you or your family come from.

- Asian or Asian British
- Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
- Gypsy, Roma or Traveller
- More than 1 ethnic background
- White British
- Other White background
- I do not want to say
- Any other ethnic background - please say



**Question 11: What is your religion?**

- No religion
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Pagan
- Sikh
- I do not want to say
- Any other religion - please say



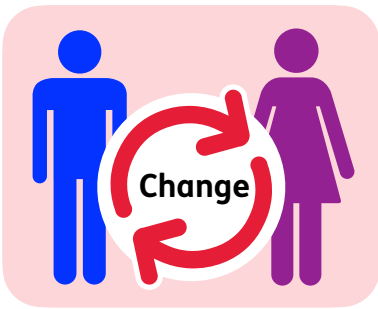
**Question 12:** What is your sex?

Female

Male

I do not want to say

Other - please say



**Question 13:** Have you changed your gender, or are you thinking of doing this?

Yes

No

I do not want to say



### Question 14: Are you...

- Bisexual - you are attracted to both men and women
- Gay or lesbian - you are attracted to people who are the same gender as you
- Heterosexual or straight - you are attracted to people who are the opposite gender to you
- I do not want to say
- Other - please say



**Question 15:** Are you pregnant or do you have a new baby?

Yes

No

I do not want to say



**Question 16:** Are you a carer?

Yes

No

I do not want to say



**Question 17:** Are you a refugee or asylum seeker?

A **refugee or asylum seeker** is someone who has left their own country and asks to live in a new country.

Yes

No

I do not want to say



**Question 18:** Do you think you will be affected by the options in this booklet because of who you are? Like your sex or ethnicity.

I would be affected in a very bad way

I would be affected in a bad way

I would not be affected

I would be affected in a good way

I would be affected in a very good way

If you think you will be affected because of your protected characteristic(s) please tell us how here.



**Question 19:** How did you hear about this questionnaire?

- Poster
- It was posted to me
- Email from the council
- A council worker told me
- Facebook
- X - used to be called Twitter
- Nextdoor
- Instagram
- Linkedin
- A message from Ask Bristol
- A group of friends
- From an organisation that I am part of

- From an organisation that helps me at work
- Local councillor or MP
- Radio or TV
- Newspaper or a news website
- Citizen Service Point
- Someone told me
- Other - please say

If you heard about this questionnaire from an organisation or group, please say which one.

# Make our surveys better



**Question 20a:** Do you agree or disagree that you have had enough information to answer the questions?

Agree a lot



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Disagree a lot



**Question 20b:** Do you agree or disagree that having these questions has made it easy for you to say what you think?

Agree a lot



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Disagree a lot





**Question 20c:** Do you agree or disagree that this questionnaire is accessible to you?

Agree a lot



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Disagree a lot



If you don't agree with any of the things we have done to make this survey better, please tell us why.