

Council Tax

2024/25



Also includes the spending plans for:



OPCC

Office of the Police &
Crime Commissioner
for Gloucestershire

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

 **Gloucestershire**
COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Tax 2024/25

This council will continue to deliver for you next year with an ambitious budget that will see us invest almost £617 million in services and projects across Gloucestershire.

Unlike many other councils who are struggling to balance the books, we haven't had to make dramatic cuts to the services you rely on each day – in fact, we will increase our spending this year by almost £50 million. In part this is thanks to our Energy from Waste plant which has not only stopped Gloucestershire's rubbish going to landfill, it has also generated a £15 million boost to our budget.

This year will see more investment in our roads, as part of our £100 million commitment, which over the past twelve months has seen 212 roads resurfaced and 50,000 potholes filled - making a real difference for all who use Gloucestershire roads. We will also continue to roll out electric vehicle charging points on residential streets across the county making it easier for those with an electric car to charge up near to home even if you don't have a driveway. We continue to make good progress in improving services for vulnerable children and we will go on investing in these services. This means whether they are supported at their home or living with a foster family or in our young adult semi-independent accommodation, each young person in Gloucestershire feels valued, safe, and supported.

Our budget includes £10.9 million that will be raised through a council tax increase of 2.99% and £7.3 million specifically to support our work with the most vulnerable adults in the county through a 2% increase in the adult social care precept. Despite this, we still expect to have one of the lowest council tax levels of any county council. Based on a band D property, this equates to a £6.34 monthly increase.

We have again challenged ourselves on how we can be more efficient to make the money go further for the year ahead and we have identified more than £23 million in efficiencies and additional income.

Sadly, many people worldwide aren't safe in their own homes, and some have sought refuge in Gloucestershire. Next year we will continue the financial support for residents who've welcomed Ukrainian families into their home, as well as providing training and employment support for people settling in Gloucestershire after fleeing conflict so that they can live full lives here, contributing to the Gloucestershire economy and community.

This budget will mean 2024 is yet another year where we will deliver for communities, for businesses and for the future of this great county.



Councillor Mark Hawthorne
Leader of Gloucestershire County Council

Some of the essential services and schemes your money helps to deliver



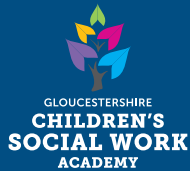
£206.6m

to support vulnerable adults and older people with a diverse range of needs, including a learning or physical disability, a mental health condition, a sensory impairment, dementia and other long-term conditions



We are continuing our **£100million**

commitment to improve our roads, which over the past 12 months has seen 212 roads resurfaced and 50,000 potholes filled



£181.3m

to continue improvements to services for children with SEND and for children and families in need of help and protection. This funding will also support fostering and adoption services, children with Disabilities, and schools



£7.5m

towards new fire engines and equipment and

£750,000

for a new aerial ladder platform

£1.9m

to tackle road safety hotspots



£2.2m

to increase the frequency and operating hours of 21 of the county's popular bus routes and extend our bookable bus service, The Robin, to three more areas of the county



£500,000

pothole busting fund to add to our innovative range of tools to tackle potholes



£24m

on school improvements, including installing solar panels and delivery of a new special school in Gloucester and a new primary school in Bishops Cleeve

Foster for
Gloucestershire
County Council

Change the life of a local child



Models have been used in this photo

Gloucestershire County Council urgently needs foster carers in your area for children of all ages.

The number of children in care has risen by a third in the last five years. If you are over 21 and have a spare room, we would encourage you to apply to be a foster carer! We offer full training, generous payments, and a huge network of local support, including out of hours. Call our friendly fostering team for a chat, or email fostering@gloucestershire.gov.uk

01242 532654

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fostering

[f Gloucestershire Fostering](#) [t @FosteringGlos](#)



“Where I came into social work to help people.”

To learn more about rewarding career opportunities available now in Adult Social Care visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ASCrecruitment or email ASCRecruitment@Gloucestershire.gov.uk



**Join Gloucestershire
County Council.**

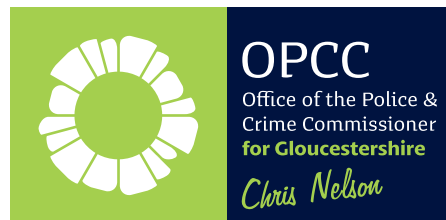
Adult Social Care



The cost of fighting crime

Where does the money go?

If you were one of the many people who responded, thank you for taking the time to answer a survey, conducted by my office, into how people feel about the level of crime in Gloucestershire.



One of a Police and Crime Commissioner's main responsibilities is drawing up the budget that pays for policing. Currently, 53% of the cost of policing the county comes from central taxation and 47% is raised through the council tax. With pay inflation at 7%, and given the police budget is made up of 80% salaries, your police council tax will go up by just 4.4%. That works out at 25 pence per week and will add £13 to an average band D householder's annual bill for policing services, taking the total to £308.08, or just over £25 per month. Most people in lower-banded properties will pay less, so where will that money go?

This budget will build on the Constabulary's success last year in getting out of special measures in record time and set the foundations for future progress. That means continuing to support the increase of over 400 more police officers, PCSOs and police staff, the largest number of police staff we have ever had as well as the largest number of Special Constables and the third largest number of

PCSOs in England per 1000 population in the country.

All these extra personnel will help the Constabulary's new way of working - introduced across the force last summer - with the aim of improving response times, increasing arrests, all leading to more crimes being solved. It will help maintain the Constabulary's focus on anti-social behaviour (already cut by over 50%), cutting the cost of rural crime (down 29%) and cutting online scams and fraud by 30%.

More than two thirds of you who took part in the survey said the Constabulary was under-funded. Your council tax will provide the resources to help the police tackle the things most important to you like burglary, speeding, anti-social behaviour, drugs, rural and organised crime which also figured strongly in our survey.

A handwritten signature of Chris Nelson in black ink.

Chris Nelson - Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner



Complete the expansion of the new Victims Hub, ensuring for the first time a comprehensive service for victims from the moment a crime is recorded.



Investment in more neighbourhood police and crime prevention.



More Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to track the movement of organised criminals on the county's road network.



Continued major expansion of speed enforcement, roads policing and specialist rural crime teams.

Continued improvement in performance when dealing with **999** and **101** calls.



Updating the Constabulary's fleet of vehicles to increase police visibility.



New Taser training facility, more police community hubs and police station improvements.



Commissioner's Fund to support local initiatives that address the causes of crime.



Introduction of a state of the art Records Management System to manage all aspects of crime recording, investigation, intelligence, vulnerability, prevention activities, detainee management, voluntary attendance, and property management – as well as electronic case preparation, to improve the service we give to victims and witnesses.

And lots more...



Here when you need us

The Police and Crime Commissioner

Phone: 01452 754348 • Email: PCC@gloucestershire-pcc.gov.uk
Website: www.gloucestershire-pcc.gov.uk

Gloucestershire Constabulary

Phone: 101 for non-emergency calls • 999 for emergencies
Website: www.gloucestershire.police.uk (you can now report some crimes online – www.gloucestershire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/)

Forest of Dean & Gloucester Local Policing Area

Superintendent Carl Bourne
Location: Waterwells, Quedgeley
Email: Carl.Bourne@gloucestershire.police.uk

Cheltenham & Tewkesbury Local Policing Area

Superintendent Emma Macdonald
Location: Cheltenham Police Station
Email: Emma.Macdonald@gloucestershire.police.uk

Cotswolds & Stroud Local Policing Area

Superintendent Matthew Tite
Location: Stroud Police Station
Email: Matthew.Tite@gloucestershire.police.uk

Your Community Alerts

Receive community updates from your local policing team so you know exactly what's going on in your area. Sign up for free at <https://yourcommunityalerts.co.uk/>

Phone **101** for non-emergencies and **999** for emergencies.
Report non-emergency crime or to find advice and information visit <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk>

All details are correct and up to date at time of publication.



Gloucestershire Constabulary



OPCC
Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire