A guide to Council Tax and Business Rates 2022/23



Making Copeland a great place to live, work and visit.



Introduction

Council Tax

This document contains important information about your Council Tax bill, how your money is spent, what your bill is for the coming year and the different ways to pay. It also explains how the money you pay contributes towards the services delivered by Copeland Borough Council, Cumbria County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cumbria.

The amount of Council Tax you pay depends on:

- The value of your property based on values on 1 April 1991; and
- Your personal circumstances

Valuation bands

Every home is placed into one of the bands below. This is calculated by the Valuation Office Agency and is based on what your property was worth on 1 April 1991, not what it would be worth today.

The bands are:

- Band A Up to and including £40,000
- Band B £40,001 £52,000
- Band C £52,001 £68,000
- Band D £68,001 £88,000
- Band E £88,001 £120,000
- Band F £120,001 £160,000
- Band G £160,001 £320,000
- Band H More than £320,000

Your bill

Cumbria County Council, The Police and Crime Commissioner, Copeland Borough Council and your local Parish Council work out the cost of providing their services each year. Once calculated, this determines how much your Council Tax will be.

Combined Council Tax totals 2022/23

	Copeland Borough Council	Cumbria County Council	PCC for Cumbria
Proportion of Council Tax Bill	10.77%	75.32%	13.91%
% Increase by each Authority	1.95%	2.00%	3.67%

Property Band	Copeland Borough Council	Cumbria County Council	Police and Crime Commis- sioner	Total
	£	£	£	£
Disabled A	121.43	848.89	156.75	1,127.07
А	145.71	1,018.66	188.10	1,352.47
В	170.00	1,188.45	219.45	1,579.90
С	194.28	1,358.22	250.80	1,803.30
D	218.57	1,528.00	282.15	2,028.72
E	267.14	1,867.55	344.85	2,479.54
F	315.71	2,207.11	407.55	2,930.37
G	364.28	2,546.66	470.25	3,381.19
Н	437.14	3,056.00	564.30	4,057.44
Increase (%)	1.95%	2.00%	3.67%	

Cumbria County Council charges

Adult Social Care

An additional precept for Adult Social Care is included in the Cumbria County Council precept figures. Your council tax bill will show the Cumbria County Council core precept charge separate from the Adult Social Care Precept Charge.

The Government allowed those councils with Adult Social Care (ASC) responsibilities to introduce a 2% precept on Council Tax for the financial year 2016/17. This recognised the increasing cost pressures upon councils in relation to provision for adult social care.

Cumbria County Council implemented an ASC precept of 2% in 2016/17. This has continued in the intervening period. The Spending Review 2020 assumed and enabled councils to levy the precept in 2021/22 at 3%, although this could be deferred in part or full until 2022/23.

Cumbria County Council implemented an ASC precept of 2% in 2021/22 and deferred the remaining 1% to 2022/23.

Cumbria County Council has included an ASC precept at 2%. This consists of the remaining 1% deferred from 2021/22 and a further 1% increase that was confirmed in the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2022/23.

There was no increase in the basic rate of Council Tax.

	Core Precept	ASC Precept £	Cumbria County Council
Band A	893.95	124.71	1,018.66
Band B	1,042.95	145.50	1.188.45
Band C	1,191.94	166.28	1,358.22
Band D	1,340.93	187.07	1,528.00
Band E	1,638.91	228.64	1,867.55
Band F	1,936.90	270.21	2,207.11
Band G	2,234.88	311.78	2,546.66
Band H	2,681.86	374.14	3,056.00

Parish precept charges

Parish	Parish Precept	Disabled A	А	В	С	D	E	F	G	н
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arlecdon and Frizington	37,500.00	18.87	22.65	26.42	30.20	33.97	41.52	49.07	56.62	67.94
Beckermet with Thornhill	14,000.00	14.66	17.59	20.53	23.46	26.39	32.25	38.12	43.98	52.78
Bootle	19,500.00	41.02	49.22	57.42	65.63	73.83	90.24	106.64	123.05	147.66
St Bees	52,000.00	39.77	47.73	55.68	63.64	71.59	87.50	103.41	119.32	143.18
Cleator Moor	85,000.00	25.17	30.20	35.23	40.27	45.30	55.37	65.43	75.50	90.60
Distington	25,000.00	22.86	27.43	32.00	36.57	41.14	50.28	59.42	68.57	82.28
Drigg and Carleton	3,250.00	8.82	10.59	12.35	14.12	15.88	19.41	22.94	26.47	31.76
Egremont	164,618.08	40.63	48.76	56.89	65.01	73.14	89.39	105.65	121.90	146.28
Eskdale	8,760.00	35.87	43.04	50.21	57.39	64.56	78.91	93.25	107.60	129.12
Ennerdale and Kinniside	17,393.75	58.52	70.23	81.93	93.64	105.34	128.75	152.16	175.57	210.68
Gosforth	27,207.00	28.87	34.64	40.41	46.19	51.96	63.51	75.05	86.60	103.92
Haile and Wilton	4,000.00	12.56	15.07	17.58	20.09	22.60	27.62	32.64	37.67	45.20
Irton with Santon	3,000.00	13.78	16.53	19.29	22.04	24.80	30.31	35.82	41.33	49.60
Lowside Quarter	3,000.00	6.88	8.25	9.63	11.00	12.38	15.13	17.88	20.63	24.76
Lamplugh	10,838.00	20.64	24.77	28.89	33.02	37.15	45.41	53.66	61.92	74.30
Lowca	7,725.00	19.59	23.51	27.43	31.35	35.27	43.11	50.95	58.78	70.54
Millom	145,558.00	40.95	49.14	57.33	65.52	73.71	90.09	106.47	122.85	147.42
Moresby	15,150.00	13.91	16.69	19.47	22.25	25.03	30.59	36.15	41.72	50.06
Muncaster	5,600.00	25.82	30.99	36.15	41.32	46.48	56.81	67.14	77.47	92.96
Millom Without	12,000.00	19.23	23.07	26.92	30.76	34.61	42.30	49.99	57.68	69.22
Ponsonby	5,589.00	31.14	37.37	43.60	49.83	56.06	68.52	80.98	93.43	112.12
Parton	13,500.00	34.68	41.61	48.55	55.48	62.42	76.29	90.16	104.03	124.84
Seascale	23,821.60	20.82	24.98	29.14	33.31	37.47	45.80	54.12	62.45	74.94
Ulpha	364.00	2.74	3.29	3.84	4.39	4.94	6.04	7.14	8.23	9.88
Waberthwaite and Corney	2,702.00	15.38	18.45	21.53	24.60	27.68	33.83	39.98	46.13	55.36
Wasdale	2,125.00	16.94	20.33	23.72	27.11	30.50	37.28	44.06	50.83	61.00
Weddicar	5,500.00	17.97	21.57	25.16	28.76	32.35	39.54	46.73	53.92	64.70
Whicham	20,616.00	63.61	76.33	89.06	101.78	114.50	139.94	165.39	190.83	229.00
Whitehaven	455,593.93	37.11	44.53	51.95	59.37	66.79	81.63	96.47	111.32	133.58

Copeland Borough Council

Where does the money go and where does it come from?

2021/22

2022/23

Total Spending	Total Income	Net Spending	How the money is spent	Total Spending	Total Income	Net Spending
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
4.726	(3.649)	1.077	Corporate Services	6.503	(3.572)	2.931
3.270	(2.614)	0.656	Customer and Community	3.356	(2.614)	0.742
0.659	(0.002)	0.657	Democracy	0.676	(0.002)	0.675
1.529	(0.298)	1.231	Housing and Env Health	1.519	(0.298)	1.221
2.026	(1.300)	0.726	Planning and Economic Development	2.719	(2.040)	0.679
3.209	(2.764)	0.445	Property and Estates	3.294	(2.764)	0.530
5.067	(1.985)	3.082	Refuse and Recycling	4.850	(1.985)	2.866
13.699	(13.018)	0.681	Revenues & Benefits	13.649	(13.018)	0.631
0.347	(0.457)	(0.110)	All other	0.347	(0.457)	(0.110)
34.532	(26.086)	8.446	Service Costs and Income	36.914	(26.749)	10.165
0.000	0.000	0.180	Use of general reserves	0.000	0.000	0.000
34.712	(26.086)	8.626	Net Budget	36.914	(26.749)	10.165
		1.130	Parish and Town Council Precepts			1.191
			How the spending is funded			
		0.831	Government Grants			0.597
		3.344	Income from Retained Business Rates			4.910
		(0.002)	Surplus / Deficit on Council Tax Collection			0.101
		4.453	Amount Raised from Council Tax			4.557
		8.626	Total Funding			10.165
		20,772.12	Council Tax Base (total no of properties in Band D equivalents)			20,850.75
		214.40	Council Tax for a Band D Property £			218.57
		54.40	Average Band D Council Tax for Parish and Town Council Precepts			57.12

Copeland Borough Council

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Reasons for change

Changes to Budget Requirement	£0,000
Budget Requirement 2021-22	8,626
Base Budget Adjustments	2,615
Inflation	540
Service Pressures	815
Service Investments	1,577
Net Efficiencies and Use of Reserves	(4,008)
Budget Requirement 2022-23	10,165
Total Funding 2021-22	(8,626)
Change in Government Grants	234
Change in Business Rates	(1,566)
Change in Council Tax	(207)
Total Funding 2022-23	(10,165)

Cumbria County Council

Where does the money go and where does it come from?

How our spending has changed

	£m
Budget 2021/22	435.9
Funding Changes - changes in the amount of general funding available to finance the net expenditure budget	(2.8)
Earmarked Reserves - increases in net expenditure budget as a result of the cost of inflation	(31.1)
Inflation - increases in net expenditure budget as a result of the cost of inflation	24.3
Service Priorities - other demands and pressures which have increased the costs of services	12.9
Savings - Change in the value of savings that have impacted on the net expenditure budget	3.3
Total Changes	6.6
Budget 2022/23	442.5

How Council Tax requirement has changed

	£m
Council tax Requirement 2021/22	257.9
Changes in net budget (see above)	6.6
Changes in General Funding not reflected in net budget	(2.3)
Decrease in budgeted income from Retained share of local business rates	4.6
Changes in surplus or shortfall on council tax collec- tion from previous years	(1.0)
Total Changes	7.9
Council Tax Requirement 2022/23	265.8

Cumbria County Council's share of Council Tax

	£
Band A (up to £40,000)	1,018.66
Band B (£40,001 to £52,000)	1,188.45
Band C (£52,001 to £68,000)	1,358.22
Band D (£68,001 to £88,000)	1,528.00
Band E (£88,001 to £120,000)	1,867.55
Band F (£120,001 to £160,000)	2,207.11
Band G (£160,001 to £320,000)	2,546.66
Band H (over £320,000)	3,056.00

Precept on District Councils

	2022/23
	£m
Allerdale	47.4
Barrow	30.4
Carlisle	53.7
Copeland	31.9
Eden	31.8
South Lakeland	70.6
Total	265.8

Cumbria County Council

Where does the money go and where does it come from?

2021-22

2022-23

Total Spending	Net Spending	How the money is spent	Total Spending	Total Income	Net Spending
£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
642.8	196.9	People	668.7	(460.4)	208.3
154.4	129.2	Economy & Infrastructure	168.5	(26.5)	142.0
21.0	20.5	Fire & Rescue Services	21.6	(0.6)	21.0
9.4	9.4	Local Committees	10.9	0.0	10.9
44.5	39.6	Corporate, Customer & Community	46.7	(5.0)	41.7
39.7	37.9	Finance	40.4	(1.8)	38.6
6.2	5.7	Other items charged corporately	4.5	(0.5)	4.0
918.0	439.20	Net Service Expenditure	961.3	(494.8)	466.5
13.9	13.9	Other Services (1)	29.8	0.0	29.8
(34.9)	(34.9)	Less charges for building & Equipment (2)	(40.8)	0.0	(40.8)
17.7	17.7	Money (taken from) / put into reserves	(13.0)	0.0	(13.0)
914.7	435.90	NET BUDGET	937.30	(494.8)	442.5
2021/22		How the spending is funded	2022/23		
	(157.5)	Government Funding			(159.8
	(18.9)	Retained share of Business Rates			(14.3)
	(2.5)	Pooled Business Rates (3)			(2.5)
	0.9	Surplus / Deficit on Council Tax Collection from previous years			(0.1)
	257.9	Amount Raised from Council Tax			265.8
	172,162	Divide by taxbase (number of properties in band D less discounts) (4)			173,964
	£1,498.04	Council Tax for a Band D Property			£1,528.00

(1) Other services includes provision for inflation that will be allocated to services during the year and also includes precept payments which will be made to third parties during the year

(2) Each service includes a depreciation charge for using buildings and equipment. These charges are also shown in the line 'Less charges for buildings and equipment' in the table above.

(3) The County Council has entered into a pooled business rates arrangements with all six Cumbrian District Councils in 2022/23. This figure is an estimate of the benefit of the County Council being part of the Cumbria Business Rates pool.

(4) The 2022/23 tax base is different than 2021/22 because of changes in the demand for Council Tax discounts and for changes in the number of properties liable for Council Tax in Cumbria.

This table reflects the budget as agreed by the Council on 10th February 2022. The full budget report is available on the Council website www.cumbria.gov.uk

Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

Where does the money go and where does it come from? 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Council Tax Rise of 3.67% from 2022/23

2021/22

2022/23

2021/22			2022/23
£m			£m
97.139		Police Pay and Allowances	96.514
27.866		Support Staff Pay and Allowances	29.274
2.470		Other Employee Costs	3.452
4.740		Premises Costs	5.104
2.602		Transport Costs	2.597
2.216		Commissioned Services	2.351
13.752		Supplies & Services	14.184
1.265		Capital Financing Charges	1.164
4.046		Direct Revenue Contribution to Capital	5.016
0.096		Contribution to Reserves	0.096
156.192		Gross Expenditure	159.752
(5.271)	Less	Fees and Charges	(5.128)
(35.110)		Other grants	(31.144)
(0.699)		Contribution from Reserves	(1.781)
115.112		Net Expenditure / Budget Requirement	121.699
		Grant Funding	
(33.344)		Police Specific Grant	(35.374)
(35.146)		DLUHC Grant	(37.230)
0.234		Redistributed Council Tax (Surplus) / Deficit	(0.011)
46.856		Council Tax Requirement for The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cumbria	49.084

Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

Council Tax requirement per head of population

2021/2022			2022/2023	
£m	£ per head		£m	£ per head
46.856	93.71	Council Tax Requirement	49.084	98.21

Population for 2022/23 is based on a ONS estimate of the County's resident population off 499,781 (500,012 in 2021/22)

Explanation of budget movement 2021/22 to 2022/23

	£m	£m
Gross Expenditure 2021/22		156.192
Increase in the cost of providing services	2.455	
Increase in capital expenditure financed from revenue contributions and reserves	0.970	
Increase in Commissioned Services	0.135	
	3.560	3.560
Gross Expenditure 2022/23		159.752
Council Tax Requirement 2021/22		46.856
Changes in Gross Expenditure (see above)	3.560	
Reduction in Income receivable and specific grants	4.109	
Increase in contribution from reserves	(1.082)	
Increase in general grant funding	(4.114)	
Increase in redistributed Council Tax deficit	(0.245)	
Increase in Council Tax requirement 2022/23	2.228	2.228
Council Tax requirement 2022/23		49.084

Total Council Tax Amounts (as agreed by the Police and Crime Commissioner on the 16/02/2022)

	£
Band A (up to £40,000)	188.10
Band B (40,001 to £52,000)	219.45
Band C (£52,001 to £68,000)	250.80
Band D (68,001 to 88,000)	282.15
Band E (88,001 to £120,000)	344.85
Band F (£120,001 to £160,000)	407.55
Band G (£160,001 to £320,000)	470.25
Band H (£320,001 and over)	564.30

Analysis of Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner Precept on District Councils

	Precept
	£
Allerdale Borough Council	8,755,628
Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council	5,614,573
Carlisle City Council	9,921,760
Copeland Borough Council	5,883,039
Eden District Council	5,877,864
South Lakeland District Council	13,031,146
Total	49,084,010

Council Tax charges

Council Tax Schedule 22/23	Disabled A	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arlecdon and Frizington	1,145.94	1,375.12	1,604.32	1,833.50	2,062.69	2,521.06	2,979.44	3,437.81	4,125.38
Beckermet	1,141.73	1,370.06	1,598.43	1,826.76	2,055.11	2,511.79	2,968.49	3,425.17	4,110.22
Bootle	1,168.08	1,401.69	1,635.32	1,868.93	2,102.55	2,569.78	3,037.01	3,504.24	4,205.10
St Bees	1,166.84	1,400.20	1,633.58	1,866.94	2,100.31	2,567.04	3,033.78	3,500.51	4,200.62
Cleator Moor	1,152.23	1,382.67	1,613.13	1,843.57	2,074.02	2,534.91	2,995.80	3,456.69	4,148.04
Distington	1,149.92	1,379.90	1,609.90	1,839.87	2,069.86	2,529.82	2,989.79	3,449.76	4,139.72
Drigg and Carleton	1,135.89	1,363.06	1,590.25	1,817.42	2,044.60	2,498.95	2,953.31	3,407.66	4,089.20
Egremont	1,167.70	1,401.23	1,634.79	1,868.31	2,101.86	2,568.93	3,036.02	3,503.09	4,203.72
Eskdale	1,162.93	1,395.51	1,628.11	1,860.69	2,093.28	2,558.45	3,023.62	3,488.79	4,186.56
Ennerdale and Kinniside	1,185.59	1,422.70	1,659.83	1,896.94	2,134.06	2,608.29	3,082.53	3,556.76	4,268.12
Gosforth	1,155.93	1,387.11	1,618.31	1,849.49	2,080.68	2,543.05	3,005.42	3,467.79	4,161.36
Haile and Wilton	1,139.62	1,367.54	1,595.48	1,823.39	2,051.32	2,507.16	2,963.01	3,418.86	4,102.64
Irton with Santon	1,140.84	1,369.00	1,597.19	1,825.34	2,053.52	2,509.85	2,966.19	3,422.52	4,107.04
Lowside Quarter	1,133.94	1,360.72	1,587.53	1,814.30	2,041.10	2,494.67	2,948.25	3,401.82	4,082.20
Lamplugh	1,147.71	1,377.24	1,606.79	1,836.32	2,065.87	2,524.95	2,984.03	3,443.11	4,131.74
Lowca	1,146.66	1,375.98	1,605.33	1,834.65	2,063.99	2,522.65	2,981.32	3,439.97	4,127.98
Millom	1,168.02	1,401.61	1,635.23	1,868.82	2,102.43	2,569.63	3,036.84	3,504.04	4,204.86
Moresby	1,140.97	1,369.16	1,597.37	1,825.55	2,053.75	2,510.13	2,966.52	3,422.91	4,107.50
Muncaster	1,152.89	1,383.46	1,614.05	1,844.62	2,075.20	2,536.35	2,997.51	3,458.66	4,150.40
Millom Without	1,146.29	1,375.54	1,604.82	1,834.06	2,063.33	2,521.84	2,980.36	3,438.87	4,126.66
Ponsonby	1,158.21	1,389.84	1,621.50	1,853.13	2,084.78	2,548.06	3,011.35	3,474.62	4,169.56
Parton	1,161.74	1,394.08	1,626.45	1,858.78	2,091.14	2,555.83	3,020.53	3,485.22	4,182.28
Seascale	1,147.88	1,377.45	1,607.04	1,836.61	2,066.19	2,525.34	2,984.49	3,443.64	4,132.38
Ulpha	1,129.81	1,355.76	1,581.74	1,807.69	2,033.66	2,485.58	2,937.51	3,389.42	4,067.32
Waberthwaite and Corney	1,142.44	1,370.92	1,599.43	1,827.90	2,056.40	2,513.37	2,970.35	3,427.32	4,112.80
Wasdale	1,144.01	1,372.80	1,601.62	1,830.41	2,059.22	2,516.82	2,974.43	3,432.02	4,118.44
Weddicar	1,145.04	1,374.04	1,603.06	1,832.06	2,061.07	2,519.08	2,977.10	3,435.11	4,122.14
Whicham	1,190.68	1,428.80	1,666.96	1,905.08	2,143.22	2,619.48	3,095.76	3,572.02	4,286.44
Whitehaven	1,164.17	1,397.00	1,629.85	1,862.67	2,095.51	2,561.17	3,026.84	3,492.51	4,191.02

Parish Precepts

Where a parish precept exceeds £140,000, Council Tax Demand Notice regulations require that the Council publish a summary of the parish budget:

Egremont Town Council budget

	£
Staff costs	110,000
Egremont Market Hall	27,600
Egremont Town Council	17,250
Egremont Cemetery	45,250
Christmas lights / community projects	35,000
Allotments	8,300
Bowling Green	3,000
Lengthmans Scheme	24,500
Grant donations	2,300
VAT	16,000
COVID Budget	1,000
Total Expenditure	290,200

Whitehaven Town Council budget

	£
Employees & Allowances	113,000
Ranger and Assistant Ranger	57,000
Premises	62,000
Supplies & Services	20,000
Grounds Maintenance	21,000
Christmas Lights	40,000
Allotments	12,000
Environmental Improvements	35,000
Bus Shelters, Bins and Seats	10,000
Events	43,000
Grants	34,000
3rd Party	9,000
Total Expenditure	456,000



Parish Precepts

Millom Town Council budget

	£
Donations	1,500
Folk Museum	1,000
Millom Park	19,000
Millom Park Toilets	9,095
Hav Toilets	3,490
Beach Café	500
Haverigg Play Area/FS	3,125
Tennis Court	1,000
Seats and Paths	500
Cenotaph	510
Tourism/Xmas Market	1,000
Xmas	13,125
Flowers/Civic Pride	5,000
Armistice Day/Wreaths	500
Lincoln Street	100
Earl St Allotments	500
Audit Fee	950
Legal Fees	500

Subscriptions	800
Sundries & Training	1,100
Travel	150
Mayors Allowance	700
Millom In Bloom	300
Elections	0.00
Library Papers	480
Bus Service	3,000
Project Costs	0.00
Expenditure Totals	67,925
ESTABLISHMENT	
Wages	54,687
Tax/NI	5,500
Pension	2,000
DWP DEA Charges	953
Wages Service	750
Bank Charges	360
Rent	5,250

	1
Rates	1,730
Utilities	1,805
Telephone/Internet	1,178
Stationery/Software	2,135
Postage	525
Office Equipment	400
Insurance	2,900
Office/Window Cleaning	350
Sundries	250
Establishment Totals	80,773
TOTAL INCOME	3,140
LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURE	148,698
Precept	145,558

Making it easier to pay your bill

You can pay your Council Tax by direct debit, card, cash, cheque or Online

Your Council Tax bill is normally payable by ten monthly instalments. If you wish to pay over 12 months, please contact Copeland Borough Council before 1st April. If you become liable part way through the year or receive a bill after the start of the year, your instalments will be reduced accordingly. Details of the monthly instalments for the current year are shown on your bill.

We are here to help. If you are having difficulty paying your Council Tax, please call the team to discuss this further.

Direct Debit: Monthly instalments are available on 1st, 8th, 15th or 22nd.

Please call 01946 598300 with your Council Tax account number and bank details. Alternatively, please arrange this via our website www.copeland.gov.uk/counciltax

Half yearly: 1st instalment due 1st April and 2nd instalment due on or before 1st September.

Annually: Payable on or before 1st April.

Debit/credit card: Payment can be made over the telephone using most major debit /credit cards.

Pay online: You can pay online using a debit/credit card at: Copeland.gov.uk/ways-pay

Bank Transfer:

Sort code: 01 09 54 Account number: 83830332.

Please make sure you quote your council tax account number in the reference field.

PayPoint: You can pay by cash or debit/credit card at any shop with the PayPoint sign.

If you have any questions regarding your Council Tax account, please contact us:

01946 598300

ctax@copeland.gov.uk

www.copeland.gov.uk/council-tax

Council Tax is payable on most homes. How much you pay, before benefits and discounts, depends on the banding of the property. A typical house in the UK is one that was valued at 1 April 1991 at between £68,000 and £88,000 and so is in tax Band D. Houses with lower values are put in bands A to C and pay less tax, while those with higher values are put in bands E to H and pay more tax.

Council Tax helps to pay for essential services like schools and our emergency services.

The band of your house and the amount due is shown on your bill.

£150 Government Council Tax Rebate

If you live in a property in Council Tax Bands A-D, you are likely to receive a £150 council tax rebate from the Government to help with the cost of living. Second homes and empty properties will not benefit from the rebate.

For properties on a low income and not in Council Tax Bands A-D, a discretionary scheme will be made available.

For people who pay Council Tax by direct debit, in most cases, the rebate will go directly into bank accounts. If direct debit is not in place, residents can sign up here: www.copeland.gov.uk/council-tax

The rebate will not need to be repaid.

Are you paying too much?

The Council Tax bill for each band assumes that there are at least two adults living in the property. If there is only one adult resident, a 25% discount will be given. Please contact the team to apply for this discount.

Any person over 18 years of age is counted as an adult. The following people may not count when we look at the number of adults who live in a property:

- Full-time students, student nurses, apprentices and youth-training trainees
- Patients living in hospital
- People looked after in care homes
- People who are severely mentally impaired
- People staying in certain hostels or night shelters
- Persons in respect of whom child benefit is payable
- 18- and 19-year-olds who are at or have just left school
- Care workers working for low pay, (less than £36 per week)
- People caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner or child under 18
- Members of visiting forces and certain international institutions
- Foreign diplomats and certain members of international organisations
- Members of religious communities
- People in prison (except those in prison for not paying their council tax or a fine)

Your bill will show if you are entitled to a discount. If none is shown but you think you could be entitled, please call us immediately.

Care Leavers discount from Council Tax

If you are a 'care leaver' as defined in The Children (Care Leavers) Act 2000, you may be eligible for a discount from your Council Tax until your 25th birthday.

- Eligible children are those young people aged 16-17 who are still in care and have been 'looked after' for a total of 13 weeks from the age of 14 and including their 16th birthday
- Relevant children are those young people aged 16 and 17 who have already left care, and who were 'looked after' for at least 13 weeks from the age of 14 and have been 'looked after' at some time while they were 16 or 17
- Former relevant children are those young people aged 18, 19 or 20 who have been eligible and/or relevant

If you think you may be entitled to this discount, or would like further details, please contact the team.

Council Tax if you have a disability

If you, or someone living with you, need a room, an extra bathroom, kitchen, or extra space in your property to meet special requirements arising from a disability, you may be entitled to a discount. Your bill may be reduced to that of a property in the band immediately below the band shown for your property. If you are already in band A, the lowest valuation band, you may still qualify for a reduction of 1/9th of the band D charge.

Application forms are available from the Revenues Team. The Council will inspect your property to confirm eligibility.

Annexes

You may be able to claim a 50% discount on your council tax for an annexe which is being used by you (the occupier of the main building), or a member of your family (who is not dependent on you).

You are unable to claim this discount if your annexe is occupied by someone who is not a member of your family.

If a dependent relative lives in an annexe which forms part of your main home, the annexe is exempt from Council Tax. A dependent relative is someone who is either:

- Aged 65+
- Severely mentally impaired
- Substantially and permanently disabled

Empty Properties

You may be exempt from paying council tax if your property is:

- B: Owned by a charity, vacant and was last occupied by a charity (exempt for up to six months)
- D: Vacant because the liable person is in prison
- E: Vacant because the liable person is a permanent patient in a hospital or a care home
- **F:** Vacant because the liable person has died and probate or letters of administration have not yet been granted. Exempt for up to six months after probate or letters of administration granted
- G: Vacant because nobody is allowed to live there by law
- H: Held vacant for occupation by a minister of religion
- I: Vacant because the liable person is receiving care at an address that is not a care home
- J: Vacant because the liable person is caring for someone elsewhere
- **K:** Vacant because the liable person is a student living elsewhere to study
- L: Vacant because it has been repossessed
- M: A hall of residence for students
- N: Lived in only by students
- **O**: Owned by the Ministry of Defence and lived in only by members of the armed services
- P: Lived in by member and dependents of Visiting Forces
- **Q**: Left vacant by a bankruptcy trustee
- R: An empty caravan pitch or a boat mooring
- S: Lived in only by people who are under 18
- T: A vacant part of another property and may not be let separately due to planning restrictions
- U: Lived in only by people who are severely mentally impaired
- V: Lived in by at least one foreign diplomat or specified member of an international organisation
- W Occupied annexe to an occupied dwelling

Property Discounts and Premiums

Unoccupied and Unfurnished - If your property is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished, you may be entitled to a 100 per cent discount for 28 days. No discount is awarded after this period and the full council tax is due.

Uninhabitable Property Under Repair – If your property is undergoing major structural repair, you may be entitled to a 50 per cent discount for as long as it remains in that state, or for one year (whichever is the lesser time). Please see examples below

ROOFS	 Major repairs to roof structures (not general repairs) Rebuilding defective chimney stack(s)
EXTERNAL WALLS	 Rebuilding defective walls Replacement of brickwork due to property movement/underpinning Rebuilding of gable end wall
FOUNDATIONS	Repair/renewal of foundationsUnderpinning substandard foundations
FLOORS	 Replacing defective solid floors (not floor- boards) Replacing defective floor joists
INTERNAL	 Replacing defective/unsafe staircase (not treads or risers) Replacing defective ceiling joists Rebuilding defective walls Structural joists/RSJs Lintels - only structural Major fire/flood damage Major re-plastering down to brickwork Remove complete chimney breast Erection of new internal or demolition of walls/ partitions

The following *will not* be classed as major repair work or structural repairs singularly, although a combination of these *may* be considered:

 Skimming/replastering (walls or ceilings) Bathroom and kitchen refits Main service reconnections Redecoration/wall tiling Electric rewire/ Gas fitting Damp proof course Maintenance (repointing, rendering) New windows/doors (internal or external) Internal joinery/floorboards Drives, paths fences, garden walls

Second Homes - Furnished Second Homes are subject to 100 per cent charge. However, some second homes may be eligible for a 50 per cent discount. If you are responsible for Council Tax on two furnished properties, one of which is not your main home, you may be eligible for a 50 per cent discount, if you are required to occupy either property as a condition of your employment (and it is specified as part of your employment contract). This discount may also apply to members of the armed forces.

Empty Homes Premium Properties empty between 2 and 5 years - Properties that are left vacant for more than two years are subject to an additional 100 per cent premium, resulting in 200 per cent council tax payable.

Empty Homes Premium Properties empty for more than 5 years – A 200 per cent premium applies for properties empty more than 5 years, resulting in 300 per cent council tax payable.

Empty Homes Premium Properties empty for more than 10 years - A 300 per cent premium applies for properties empty more than 10 years, resulting in 400 per cent council tax payable.

The Premium is charged against the property and not the person. If you are considering purchasing an empty property, please contact the Council to discuss this further, as you may be subject to the additional premium immediately. If the property is genuinely on the market for sale or let, please contact the Revenues team and request an 'Exception to the Council Tax Premium' application form.

Council Tax - discretionary relief

Under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council has the power to reduce liability for council tax in relation to individual cases or class(es) of cases that it may determine and where national discounts and exemptions cannot be applied.

How to appeal

You may appeal if you think you are not liable to pay Council Tax, for example, if you are not the resident owner, or because the property is exempt. You may also appeal if you believe the Council made a mistake when working out the amount you should pay. This relates to matters regarding entitlement to discounts, reductions under the disability reduction scheme and the Local Council Tax Support scheme.

If you want to appeal under these grounds, you must first contact ctax@copeland.gov.uk and state the reasons for your appeal.

We have a duty to respond to you within two months. We will inform you of the steps we have taken to deal with your appeal. If you are not satisfied you may appeal to the Valuation Tribunal Service within two months of our decision www.valuationtribunal. gov.uk/council-tax/

Making an appeal does not allow you to withhold payment of your bill.

Appeals Regarding your Council Tax Band

If you believe your Council Tax Band is incorrect, you must appeal in the first instance to the Listing Officer of the Valuation Office Agency www.gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band. The Listing Officer will look at your case and has a duty to respond within four months. If you disagree with the Listing Officers decision, you can, within three months of the Listing Officers decision, make an appeal directly to the Valuation Tribunal service: www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk/council-tax/

Council Tax Reduction for those on a low Income

If you or your partner are on a low income, you may be entitled to a reduction in the amount of Council Tax that you need to pay.

To make a claim or to notify the Local Authority that you have had a change in your circumstances, please visit: www.copeland. gov.uk/benefits. You can also register to view your letters online by clicking the online button in the same place.

Discretionary Housing Payment

Discretionary Housing Payment is a payment you may receive at the discretion of your local authority which can help towards housing costs. You can only get it if you are entitled to Housing Benefit or the housing costs element of Universal Credit. Further information can be obtained from www.copeland.gov.uk/benefits or by emailing dhp@copeland.gov.uk

Second Adult Rebate

You may be able to reduce your Council Tax bill if you live with someone who is on a low income, and you would normally be entitled to a single person discount if they were not living with you. The rebate is based on the income of any second adult that lives with you, not on your income or savings.

Important information about your Council Tax data

Copeland Borough Council is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes. For further information, please visit https://www.copeland.gov.uk/ sites/default/files/attachments/privacy_notice1.pdf



Non-Domestic Rates

Non-Domestic Rates, or business rates, are the way that those who occupy nondomestic property contribute towards the cost of local services. Under the business rates retention arrangements introduced from 1st April 2013, authorities keep a proportion of the business rates paid locally. This provides a direct financial incentive for authorities to work with local businesses to create a favourable local environment for growth since authorities will benefit from growth in business rates revenues. The money, together with revenue from council taxpayers, revenue support grant provided by the government and certain other sums, is used to pay for the services provided by local authorities in the area. Further information about the business rates system, may be obtained at www.gov.uk. Please be aware that your business rates do not fund the provision or emptying of bins. You have a duty of care to make your own arrangements for the disposal of waste created by your business. For further information about this visit; https://www.gov.uk/managing-your-waste-an-overview

Business Rates Instalments

Payment of business rate bills is automatically set on a 10-monthly cycle. However, the Government has put in place regulations that allow ratepayers to require their local authority to enable payments to be made through 12 monthly instalments. If you wish to take up this offer, you should contact Copeland Borough Council as soon as possible.

National Non-Domestic Rating Muliplier

The council works out the business rates bill by multiplying the rateable value of the property by the appropriate multiplier. There are two multipliers: the standard non-domestic rating multiplier and the small business non-domestic rating multiplier. The government sets the multipliers for each financial year for the whole of England according to formulae set by legislation.

Ratepayers who occupy a property with a rateable value which does not exceed £50,999 (and who are neither entitled to certain other mandatory relief[s] nor liable for unoccupied property rates) will have their bills calculated using the lower small business non-domestic rating multiplier, rather than the standard non-domestic rating multiplier.

The 2022/23 small business non-domestic rating multiplier is **49.9p** (0.499). The standard non-domestic rating multiplier is **51.2p** (0.512).

Rateable Value

Apart from properties that are exempt from business rates, each non-domestic property has a rateable value which is set by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), an agency of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. They compile and maintain a full list of all rateable values, available at www.gov.uk/voa

The rateable value of your property is shown on the front of your bill. This broadly represents the yearly rent the property could have been let for on the open market on a particular date specified in legislation. For the current rating list, this date was set as 1st April 2015.

The Valuation Office Agency may alter the valuation if circumstances change. The ratepayer (and certain others who have an interest in the property) can also check and challenge the valuation shown in the list if they believe it is wrong.

Further information about the grounds on which challenges may be made and the process for doing so can be found on the VOA website: www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-check-your-rateable-value-is-correct

Revaluations

All non-domestic property rateable values are reassessed at revaluations. The most recent revaluation took effect from 1st April 2017. Revaluations ensure that business rates bills are up-to-date and more accurately reflect current rental values and relative changes in rents. Frequent revaluations ensure the system continues to be responsive to changing economic conditions.

Business Rate Reliefs

Depending on individual circumstances, a ratepayer may be eligible for a rate relief (i.e. a reduction in your business rates bill). There are a range of available reliefs. Further details are provided below, at www.gov.uk/introduction-to-business-rates and at www.copeland.gov.uk/ non-domestic-rates

Temporary Reliefs

Some of the permanent reliefs are set out below but temporary reliefs are often introduced by the Government at Budgets. Further detail on current temporary reliefs is available at www.gov.uk/apply-for-business-rate-relief. You should contact Copeland Borough Council for details on the latest availability of business rates reliefs and advice on whether you may qualify

Small Business Rate Relief

If a ratepayer's sole or main property has a rateable value which does not exceed a set threshold, the ratepayer may receive a percentage reduction in their rates bill for the property of up to a maximum of 100 per cent. The level of reduction will depend on the rateable value of the property. For example, eligible properties with a rateable value below a specified lower threshold will receive 100 per cent relief. Eligible properties between that threshold and a specified upper threshold will receive partial tapered relief. The relevant thresholds for relief are set by the Government by order and can be obtained from www.copeland.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates or at www.gov.uk/introduction-to-business-rates.

Generally, these percentage reductions (reliefs) are only available to ratepayers who occupy either-

- (a) one property, or
- (b) one main property and other additional properties providing those additional properties each have a rateable value which does not exceed the limit set by order.

The aggregate rateable value of all the properties mentioned in (b), must also not exceed an amount set by order. For those businesses that take on an additional property which would normally have meant the loss of small business rate relief, they will be allowed to keep that relief for a fixed additional period.

Full details on the relevant limits in relation to second properties and the current period for which a ratepayer may continue to receive relief after taking on an additional property can be obtained from www.copeland.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates or at www.gov.uk/introduction-to-business-rates

Certain changes in circumstances will need to be notified to the local authority by the ratepayer who is in receipt of relief (other changes will be picked up by the local authority). The changes which should be notified are—

- (a) the property falling vacant,
- (b) the ratepayer taking up occupation of an additional property, or
- (c) an increase in the rateable value of a property occupied by the ratepayer in an area other than the area of the local authority which granted the relief.

Charity and Community Amateur Sports Club Relief

Charities and registered Community Amateur Sports Clubs are entitled to 80% relief where the property is occupied by the charity or the club and is wholly or mainly used for the charitable purposes of the charity (or of that and other charities), or for the purposes of the club (or of that and other clubs).

Transitional Rate Relief

At a revaluation, some ratepayers will see reductions or no change in their bill whereas some ratepayers will see increases. Transitional relief schemes are introduced at each revaluation to help those facing increases. Such relief schemes are funded by limiting the reduction in bills for those who have benefitted from the revaluation.

Transitional relief is applied automatically to bills. Further information about transitional arrangements and other reliefs may be obtained from the local authority or the website www.gov.uk/introduction-to-business-rates

Local Discounts

Local authorities have a general power to grant discretionary local discounts and to give hardship relief in specific circumstances. Full details can be obtained from www.copeland.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates

Unoccupied Property Rating

Business rates are generally payable in respect of unoccupied non-domestic property. However, they are generally not payable for the first three months that a property is empty. This is extended to six months in the case of certain industrial premises, whilst certain other properties such as vacant listed buildings are not liable for business rates until they are reoccupied. Full details on exemptions can be obtained from www.copeland.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates or from gov.uk at https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-business-rate-relief

Rating Advisers

Ratepayers do not have to be represented in discussions about their rateable value or their rates bill. However, ratepayers who do wish to be represented should be aware that members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS - website www.rics. org) and the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation (IRRV - website www.irrv.org.uk) are qualified and are regulated by rules of professional conduct designed to protect the public from misconduct. Before you employ a rating adviser or company you should check that they have the necessary knowledge and expertise, as well as appropriate indemnity insurance. Take great care and, if necessary, seek further advice before entering into any contract.

Information Supplied with Demand Notices

Information relating to the relevant and previous financial years in regard to the gross expenditure of the local authority is available at www.copeland.gov.uk A hard copy is available on request by writing to the council or by calling 01946 598300.

How to contact us

If you require further advice or assistance regarding Business Rates, please do not hesitate to contact the team on:

01946 598300 (select the option for Business Rates)

business.rates@copeland.gov.uk

www.copeland.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates