



Council Tax News

BUDGET UPDATE 2012

The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU
Tel. 01446 700111
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Cosmeston

Every year in March the setting of the level of Council Tax for the following financial year poses two distinct challenges. On the one hand there is the desire to ensure that the services delivered to the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan are maintained at the highest possible level, particularly as these are often provided for the most vulnerable in our community. On the other is a need to not impose greater and greater burdens on those who pay Council Tax, particularly at a time when the cost of everything is increasing in price.



In 2012/13 the settlement that the council receives from the Welsh Government will increase by only 0.4%, at a time when the level of inflation is at 3.6%. This follows on from the previous year when the level of funding that the council received fell by 1.7%. The settlement, as with last year's includes an element of protection for education budgets of 1.58% which means that the pressures on other council budgets are that much greater.

By modernising the way in which it delivers services and by greater co-operation with other councils and public bodies the Vale Council is continuing to provide an efficient and effective value for money service. This has been reflected in the recent report from the Wales Audit Office which states that 'The Council can demonstrate improvement in most key service areas'.

Plans are in place to invest some £3 million in our leisure centres leading to improvement to both the buildings and the facilities within them. The development of the Penarth Learning Community will start and funding to carry out key improvements at Llantwit Major Comprehensive has been identified.

It is planned to continue the process of making savings by reductions in senior management. Plans are also in hand to take on the responsibility for enforcing parking restrictions throughout the Vale as well as vigorous action against those who litter, fly tip and allow their dogs to foul the pavements and public places.

This year the level of Council Tax will rise by 1.75% the lowest increase since 1997/98. This means that a band D charge will be £940.05. The increase is below the average for Welsh local authorities and means that the band D level in the Vale remains below the Welsh average.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Kemp', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Councillor Gordon Kemp
Leader of the Council

How is your Council Tax calculated?



The total Council Tax for each community area in Band D is found by adding to the Town/Community Council levy the charges from:

The Vale of Glamorgan Council	£940.05
South Wales Police Authority	£169.42
Total	£1,109.47

BAND D

Most dwellings are subject to Council Tax. There is one bill per dwelling, whether it is a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home, or house boat, and whether it is owned or rented.

Each dwelling has been allocated to one of nine bands according to its open market capital value at 1st April 2003. The Band your dwelling is in will determine the Council Tax you pay as follows:

The total Band D Council Tax for the Barry Town area is £1,158.34

This is found by adding the Town/Community Council levy (**£48.87**) to the charges for the Vale of Glamorgan (**£940.05**) and the South Wales Police Authority (**£169.42**).

The National Assembly for Wales sets a **Standard Spending Assessment (SSA)** for each Council. This figure is used to distribute Revenue Support Grant to Councils.

This year our SSA is **£205,294,361** and our Net Budget is **£202,906,490** (including use of reserves). This represents a Band D equivalent for Council Tax of **£940.05** after all grants etc.

Your Council Tax Bill shows the band for your dwelling...

Valuation Band	Range of Values	Council Tax Payments
A	not exceeding £44,000	6/9 of Band D
B	Over £44,000 but not exceeding £65,000	7/9 of Band D
C	Over £65,000 but not exceeding £91,000	8/9 of Band D
D	Over £91,000 but not exceeding £123,000	9/9 of Band D
E	Over £123,000 but not exceeding £162,000	11/9 of Band D
F	Over £162,000 but not exceeding £223,000	13/9 of Band D
G	Over £223,000 but not exceeding £324,000	15/9 of Band D
H	Over £324,000 but not exceeding £424,000	18/9 of Band D
I	Over £424,000	21/9 of Band D

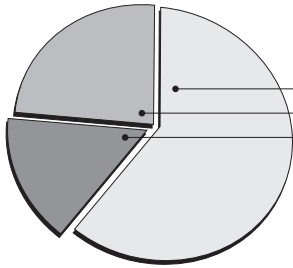
What will I pay?

Level Of Town/Community Council Precept and Total Council Tax For Band D 2012/2013



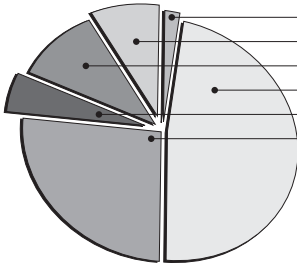
Town/Community Council Precept 2011/2012 £	Council Tax In Respect Of	Town/Community Council Precept 2012/2013 £	Town/Community Council Levy Band D 2012/2013 £	Total Tax Levy Band D 2012/2013 £
891,651	Barry	911,040	48.87	1,158.34
2,710	Colwinston	3,288	12.00	1,121.47
130,169	Cowbridge with Llanblethian	131,862	53.17	1,162.64
91,170	Dinas Powys	91,170	25.52	1,134.99
11,779	Ewenny	11,779	27.59	1,137.06
4,500	Llancarfan	4,500	10.07	1,119.54
35,520	Llandough	37,727	41.64	1,151.11
6,000	Llandow	6,800	16.08	1,125.55
3,437	Llanfair	3,437	9.42	1,118.89
9,168	Llangan	9,984	26.00	1,135.47
6,562	Llan-Maes	7,241	29.92	1,139.39
210,820	Llantwit Major	214,590	53.89	1,163.36
5,076	Michaelston	5,292	24.50	1,133.97
507,818	Penarth	529,270	49.22	1,158.69
6,000	Pendoylan	6,000	20.20	1,129.67
9,000	Penllyn	9,000	9.26	1,118.73
8,000	Peterston-S-Ely	8,000	14.68	1,124.15
0	Rhoose	0	0	1,109.47
26,410	St Athan	24,516	18.00	1,127.47
13,000	St Brides Major	12,000	10.79	1,120.26
3,800	St Donats	3,247	17.00	1,126.47
3,000	St Georges & St Brides-S-Ely	3,000	12.99	1,122.46
6,324	St Nicholas & Bonvilston	6,372	12.00	1,121.47
76,086	Sully	81,955	33.55	1,143.02
5,500	Welsh St Donats	5,000	16.29	1,125.76
25,500	Wenvoe	25,500	25.10	1,134.57
3,254	Wick	3,254	8.72	1,118.19
2,102,254	Total Precept	2,155,824		

Where the Council's money comes from...



Revenue Support Grant - 58%
 Council Tax - 26%
 National Non-Domestic Rate Pool - 16%

What the Council spends your money on...



Housing & Council Tax Benefits - 2%
 Public Protection & Policy - 10%
 Building & Visible Services - 11%
 Education (including Libraries) - 49%
 Planning, Transport, Economic Devt. & Leisure - 4%
 Social Services - 24%

Do it online!

Contact
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**OneVale
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or you can email C1V@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Text C1V then your message to 60066 or call 01446 700111

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



**£1 Billion lost nationally every year due to Housing Benefit fraud now...
 the Council's money is YOUR money**

...don't let the

Cheats get away with it...

If you know of someone
 who's cheating the Council

Fill in our on-line Benefit Fraud Form
 at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

It's FREE & CONFIDENTIAL 0800

Alternatively write to: **Freepost, Beat a Cheat**

**PHONE the
 FRAUD**

**24 hour
 HOTLINE
 7312525**

or email BeataCheat@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

How is Your Money Spent?



Estimated Expenditure and Income

2011/2012			Vale Council Services	2012/2013		
Gross Exp. £'000	Income £'000	Net Exp. £'000		Gross Exp. £'000	Income £'000	Net Exp. £'000
15,684	15,684	0	Housing Revenue Account	18,469	18,469	0
4,507	1,302	3,205	Other Housing	4,408	1,341	3,067
47,637	46,564	1,073	Housing & Council Tax Benefits	48,130	47,459	671
116,212	19,567	96,645	Education (including Libraries)	117,947	19,981	97,966
56,380	8,368	48,012	Social Services	57,739	8,682	49,057
6,778	3,569	3,209	Planning & Transportation	6,543	3,428	3,115
11,071	3,783	7,288	Economic Development & Leisure	9,641	4,188	5,453
25,314	3,937	21,377	Building & Visible Services	25,073	3,949	21,124
3,557	906	2,651	Public Protection & Registrars	3,550	976	2,574
20,833	3,157	17,676	Policy	20,054	3,282	16,772
15,241		15,241	Capital and Other Expenditure met from Revenue	13,231		13,231
323,214	106,837	216,377		324,785	111,755	213,030
2,102		2,102	Town & Community Council Precepts	2,156		2,156
500	15,491	(14,991)	Transfer to/from General & Specific Reserves	1,978	12,102	(10,124)
325,816	122,328	203,488	TOTAL (Budget Requirement)	328,919	123,857	*205,062
	(150)	150	Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Reliefs		(150)	150
	121,681	(121,681)	Revenue Support Grant		117,668	(117,668)
	28,951	(28,951)	National Non-Domestic Rate Pool		33,507	(33,507)
	53,006	(53,006)	Council Tax		54,037	(54,037)
Included in the total are the following levies and payments to outside bodies:						
	£'000			£'000		
	6,134		South Wales Fire Authority	6,117		
	17		Cardiff Port Health Authority	17		Total Expenditure 326,941
	3		Swansea Port Health Authority	3		Less: Income 109,853
	115		Glamorgan Record Office	117		Net Transfer from Reserves 217,088
	6,269			6,254		(12,026)
	31/3/2012	Estimated Financial Reserves as at:		31/3/2013		205,062
	£'000			£'000		
	7,358		General Fund	6,858		
	14,331		Housing Revenue Account	12,429		
	36,668		Reserves for Specific Purposes	27,044		

Capital Programme 2012/2013



Programme	£'000	How Financed	£'000
Housing - Council Properties	9,063	Loans	4,325
Housing - Grants and Loans	2,538	Grants	10,674
Education (including Libraries)	6,051	Revenue Contribution,	
Social Services	270	Renewal etc.	13,954
Economic Development and Leisure	5,983		
Building and Visible Services	3,543		
Policy	1,505		
	28,953		28,953

Should you be paying less?

**Are you entitled to Housing and/or Council Tax Benefits?
Find out if you can cut your Council Tax and rent liability.**

Are you on a low income (with savings of less than £16,000, unless you are on Guarantee Pension Credit), having difficulty paying some of your bills and using your capital to support your living standards? Council Tax Benefit could help pay towards your Council Tax bill and Housing Benefit could help towards your rent. The Council would like to assist our residents to apply for help - why not apply today? To find out if you qualify, we need to take into account your circumstances, including income, savings, age and how many people live with you.

Some examples are shown below (Housing Benefit does not cover gas, electricity, water rates or other amenity charges):

A single pensioner over 65 whose rent is £90 a week with Council Tax of £900 per year (£17.26 per week) and a weekly income of £165 per week. Council Tax Benefit could be about £860.88 (£16.51 per week) and Housing Benefit about £87.56 per week.

A couple with two children aged under 16, rent of £130 per week, Council Tax of £1,153 per year (£22.11 per week) and a total weekly household income of £295 per week. Council Tax Benefit could be £775.89 (£14.88 per week) and Housing Benefit about £106.49 per week.

Don't delay, apply today, as in most cases benefit can only be paid from the Monday following the receipt of a valid application form. If you claim Pension Credit, Income Support or Job Seekers' Allowance, you should have received a form to claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit in with your application.

For Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit, telephone 01446 709244.

E-mail: benefits@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Recycling and Refuse 2012/13



We will be collecting refuse and recycling on all bank holidays. Christmas arrangements can be found in your current recycling calendar, but will be published in local press and on our website nearer the time.

Are you recycling?

Did you know that up to 85% of the rubbish in your bin doesn't have to be there! Many items can be recycled or composted.

Kerbside Recycling Service

Use our free kerbside recycling service. All of your recycling is collected every week. Paper, glass, cans, cardboard, plastic, foil, juice cartons and drained aerosols can all be mixed together in your kerbside box and is collected weekly.

We have elasticated nets available which may be neatly tied and fit over your kerbside box. This reduces the need for carrier bags and prevents your recycling from blowing away. Contact us to find out where your nearest stockist is to buy yours for just £1!

Coming soon are our new kerbside recycling bags. They have a weighted base and Velcro secured lid; look out for more details.

Garden Waste Collection Service

Our popular kerbside collection for garden waste commences from the 2nd April until the end of November. Reusable bags cost £1 or disposable bags 3 for a £1, available from Council offices and all Vale libraries.

Kitchen Waste Recycling

Are you recycling all your food scraps? Food items such as: peelings, meat, bones, dairy products and leftovers can be disposed of weekly, while your refuse is collected on alternate weeks. Replacement corn-starch biodegradable bags can be obtained by tying a bag or a piece of cloth to the handle of your caddy to signal to our crew to leave you another roll on their round. Alternatively, call into your local library, or Alps reception to collect one.

Household Waste Recycling Centre opening times

Winter: Monday to Sunday 10am - 4pm for both Llandow and Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry. We will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

Summer: (March 25 - October 28 2012)

Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry - Daily 8am to 6pm and Llandow - Daily 10am to 5pm

For further information on any of the above please call Visible Services on 01446 700111, e-mail visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

Pay your Council Tax or Business Rates monthly by Direct Debit by completing a direct debit online, or download a mandate for postal return from www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or call 01446 700111.