

YOUR COUNCIL TAX 2024/25

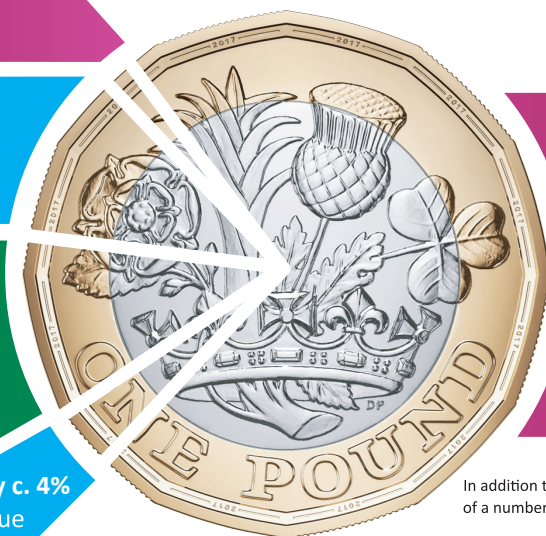


Parish Council c. 2%
For local amenities

Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner c. 11%
For law and order and crime reduction

Fylde Borough Council c. 10%
For the collection of refuse and recycling, building control, housing, planning, street cleaning, tourism and leisure, public health, etc.

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority c. 4%
For fire prevention and fire and rescue



Lancashire County Council c. 73%
For highways, potholes, education, care for the elderly and disabled, child protection, public health, libraries, recycling centres, etc.

In addition to its own requirements, Fylde Council collects council tax on behalf of a number of public bodies and passes it on to them to fund the services they deliver, as in the illustration above. Data taken from 2023/24

Individual splits of bills will vary depending on which area of the borough you live in

Where does your money go? Fylde Council key services net cost per household per week 2023/24

Building Control and Planning
56p p/w

Tourism and Leisure
£1.37 p/w

Housing and Homelessness
26p p/w

Collection of Refuse and Recycling
£1.09 p/w

Street Cleaning
61p p/w

Economic Development & Regeneration
37p p/w

Public Health (inc. food safety licensing and public toilets)
60p p/w



Use your QR reader to scan and find out more

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER

The services of the council affect us all as every day each of our regular bin lorries collects from around 1300 houses. The list of statutory services we provide is lengthy and includes food inspections, processing planning and licensing applications, attending to housing and homelessness duties, operating the cemetery and crematorium, administering electoral services, council tax and benefits, carrying out building control inspections, to name just a few. I'm pleased to say that our residents' feedback gives high scores on many of these areas, but we always want to do better so have introduced a 'how did we do' survey when you use our services which will help us to continually improve.

The cost of providing these services, like everything over this past year, has been affected by high inflation and increased energy costs. The increase in council tax from April is 2.99% and whilst we'd all rather there was no increase, it equates to a rise of just £6.54 on an average Band D property.

People don't always think to turn to the council when they are in need but there's lots of help available and even if the help is not provided by our own staff we can often signpost you in the right direction. Give the Town Hall a ring if you need assistance on 01253 658658 or email listening@fylde.gov.uk

For further details of the projects we've delivered over the last 12 months please visit the **Leader's Page** at www.fylde.gov.uk/leaders-message



Fylde Council Leader
Councillor Karen Buckley

Council Tax Reduction

Council Tax Reduction (CTR) provides assistance to people on a low income to help pay their Council Tax. If you receive CTR the amount you receive will be shown on this bill. Details of the scheme can be found on the Council's website, where you can apply online or report a change of circumstances.

If you receive CTR you have a duty to tell us immediately about any changes to your circumstances. Failing to comply with that duty could mean you repay any amount you were not entitled to and you could face prosecution.

Examples of changes we need to be told about include any change to your income, to your household, your Universal Credit award, or if you move address. If in doubt, tell us of the change. You can report your changes online at: www.fylde.gov.uk/benefits

If you think any decision we have made about your CTR is wrong you must tell us within one month of this notice or we may not be able to help. You can ask for an explanation of our decision, ask us to look at it again, or appeal (in writing) against it.

Register now to view your CTR award at www.fylde.gov.uk/advantage

Disabled Relief

This is awarded where special adaptations have been made to your home to accommodate a disabled resident. If you qualify you will receive a reduction equivalent to one band on your bill. An initial inspection of your home will be made prior to the award of this relief, and a new application is required each year.

Discounts and Exemptions

A Single Occupier Discount of 25% is applied if you have previously declared that you are the only adult resident at the address. But if your circumstances have changed and this is no longer the case – maybe another adult has moved into this address or a child has become 18 – you must inform us immediately so that your bill can be adjusted. We will check to see that the information you provide is correct, which may involve cross-checking data with external bodies.

In certain circumstances other discounts are available to the following groups of people:

- Single person households
- People who are deemed to be severely mentally impaired
- 18 year olds for whom child benefit is payable
- 18 and 19 year olds in further education
- Full time qualifying students
- Apprentices
- Persons detained in custody
- Care workers
- Patients of residential care homes
- People staying in night shelters/dormitory-type hostels
- Long stay hospital patients

Other discounts are also available and detailed on our website. Properties which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished may qualify for a 100% discount up to a maximum of 6 months, and properties which are undergoing or require major structural alterations and are unoccupied and uninhabitable may qualify for a discount of 100% up to a maximum of 12 months.

A 50% Council Tax reduction applies where certain criteria are met in relation to annexes occupied by a relative of the occupier of the main dwelling, or for people with annexes which are unoccupied. If you think we've made a mistake with your Council Tax, or you think you may be entitled to a discount, exemption or relief, please contact us in writing and we will look at it again.

Some properties are exempt from Council Tax, which means you do not have to pay Council Tax for them. These are the different classes of exemption:

- B** An unoccupied property owned and previously used by a charity. The maximum exemption period is 6 months.
- D** An unoccupied property which was the previous residence of someone now detained in custody.

- E** An unoccupied property which was the previous residence of someone who has moved permanently into a residential home or hospital to receive care.
- F** An unoccupied property which is waiting for probate or letters of administration to be granted. The maximum exemption is for 6 months after probate or letters of administration have been granted
- G** A property which is unoccupied because the law forbids occupation.
- H** An unoccupied property reserved for a minister of religion.
- I** An unoccupied property which was the previous residence of someone who has permanently moved into another property (not a residential home or hospital) to receive personal care.
- J** An unoccupied property which was the previous residence of someone who has permanently moved away to provide personal care to another person.
- K** An unoccupied property which was the previous residence of someone who is now a full time qualifying student and who now lives elsewhere.
- L** An unoccupied property where the mortgage lender is in possession.
- M** Student halls of residence.
- N** A property occupied only by full time qualifying students.
- O** An armed forces barracks.
- P** Accommodation for visiting forces and dependents.
- Q** An unoccupied property which is controlled by the trustee in bankruptcy following insolvency proceedings.
- R** A vacant caravan pitch or boat mooring.
- S** A property occupied only by people aged under 18 years.
- T** An unoccupied annex which may not be let separately without a breach of planning control.
- U** An occupied property where all of the residents are deemed to be severely mentally impaired, as confirmed by a registered medical practitioner.
- V** A property occupied by a foreign diplomat.
- W** An annex occupied by a dependent elderly or disabled relative.

Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care Funding

The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities. ("Adult social care authorities" are local authorities which have functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014, namely county councils in England, district councils for an area in England for which there is no county council, London borough councils, the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly.)

The offer was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its council tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the financial information relating to the website links of your bill, free of charge, your request should initially be made in writing to the address on your Council Tax bill.

Data Protection Legislation

Fylde Council will process the information you provide in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and all other data protection legislation. The information will only be held and processed for the purpose of the assessment and collection of taxes and revenues and other compatible purposes such as corporate information systems and the prevention and detection of fraud or crime.

The Council is obliged to comply with the requirements of the National Fraud Initiative.

Further information can be found at www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-fraud-initiative

You have rights under the Act. Information is available at www.fylde.gov.uk or from the Information Commissioner's Officer or website www.ico.gov.uk

This information leaflet forms part of the demand notice.