



# COUNCIL TAX INFORMATION

## 2021/2022



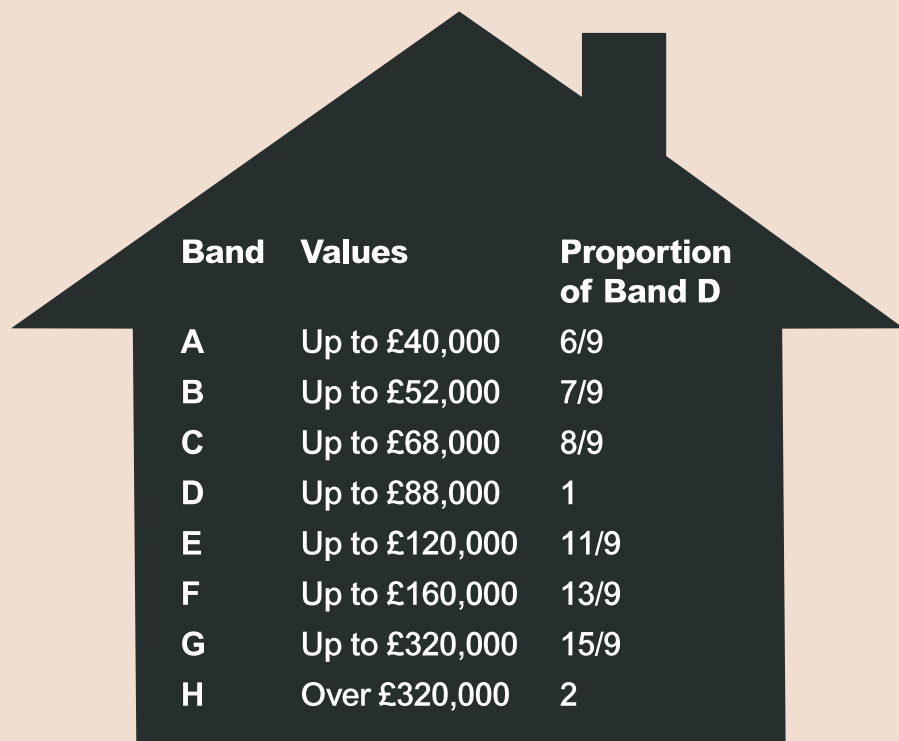
#STHELENSTOGETHER



# CONTENTS

1. THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET	3
2. COUNCIL TAX CHARGES	5
3. MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING AND WASTE AUTHORITY	6
4. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	7
5. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION - METRO MAYOR & COMBINED AUTHORITY	9
6. THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR MERSEYSIDE (PCC)	13
7. MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY	17
8. HELP AND SUPPORT	19

# 1. THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET



Band	Values	Proportion of Band D
A	Up to £40,000	6/9
B	Up to £52,000	7/9
C	Up to £68,000	8/9
D	Up to £88,000	1
E	Up to £120,000	11/9
F	Up to £160,000	13/9
G	Up to £320,000	15/9
H	Over £320,000	2

The Council Tax you pay depends on the valuation your property has been given by the Valuation Office Agency. The amount payable is based on the market value of the property as of 1 April 1991.

Your Council Tax bill tells you which band applies to your home.

**The amount of Council Tax charge for each band depends upon the tax set for band D, and is calculated using the proportions shown.**

## Adult Social Care Precept

In 2015 the Government created the Adult Social Care Precept which allowed councils who provide Social Care to Adults to increase their share of Council Tax by a specified amount each year. Government announced that for the year 2021/22 councils would be allowed to increase this by up to 3%.

The income generated from this charge is ring-fenced, meaning it can only be used for Adult Social Care services.

	2020/21	2021/22	Increase
Amount met from Council Taxpayer	£78.604m	£82.223m	4.60%
Council Tax Base (Band D equivalents)	52,272	52,080	
Band D Council Tax	£1,503.75	£1,578.78	4.99%

**If you live in a Parish that charges a precept, your Council Tax will be higher. Please see Section 2 for details.**

**THE BASIC COUNCIL TAX FOR A BAND D PROPERTY HAS BEEN SET AT:**



**ST HELENS COUNCIL**  
£1,578.78

**4.99% INCREASE**



**POLICE**  
£226.97

**7.08% INCREASE**



**FIRE**  
£82.00

**1.99% INCREASE**



**COMBINED AUTHORITY (CA)**  
£19.00

**NO INCREASE**



**TOTAL**  
£1,906.75

Not all Council Tax collected pays for council services. It also supports Police, the Combined Authority and the Fire and Rescue Authority too.

**BASIC COUNCIL TAX PAYABLE FOR 2021/22**

Band	St Helens (£)	Police (£)	Fire (£)	CA (£)	Total (Non-Parish) (£)
A	1,052.52	151.31	54.67	12.67	1,271.17
B	1,227.94	176.53	63.78	14.78	1,483.03
C	1,403.36	201.75	72.89	16.89	1,694.89
D	1,578.78	226.97	82.00	19.00	1,906.75
E	1,929.62	277.41	100.22	23.22	2,330.47
F	2,280.46	327.85	118.44	27.44	2,754.19
G	2,631.30	378.28	136.67	31.67	3,177.92
H	3,157.56	453.94	164.00	38.00	3,813.50

For 2021/22, the Government requires the council to hold a referendum with local residents if it proposes to increase Council Tax by **5%** or more. Therefore, no referendum is required.

## Revenue Spending 2021/22

Our total 2021/22 budget is **£435.0m** (Gross Revenue Expenditure).

In 2020/21, the equivalent amount was **£431.8m**.

The change in Gross Revenue Expenditure is due to a number of cost pressures, additional spend funded by non-Council Tax sources and savings made for 2021/22.

<b>+£10.5m</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL SPEND FUNDED BY GRANTS (INCLUDING COVID RELATED EXPENDITURE)</b>
<b>+£4.0m</b>	<b>DEMAND LED PRESSURES</b>
<b>+£1.4m</b>	<b>PRICE INFLATION</b>
<b>+£1.3m</b>	<b>PAY AND NATIONAL LIVING WAGE INFLATION</b>
<b>-£13.4m</b>	<b>SAVINGS</b>
<b>-£0.6m</b>	<b>REDUCTION IN SPEND AGAINST SPECIFIC GRANTS</b>

## 2. COUNCIL TAX CHARGES

The table below shows the amount of Council Tax you will pay dependent on which area of the Borough you live in.

COUNCIL TAX CHARGES 2021/22								
Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bold	1,279.21	1,492.41	1,705.61	1,918.82	2,345.22	2,771.62	3,198.03	3,837.64
Rainford	1,288.50	1,503.25	1,718.00	1,932.75	2,362.24	2,791.74	3,221.25	3,865.50
Eccleston	1,281.13	1,494.65	1,708.17	1,921.69	2,348.73	2,775.77	3,202.82	3,843.38
Windle	1,279.47	1,492.71	1,705.96	1,919.20	2,345.69	2,772.17	3,198.67	3,838.40
Rainhill	1,283.45	1,497.36	1,711.27	1,925.18	2,352.99	2,780.81	3,208.63	3,850.36
Billinge	1,288.54	1,503.29	1,718.05	1,932.81	2,362.32	2,791.83	3,221.35	3,865.62
Seneley Green	1,295.09	1,510.93	1,726.78	1,942.63	2,374.32	2,806.01	3,237.72	3,885.26
All other parts of the council area	1,271.17	1,483.03	1,694.89	1,906.75	2,330.47	2,754.19	3,177.92	3,813.50
Adult Social Care Precept (included above)	117.26	136.80	156.35	175.89	214.98	254.07	293.15	351.78

### 3. MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING AND WASTE AUTHORITY (MRWA)

We are the public body responsible for dealing with household waste and recycling once it's been collected from your home.

Using the latest technologies we aim to make sure as much waste as possible is sustainably managed. Our Energy from Waste facility in Wilton diverts over 92% of Merseyside's non-recycled waste from landfill - and in the process saves more than £100m in current landfill disposal costs over the life of its contract.

We work hard to encourage Merseyside's householders to use less in the first place and, through our 14 Household Waste Recycling Centres and District Council kerbside collections, to recycle as much as they can. Last year, 37.2% of Merseyside's household waste was reused, recycled or composted. Recycling, alongside our waste prevention work and involvement with community projects, can help us all contribute to stopping climate change.

You can read more about our work at [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk)

The Levy for St Helens Borough Council for 2021-22 will be £8,749,045.

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A comparison of Expenditure and Income for 2020-21 and 2021-22 is as follows.

	2020-21	2021-22
	£M	£M
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	77.045	80.391
<b>Contribution to Reserves</b>	0.502	0
<b>Total Requirement</b>	77.547	80.391
<b>Use of Reserves</b>	0	-2.755
<b>Levy</b>	77.547	77.636
<b>Levy per head</b>	<b>£54.49</b>	<b>£54.29</b>



MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

For more information contact:  
 Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority  
 7th Floor  
 No.1 Mann Island  
 Liverpool  
 L3 1BP  
 Tel: **0151 255 1444**  
 E-mail: [enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk)  
 Web: [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk)  
[www.recycleright.org.uk](http://www.recycleright.org.uk)

## 4. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Functions under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Environment Agency (Levies) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Environment Agency has powers in respect of flood and coastal erosion risk management for 6,500 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. Money is spent on the construction of new flood

defence schemes, the maintenance of the river system and existing flood defences together with the operation of a flood warning system and management of the risk of coastal erosion.

The financial details are:

### NORTH WEST REGIONAL FLOOD AND COASTAL COMMITTEE

	2020/2021 '000s	2021/2022 '000s
Gross Expenditure	£92,022	£130,113
Levies Raised	£4,097	£4,179
<b>Total Council Tax Base</b>	2,178	2,163

The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). However, under the new Partnership Funding rule not all schemes will attract full central funding. To provide local funding for local priorities and contributions for partnership funding the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees

recommend through the Environment Agency a local levy.

A change in the gross budgeted expenditure between years reflects the programme of works for both capital and revenue needed by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to which you contribute. The total Local Levy raised by this committee has increased by 2.0%.

The total Local Levy raised has increased from £4,096,979 in 2020/2021 to £4,178,918 for 2021/2022.







## 5. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION - METRO MAYOR & COMBINED AUTHORITY

The Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region works as head of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) to ensure that all areas of our region share in the benefits of a fair and prosperous local economy.

As well as leading on issues such as the economy, transport, housing and skills, the Mayor is responsible for shaping the future of our region around the needs of our communities. He is your voice and the voice of the Liverpool City Region on the world stage and when lobbying government for greater funding and local decision-making.

The Metro Mayor is accountable to, and represents the people of, all six boroughs in Liverpool City Region: Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral.

In accordance with the Combined Authorities (Finance) Order 2017, the Metro Mayor is seeking to set a Mayoral precept for 2021/22 of £19 per Band D property - which is **a freeze on the last year's precept and the lowest rate in the country.**

Most Council Tax payers across the City Region will pay a Band A Council Tax rate of £12.67 per year.

This funding will help the Metro Mayor and Combined Authority to keep delivering for you - as it has with the creation of 9,000 jobs and 5,500 apprenticeships, investing tens of millions of pounds in local schools and colleges and overseeing the region's response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Metro Mayor has worked with local councils to support local jobs and businesses, through a £50m support package, as well as tailored programmes to help small and socially-trading businesses and continued lobbying for greater support and a fair furlough from central government.

The Metro Mayor has also published an ambitious economic recovery plan for the whole of the city region. In it, he sets out how £1.4 billion in investment could unlock £8.8 billion of projects to begin in the next 12 months, creating more than 100,000 jobs in the process.

The precept will enable the CA to ensure its long-term financial sustainability and help ensure that the Mayoral objectives - a London-style integrated transport network, a fairer, more inclusive local economy, a green industrial revolution and a strong recovery from the Coronavirus - are delivered.



**Steve Rotheram**  
Liverpool City Region  
Metro Mayor



**METROMAYOR**  
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

**THE MOVEMENT IN THE GROSS EXPENDITURE BUDGET IS DETAILED BELOW:**

	<b>£'000</b>
Gross Expenditure 2020/21	270,351
Increase in costs associated with the delivery of Mayoral priorities	1,787
Pay associated costs	722
Reduction in Merseytravel and Tunnels operating grants	(1,803)
Special Rail Grant paid direct to Merseytravel	(94,557)
Change in debt servicing costs	(7,115)
Reduction in Capital and other payments to Merseytravel	(13,091)
Gross Expenditure 2021/22	<b>156,294</b>

<b>2020/21 £'000</b>		<b>2021/22 £'000</b>
270,351	Gross Expenditure	156,294
(143,105)	Income and Specific Grants	(43,220)
(97,403)	Income from Levy	(97,404)
(21,828)	Contributions from Reserves	(8,040)
<b>8,015</b>	<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>	<b>7,630</b>
412,268	Tax Base	401,579
<b>£19.00</b>	<b>Band D Equivalent</b>	<b>£19.00</b>

For more information, visit:  
[www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk](http://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk)

## Transport Funding

The LCRCA's transport responsibilities are funded through transport levies across each of the six councils.

This funds concessionary travel, subsidised bus services, the Mersey Ferries and a range of other services.

The transport levy 2021/22 for each of the Merseyside councils within the LCRCA is:

	Transport Levy 2020/21 £000	Transport Levy 2021/22 £000
Knowsley	10,240	10,279
Liverpool	33,869	33,924
St Helens	12,321	12,302
Sefton	18,851	18,828
Wirral	22,123	22,071
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,404</b>	<b>97,404</b>

For historical and legal reasons Halton Council currently provide transport activities directly within the boundaries of the borough of Halton.

This is funded through a differential transport levy collected by Halton on behalf of the LCRCA which will be £3.2m for 2021/22.



**Mayor Steve Rotheram**

Metro Mayor, Liverpool City Region



**Mr John Fogarty, B.A. Hons, C.P.F.A.**

Director of Corporate Services:  
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority





## 6. THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC) FOR MERSEYSIDE

It is my statutory duty to ensure that an efficient and effective police service is delivered by the Chief Constable on behalf of the public. Similarly I have a responsibility to produce an annual budget, including setting the Council Tax precept requirement for the police service on Merseyside. This precept provides the balance of funding not covered by government grant and is raised entirely and only for the police service, enabling the full cost of policing to be met.

The Government has provided additional funds to enable Forces to meet their officer recruitment targets for the second stage of 'Operation Uplift', which delivers the Government's policy to recruit 20,000 police officers nationally by 31st March 2023.

Merseyside's second stage target has already been met due to my decision to recruit an additional 500 police officers in 2020/21, taking the urgent

steps necessary to rebuild the Force. Of the remaining additional 660 police officers that Merseyside expect to recruit under 'Operation Uplift', 160 will be recruited in the next financial year. This will deliver a total police officer workforce of 4,127, the highest number of officers since I was first elected in 2012.

However, the Government did not provide sufficient funds to cover local inflationary pressures, commitments and pay awards. This funding gap is expected to be met through the precept and efficiency savings from the Force. The Government has said that PCCs can increase their precepts by up to £15 on a Band D equivalent property without the need to hold a referendum.

I therefore asked the public to support an increase in the precept and I am pleased that 62% of those who responded did so.

Consequently, I have raised the precept by the maximum allowed which will raise an additional £5.6m of precept income. In Council Tax terms the new precept is £151.31 per property per year at Band A (the majority of taxpayers on Merseyside) and £226.97 at Band D, an increase of £10.00 and £15.00 respectively on the 2020/21 levels. This has enabled me to set a balanced budget in 2021/22, allowing the Chief Constable to address inflationary and other demand pressures, protect police staff jobs and provide sufficient funding to enable the Chief Constable to rebuild the Force.



**Rt Hon Jane Kennedy**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**  
**for Merseyside**

## POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER BUDGET

2020/21		2021/22	
£m		£m	
<b>370.193</b>	<b>GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>389.633</b>	
(2.790)	Income	(2.790)	
(17.097)	Specific Government Grants	(17.732)	
<b>350.306</b>	<b>NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>369.111</b>	
0.066	Net Contribution to/(from) Reserves	0.627	
<b>350.372</b>	<b>NET BUDGET REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>369.738</b>	
(133.069)	Police General Grant	(142.181)	<b>38.4%</b>
(121.553)	DCLG Formula Funding	(128.490)	<b>34.8%</b>
(14.103)	Local Council Tax Support Grant	(14.103)	<b>3.8%</b>
(1.538)	Legacy Council Tax Freeze Grant	(1.538)	<b>0.4%</b>
(0.216)	Collection Fund Surplus	1.256	<b>(0.3%)</b>
<b>79.893</b>	<b>COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>84.682</b>	<b>22.9%</b>
<b>376,909</b>	<b>Tax base</b>	<b>373,099</b>	
<b>£211.97</b>	<b>Band D Equivalent</b>	<b>£226.97</b>	
<b>£10.00</b>	<b>Increase in Band D Equivalent</b>	<b>£15.00</b>	



# THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC) FOR MERSEYSIDE

## WHY HAS THE GROSS EXPENDITURE CHANGED?

	£m
<b>GROSS EXPENDITURE 2020/21</b>	<b>370.193</b>
Police Uplift Programme	13.145
Allowance for Pay and Price Inflation	4.633
Net Committed Growth/(Savings)	0.897
Net Increase in Other Specific Grant Expenditure	0.635
None Achievement of Savings from Previous Year	0.127
<b>GROSS EXPENDITURE 2021/22</b>	<b>389.630</b>

## WHY HAS THE COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT CHANGED?

	£m
<b>Council Tax Requirement 2020/21</b>	<b>79.893</b>
Reduction in Tax base	(0.808)
Increase in Band D Equivalent	5.597
<b>Council Tax Requirement 2021/22</b>	<b>84.682</b>



**POLICE**



# 7. MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

## Precept Information 2021-2022

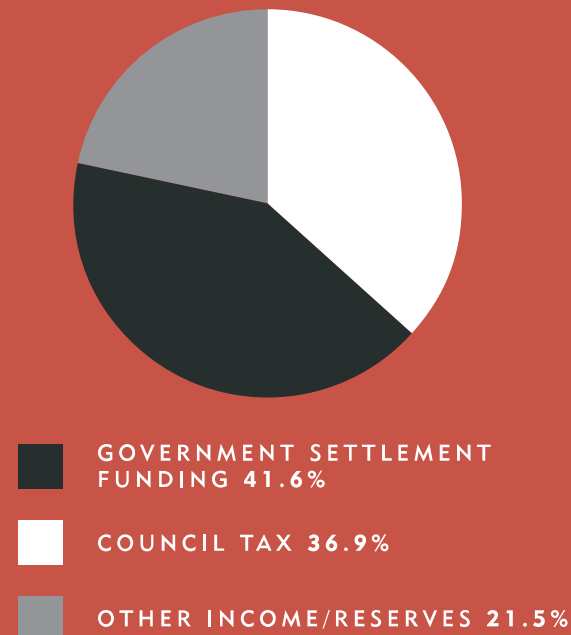
Between 2010/11 and 2020/21 the Government cut the Authority's funding by over 32% or approximately 50% in real terms. That resulted in unavoidable reductions in the front line operational services over this period.

The Authority was concerned that increasing environmental; terrorist; fire; and protection risks meant previous frontline cuts that were required to balance budgets over the last decade had gone too far. Last year, on the back of the Chief Fire Officers' recommendations, the Authority re-invested £1.0m in frontline response and protection services increasing the number of available fire appliances from 26 to 30 and the number of firefighters from 620 to 642. The 2021/22 budget sees a further re-investment in frontline services by increasing the number of fire appliances to 32, and a capital programme that invests £52m in the Service's infrastructure by 2025/26, including a potential new £25m Training and Development Academy. The new investments also include a temporary increase in the number of protection staff employed to deal with the Grenfell Tower recommendations.

## How We Are Funded

The Authority's 2021/22 Gross Budget is £75.4m. This excludes the £10m the Authority incurs in its role as lead authority for the National Assurance Resilience initiative, as this relates to a Home Office function and is fully funded by them. The Gross budget is the total amount that the Authority plans to spend, including expenditure funded by reserves, fees and specific grants.

**The pie chart below outlines how the £75.4m is funded:**



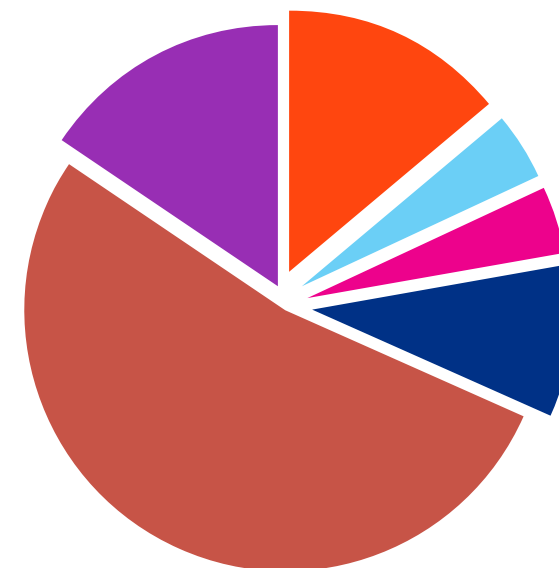
The Authority set a Council Tax requirement of £30.594m for 2021/22 and a Council Tax for a Band D property of £82.00, a 1.99% increase on the 2020/21 figure of £80.40. This is the maximum increase allowed by the Government before the Authority would be required to hold a referendum. By increasing the charge by the maximum it allows the Authority to maintain the investment in frontline services approved in 2020/21 and fund the further investment planned in 2021/22. Most Council Taxpayers in Merseyside will pay Band A Council Tax of £54.67 about 15p per day towards their Fire and Rescue Service.

The Authority has issued a precept on the five Merseyside District councils of £30.594m. St Helens' contribution to expenditure financed by precept is £4.271m, which represents 14% of the total precept.

## How The Money Is Spent

Approximately 71% of the Authority's 2021/22 budget remains committed to delivering Operational Response, Protection and Preventative frontline services, as these functions have been recognised as priority areas by the public following extensive consultation. The costs associated with funding capital investment account for 15.3%, and relate to investment in frontline

activities such as fire stations, fire appliances and operational equipment. The remaining 14.1% is on support services, of which a significant proportion relates to essential frontline service support such as insurance of vehicles and premises, the vehicle maintenance workshop and operational and fire control ICT costs.



## COUNCIL TAX CHARGE

The Council Tax for a Band D property has been set at:

	2021-22 £M	2021-22 COUNCIL TAX FOR A BAND D PROPERTY
<b>Gross Budget</b>	75.444	
Income & Specific Grants	-11.718	
Use of Reserves	-4.476	
<b>Net Budget Requirement</b>	59.250	
Collection Fund Deficit	2.836	
Local Business Rate Adjustment	-0.115	
Government Settlement Funding	-31.377	
<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>	<b>30.594</b>	
<b>Tax Base</b>		373,099.34
<b>Band D Equivalent</b>		<b>£82.00</b>

<span style="color: #A52A2A;">■</span>	RESPONSE & CONTROL	52.8%
<span style="color: #800080;">■</span>	CAPITAL/RCCO	15.3%
<span style="color: #FF4500;">■</span>	SUPPORT SERVICES & OTHER	14.1%
<span style="color: #00BFFF;">■</span>	PREVENTION & COMMUNITY SAFETY	4.1%
<span style="color: #FF00FF;">■</span>	PROTECTION	4.2%
<span style="color: #000080;">■</span>	OPERATIONAL PREPAREDNESS	9.5%

## Contact Us

The Authority values the opinions of the people it serves. If you wish to comment about the services of the Authority please contact Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters on 0151 296 4000.

Ian Cummins, CIPFA, Director of Finance  
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority  
Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,  
Bridle Road, Bootle, Liverpool, L30 4YD  
iancummins@merseyfire.gov.uk

## HELP KEEP COUNCIL COSTS DOWN



### Manage your Council Tax online

Sign up for e-billing and help the council cut down on costly paperwork, visit:

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/counciltax)



### Contact the council and make payments online

Online transactions cost the council roughly 32pence compared to £7.40 to speak to us. Use the self-service section of our website for fast and easy access to council services, visit:

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/selfservice](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/selfservice)



### Recycle more

Recycling helps protect our environment and reduces costs. Find out more on:

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/recycling)

## WAYS WE CAN HELP



### Energy Savings

Our Affordable Warmth team can help reduce your energy usage and save on your gas and electricity bills. Find out more at:

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency/](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency/)



### Work and Employment

If you are currently unemployed and would like advice or support about getting back into work call the 'Ways to Work' team on: **01744 676131**, or email: [waystowork@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:waystowork@sthelens.gov.uk)



### Money Advice

If you are having problems paying your Council Tax contact us immediately. Please visit: [www.sthelens.gov.uk/council-tax/problems-paying-your-council-tax/](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/council-tax/problems-paying-your-council-tax/)

Or call us on: **01744 675255**



### Welfare Assistance Scheme

We will provide support to vulnerable residents who require help to establish or maintain a home independently in the community or require emergency assistance following an unexpected event. Assistance will be provided in the form of foodbank vouchers, fuel vouchers, furniture (new and refurbished) and electrical items to assist people in need. [www.sthelens.gov.uk/benefits/welfare-assistance-scheme/](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/benefits/welfare-assistance-scheme/)

## JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION

Follow **@sthelenscouncil** on Twitter and search **St Helens Borough Council** on Facebook and Instagram



**ST HELENS**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Contact Centre

Wesley House  
Corporation Street  
St Helens  
WA10 1HF

**Tel:** 01744 676789

**Minicom:** 01744 671671

→ [www.sthelens.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/contactus)

Please contact us to request translation of council information into Braille, audio tape or a foreign language.