

More information

help and advice:

Enquiries about your Council Tax Bill?

Write to: Birmingham City Council, Revenues and Payments,
PO Box 5, Birmingham, B4 7AB. Or call 0121 303 1113

Enquiries about Council Tax benefit?

Call in at any Neighbourhood Office. Or telephone 0121 303 1111

Enquiries about National Non-Domestic Rating demands
(business rates)?

Write to: Birmingham City Council, Revenues and Payments,
PO Box 6637, Birmingham, B4 7AB.

Or call 0121 303 5509/5510/5511

إذا عندكم أي سؤال عن الاستعلامات مسجلة في هذه الاستمارة
نرجو اتصال كتابة إلى عنوان تحت .

এই প্রচারণা প্রদত্ত তথ্যাদি সম্পর্কে আপনার কোন
প্রশ্ন থাকলে অনুগ্রহপূর্বক বিশ্বের ঠিকানার লিখুন:

如閣下對本單張有任何疑問，請去信以下
地址查詢：

প্রতিমাসে আ প্রতিমাসে আবেদন মাহিলি যিহে ডিও প্রক
পুস্তকা হোখ তো কৃপা করী নীহে আবেদন সরনামে লখো:

इस पुस्तिका में सूचना के विषय में अगर आप ने कोई प्रश्न पूछने
हैं तो कृपया इन को लिखें ।

ਇਸ ਪਰਚੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਬਾਰੇ ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਕੋਈ ਪੁੱਛ-ਗਿੱਛ ਬਰਨੀ ਹੋਵੋ ਤਾਂ
ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਹਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਲਿਖੋ:

اگر آپ کو اس لیفلٹ میں دی گئی معلومات کے بارے میں دریافت کرنا ہے تو
برائے مہربانی مندرجہ ذیل کو لکھیں:-

Nếu bạn có bất cứ những câu hỏi gì về bản
thông tin này, xin viết thư đến:

If you have any queries about the information in this leaflet please write to:
The Strategic Director of Resources, The Council House, Victoria Square,
Birmingham, B1 1BB
www.birmingham.gov.uk/budget

SPENDING AND COUNCIL TAX

	'04/'05 £m	'05/'06 £m
Total spending	2,525.1	2,727.4
Less: income	-1,164.9	-1,275.1
City Council budget requirement	1,360.2	1,452.3
Less: Formula Grant	-1,085.8	-1,165.4
Collection fund surplus(-)/deficit(+)	0.5	1.1
TO BE FINANCED BY COUNCIL TAX	274.9	288.0

	'04/'05	'05/'06	% Change
Charge to council taxpayers Divided by the taxbase (Band D property equivalents)	£274.923m 278,818	£287.976m 284,101	+4.75 +1.89
Council tax for City Council services (Band D)	£986.03	£1,013.64	+2.80
Fire & Civil Defence Authority precept	£39.32	£41.21	+4.81
Police Authority precept	£80.08	£83.68	+4.50
Gives a total council tax (Band D)	£1,105.43	£1,138.53	+2.99

New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council is
levying a precept for 2005/06.
Its charge will be made only to council taxpayers
in the parish and amounts to £57,581,
equivalent to £27.84 per property in Band D.

KEY POINTS OF THE 2005/06 BUDGET

- £20 million more for social care (on top of £10 million extra in 2004/05);
- £39.4 million (6.6%) more for schools, plus £6 million to help develop integrated children's services;
- £6 million for priorities, including money to: improve community safety and the local environment; help us communicate better with customers; promote Birmingham; develop apprenticeships and vocational training; invest in libraries; promote local initiatives and to help secure council efficiencies;
- £13 million to help relieve pressures on services, e.g. loss of grant for the housing benefits service and for payments to providers of housing related support services for vulnerable people, a rise in our payment to the passenger transport authority, higher electricity bills for street lighting and continuing recycling projects;
- over £20 million in savings, including better buying and efficiency savings;
- the council tax for our own services will rise by 2.8%. When we add in the cost of fire and police services the total increase is 2.99%.
- it allows for general pay inflation of 2.95% and price rises of 2%.

Birmingham City Council

2005 budget for Birmingham

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2005/06

We are working for you to make this council the best run in England. We aim to provide quality services which are also cost effective.

We want to make Birmingham a better place to live; from the city centre through the inner cities to the outer suburbs. We also want you to be involved in telling the council what it should be doing.

In our Council Plan for 2005, we say what we want to do for Birmingham.

To find out more, look out for Forward, our free information sheet, on 6th April or see

www.birmingham.gov.uk/councilplan

Mike Whitby

Councillor Mike Whitby
Leader of the Council

John Hemming

Councillor John Hemming
Deputy Leader of the Council

REVENUE SPENDING 2005/2006 FIGURES FOR 2004/2005 ARE IN BRACKETS

Education and Lifelong Learning £971 Million (£893 million)

The total schools' budget (i.e. budgets held by schools and some centrally-run activities provided to schools) has risen by £39.4million. This gives us real extra money to spend, even after fully funding pay awards and price inflation.

Another £6 million will be used to develop children's services in schools and extended schools, while £700,000 will support work-based experience and training, particularly for young people who have difficulty in finding jobs or are seeking vocational qualifications.

Social Care and Health £452 Million (£409 million)

Significant extra money will be used to improve the services delivered to vulnerable children to provide decent basic services. We will start modernising services for older adults, with the aim of giving customers more choice to better meet their needs, and continue with work to modernise and replace children's homes. We will honour our commitment to provide extra money to stabilise the residential and nursing home market.

Housing £324 Million (£278 million)

Our spending on council house repairs, local management and estate services is funded by tenants' rent.

In 2005/06, we will continue to bring our housing up to the national Decent Homes standard and to involve tenants in managing their own homes. Extra money, including £1 million in efficiency savings, will continue to help meet the demand for day-to-day repairs. Major works programmes and repairs investment will total £186.5 million.

The council has a strategic role in private sector housing. We want to reform the front line housing response across the sector to support vulnerable households. An extra £5 million will fund accommodation for the homeless and support elderly and disabled people.

Transportation and Street Services

£127 Million (£120 million)

We are investing extra money in improving recycling rates, CCTV monitoring, Christmas events and, working with bus companies, in reintroducing bus conductors to promote safety on public transport.

We will start a major programme to make our car parks safe, bright and welcoming. Our capital budget includes extra money for the Northfield Relief Road scheme, which will help to regenerate the area, and another year of locally decided street lighting schemes.

Leisure, Sport and Culture £56 Million (£51 million)

We are investing more in parks, to make them better and safer, and in improving libraries. We will also fund events to mark VE, VJ and Trafalgar Days.

Our commitment to sport, including free swimming for children, will continue, along with investment in heritage buildings including Birmingham Town Hall, Aston Hall and Park and Weoley Castle.

We will also build on Birmingham's reputation as a national and international centre of sport and culture.

Regeneration £74 Million (£72 million)

We will help to deliver new developments, for example in Eastside and South West Birmingham and improvements in local centres, such as Selly Oak. Area Regeneration Projects, such as the Icknield Port Loop, will trigger further external investment.

We will explore ways to support new local businesses and increase employment and training within specific communities. We will make best use of the council's property and deliver construction projects, and better value, through partnership working.

Local Services £140 Million (£141 million)

We will build on our "clean and safe" initiative, while new safety initiatives will be developed locally and centrally through extra funding, refocusing resources and involving residents.

There will be more money to improve the environment in city neighbourhoods and we will increase investment in parks, libraries, sports and community facilities.

Meeting local needs will be given extra emphasis through increased funding and by giving districts more flexibility.

Levies and benefits £433 Million (£378 million)

We will pay £48.1million to the West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority to help fund concessionary travel fares, subsidised bus services, local rail services, Midland Metro and other local public transport spending. The budget also includes housing and council tax benefits of £385 million (mainly grant funded), paid to almost 130,000 people.

Other services £150 Million (£183 million)

We have set aside an extra £250,000 to improve the way we deal with customers and help provide higher quality, but cheaper, services.

Successful lobbying of central government means that expected administration costs of £600,000 for regulating new licensing laws will be covered by income generated. We will speed up decisions on major planning applications.

Other items here include the NEC Group; markets; public protection and central support.

TOTAL COUNCIL SPENDING

£2,727 MILLION
(£2,525 MILLION)

HOW WE DID IN 2004/2005...

The Audit Commission reviewed our performance in December 2004 and found:

- continuing excellent performance in education, benefits and our use of resources;
- crime and fear of crime reduced through partnership work on community safety;
- major improvements in environmental services;
- continuing good performance in leisure services and libraries;
- progress in social care and housing, although these services still fall short of acceptable standards and remain our focus for improvement.

Our achievements in 2004/05 include:

- 51.2% of pupils achieved 5 A* to C GCSE passes. Results among groups that have under-achieved in the past showed particular improvement;
- 70 schools in OFSTED's list of England's most successful schools;
- 2,080 new childcare places created between March and December 2004;
- crime down 17.8% in April-September 2004 on the same period in 2003;
- 10,600 tonnes of rubbish removed from the streets.

HOW SPENDING HAS CHANGED

	£m
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2004/05 WAS:	1,360.2
Priorities	+6.0
Inflation (non schools)	+16.8
Schools' funding	+39.4
Functional and funding changes	+4.0
Budget pressures and service changes	+49.4
Efficiency and other savings	-23.5
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2005/06 IS:	1,452.3

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

DETAILS OF THE MIDLANDS REGION FLOOD DEFENCE COMMITTEE'S FINANCES:

	2004/05	2005/06
Gross spending (£'000)	42,858	49,022
Net spending (£'000)	2,558	2,890
Levies required (£'000)	2,688	2,890
Council Tax base (Band D equivalent properties)	2,744,162	2,770,463
Levy required from Birmingham (£'000)	273	296

CHANGES IN LEVIES REQUIREMENTS DUE TO:

	2004/05 TO 2005/06	£'000
Inflation (inc. economies and efficiency savings)		+1,071
Changes in quality/quantity of service		+5,093
Funding capital from revenue		0
Differences in income received or expected by way of grants, fees, charges and contributions		-5,832
Changes in net expenditure		+332
Transfers from balances		-130
Changes in levy requirements		+202