

Your council tax

A guide to what it pays for 2026/27



Manage your bill online [ealing.gov.uk/MyAccount](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/MyAccount)

Ealing Council

Council tax 2026/27

Dear resident,

This time of year is when we, as your local council, set a budget for the financial year ahead – from 1 April 2026 to end of March 2027.

We have a legal duty to set a balanced budget and, by being prudent, ruthlessly efficient and focussed on value for money, we have always done so.

This has been achieved without making cuts other councils have needed to make or using the council's reserves.

In recent years we have experienced a very difficult economic climate, however, by continuing to be sensible with your money, we will find new and better ways to deliver for our communities.

This year's budget includes investment in the public services that you have told us are your priorities.

Investment in keeping streets clean includes £510,000 to fund the introduction of Tidy Teams to act as a fly-tipping 'hit squad', and several measures to make it easier for residents to dispose of rubbish cleanly and safely.

These include £540,000 allocated to piloting a new touring neighbourhood household reuse and recycling service and reducing the cost to residents of garden waste and bulky waste collections. There is also a plan to introduce an integrated and highly visible uniformed street scene enforcement service.

Investments proposed for tackling anti-social behaviour include £860,000 for 50 new mobile CCTV cameras and a £600,000 three-year investment in street-lighting enhancements. The council intends to follow up on successful work on removing abandoned cars and tackling unregistered Housing in Multiple Occupancy (HMO) with increased activity in these two areas. The budget also allocates funding for 50 new alley-gating schemes to prevent anti-social behaviour.

There are proposals for investment in activities for young people with a £1.6 million allocation for the refurbishment of playgrounds in the borough and extra funding for floodlighting to extend use through autumn and winter.

We can't and won't shy away from the financial challenges we face, but we are weathering the storms that have devastated some councils in recent years. This includes the cost of living crisis having driven an ever-higher number of residents to ask the council for support – people of all ages.

We know times are financially tough for many people. Support is available through the council to the people who are struggling most to pay their bills, including council tax. Information is available on the council's website, go to a search engine and type 'Ealing Council council tax reduction'.

This is a step towards wider recovery for the council. The government has promised local government financial stability over the next few years, and the council will use that stability to deliver what residents want. The exciting projects that the council is paying for through this budget shows that this is a council that is delivering even when money is tight. With greater stability in our finances, we are certain that the council will be able to transform local services for the better.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Mason'.

Councillor Peter Mason
Leader, Ealing Council



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Donnelly'.

Councillor Steve Donnelly
Cabinet member for inclusive economy

Ealing's General Fund Revenue Budget

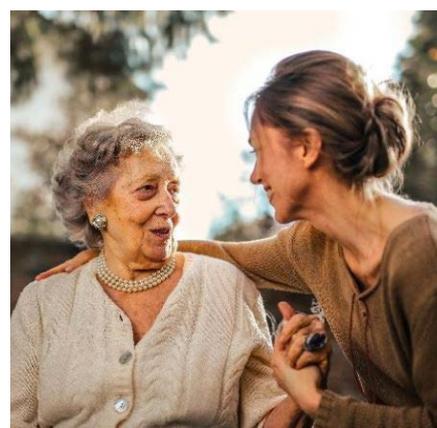


Table 1 - Where Ealing Council's money comes from	Income £'000	Percentage %
Dedicated Schools Grant (net of academy recoupment)	482,683	39.1%
Council Tax Payers	204,509	16.6%
Income from Sales, Fees, Charges & Rents	122,102	9.9%
Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant	117,743	9.5%
Retained Business Rates (incl Section 31 Compensation Grant and Top Up Grants)	117,118	9.5%
Revenue Support Grant including LA Better Care Fund	100,991	8.2%
Other Grants, Contributions & Income	35,250	2.9%
Public Health Grant	35,062	2.8%
Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant	9,331	0.8%
Families First Partnership Grant	7,199	0.6%
Recovery Grant	1,098	0.1%
Total	1,233,086	100%

*as at publication date some of the grant and other income values are estimates which will be reflected in operational budgets as they become available in-year

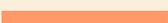
Table 2 - Where Ealing's money goes to	Gross Expenditure £'000	pennies in a £
Children's Services	539,336	43.7 
Resources including Housing Benefit Subsidy	207,646	16.8 
Adults and Public Health Services	198,704	16.1 
Housing and Environment	125,630	10.2 
Corporate items including Treasury Management	87,131	7.1 
Levies	34,517	2.8 
Economy and Sustainability	24,588	2.0 
Strategy and Change	15,534	1.3 
Total	1,233,086	100 

Table 3 - What your council tax pays for	Band D Equivalent £	Percentage %
Ealing services	£1,353.24	63.3% 
West London Waste Authority	£130.35	6.1% 
Concessionary Fares	£132.07	6.2% 
Other Levies	£12.36	0.6% 
Ealing's Share	£1,628.02	76.1% 
GLA Share	£510.51	23.9% 
Total Band D equivalent	£2,138.53	100.0% 

Budgeted General Fund Expenditure and Funding 2025/26 and 2026/27

Budgeted Expenditure and Funding 2025/26 and 2026/27	2025/2026 Gross Expenditure £m	2025/2026 Net Expenditure £m	2026/2027 Gross Expenditure £m	2026/2027 Net Expenditure £m
Childrens Services	530.503	93.363	539.336	103.717
Adults and Public Health Services	196.582	113.630	198.704	119.082
Economy and Sustainability	21.756	7.577	24.588	10.079
Housing and Environment	117.676	31.054	125.630	42.671
Resources	202.693	42.922	207.646	47.697
Strategy and Change	14.372	8.622	15.534	9.923
Sub totals	1,083.582	297.168	1,111.438	333.169
Corporate items (including treasury management, centrally held growth)*	87.046	(6.421)	87.131	55.843
Total Expenditure on Ealing's Services	1,170.628	290.747	1,198.569	389.012
Levies	N/A	32.729	N/A	34.517
Ealing's Budget Requirement	N/A	323.476	N/A	423.529
Revenue Support Grant*	N/A	(22.236)	N/A	(100.991)
Retained Business Rates, Section 31 & Top up Grants*	N/A	(106.529)	N/A	(117.118)
Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit (+)	N/A	(1.727)	N/A	(0.911)
Ealing's Council Tax Requirement	N/A	192.984	N/A	204.509

Ealing Council Tax Band D				
Tax Base (equivalent Band D Properties)	N/A	124,454.4	N/A	125,617.9
Band D Council Tax (Ealing)	N/A	£1,550.64	N/A	£1,628.02

* The Final Local Government Settlement this year incorporates the Fair Funding Review and Business Rates Reset, which aims to ensure that local authorities receive funding that reflects their relative need. This included consolidation and simplification of previous funding streams and therefore year-on-year comparison of different funding streams show significant variances. Specifically, grants previously held within Corporate items are now consolidated into the Revenue Support Grant.

Net Expenditure per person ¹	Net Expenditure per Resident £
Ealing's Budget Requirement per person	1153.67
Ealing's Council Tax Requirement per person	557.07

¹ Ealing's resident population as per the ONS Census Population 2021 is 367,115

Your Council Tax and the Greater London Authority

GREATERLONDONAUTHORITY

Introduction

The Mayor of London's budget for 2026-27 sets out how he will fund his plans to continue building a fairer, safer, greener and more prosperous London for everyone. It ensures investment to tackle crime, build more affordable homes, reduce street homelessness, improve London's transport network, provide free school meals to all state primary school children, and keep London as a world-leader in tackling air pollution and the climate crisis.

The thread that runs throughout the budget is the Mayor's desire to provide a helping hand to Londoners to ensure everyone has the chance to reach their potential.

In particular, the Mayor's budget for 2026-27 prioritises resources to tackle crime and the causes of crime, with a record-breaking £1.26bn investment from City Hall in policing and crime prevention measures.

Increasing council tax to fund the Metropolitan Police and the London Fire Brigade

The GLA's share of council tax for a typical Band D property has been increased by £20.13 – the equivalent

of £1.68 a month. The additional income from this increase will help to fund the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) - whose work is overseen by the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) - and the London Fire Brigade (LFB).

The Mayor has taken the decision to increase the policing precept part of council tax to support the MPS in conducting a major crack down on phone theft, with targeted action to dismantle phone theft gangs on London's streets. The additional funding will also be used to ensure London can build on the important progress being made to reduce homicides, knife crime, gun crime, burglary and other key crimes.

The LFB does a vital job in London, but it needs more funding to meet inflationary pressures. That's why the Mayor is also increasing the non-police council tax precept to ensure the LFB can continue to carry out prevention and protection work to keep Londoners safe.

Band D Council Tax £	2025-2026	Change	2026-2027
MOPAC (Metropolitan Police)	319.13	15.00	334.13
LFB (London Fire Brigade)	71.72	5.13	76.85
GLA	22.44	0.00	22.44
Transport for London	77.09	0.00	77.09
Total	490.38	20.13	510.51

Investing in policing and crime prevention

The Mayor's top priority is keeping Londoners safe and investment from City Hall has helped to deliver significant progress in reducing key crimes across London over recent years.

Knife crime and personal robbery are both down by 15 per cent in the 12 months to November 2025 compared to the same period the previous year. The number of homicides has fallen to the lowest rate per capita since records began. And this financial year, investment from City Hall has helped to reduce neighbourhood crime by 14.6 per cent, with 16,000 fewer offences. This has been driven by a reduction in personal robbery, theft from the person and vehicle crime.

However, there is still much more to do, which is why the Mayor is investing a record-breaking £1.26bn from City Hall in policing and crime prevention measures in his 2026-27 budget. This is nearly £100m more than last year's budget.

The funding aims to build on the progress being made and includes:

- Some £4.5m announced for the MPS and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to continue to crack down on and dismantle phone theft gangs on the streets of the capital. This includes a proposal to set up a new mobile phone Command Cell to coordinate intelligence and respond to phone theft and robbery in hotspot areas.
- A new £2.4m package of support for victims and survivors of Child Sexual Exploitation. This is part of the Mayor's commitment to strengthen the protection of children from exploitation and harm.
- An additional £50m to invest in further support for young people, which will help to keep vulnerable young Londoners away from gangs and crime. Hundreds of thousands of targeted interventions have already been delivered by City Hall and the Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit, which are helping to break the cycle of violence and deliver positive opportunities for young Londoners.
- An additional £29m investment to continue tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG) in London. This is on top of the record £233m investment to tackle VAWG since the Mayor was elected.

Improving transport services in London

The Mayor is focused on increasing and improving transport services to make London's transport network better, greener, more accessible and as affordable as possible. The Mayor's budget for 2026-27 includes investment that will help to:

- Maintain existing concessionary travel and assisted door-to-door transport schemes in partnership with London boroughs and the City of London Corporation. This includes maintaining free bus and tram travel for under 18s and free off-peak travel across the network for older Londoners, the disabled, armed forces personnel in uniform and eligible armed services veterans. The Taxicard and Dial-a-Ride schemes will also be protected.
- Roll out new trains on the Piccadilly line.
- Continue to improve accessibility across TfL's network, increasing the availability of step-free access and toilets. In 2026-27, TfL will increase investment in step-free schemes to make progress towards its goal of halving step-free journey time across the network, as well as its target of making 50 per cent of London Underground stations fully accessible.
- Improve bus passengers' experience. Two significant areas of focus will be continuing to build the Superloop network, through Superloop 2, and continuing the transition to a zero-emission bus network.
- Move plans forward to deliver key transport schemes, including the DLR extension to Thamesmead, which has now been given the go ahead by the government.
- Deliver schemes designed to make walking, cycling and public transport safer, cleaner and more appealing, in partnership with London boroughs.

Delivering other Mayoral priorities to make London fairer for everyone

Supporting Londoners through the cost-of-living crisis - The Mayor has responded to the cost-of-living challenges facing families in London by providing funding to continue his universal free school meals programme for London's state primary school children. By July 2026, it is estimated that this programme will have saved London families up to £1,500 per child since its introduction in September 2023.

Investing in social and affordable homes - Before the pandemic, the Mayor completed more homes in London than at any time since the 1930s and he has taken council housebuilding to its highest level since the 1970s. But there is still a long way to go to fix the housing crisis, with housebuilding currently facing an extremely challenging time in the capital. This is due to a combination of the impact of Brexit, the pandemic, high interest rates and delays caused by the Building Safety Regulator. The Mayor will continue to do everything he can, using his budget for 2026-27 to build more of the safe, decent and affordable homes Londoners need.

Tackling rough sleeping - The Mayor has made addressing London's rough sleeping crisis a top priority. Since 2016, he has increased City Hall's rough sleeping budget more than fivefold and helped more than 20,000 people off London's streets. The Mayor's budget for 2026-27 includes an additional £8m to invest in further action to tackle rough sleeping in the capital.

Supporting Londoners through the AI revolution

- The Mayor's budget for 2026-27 includes a new £20m pot of funding to take forward recommendations from his Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Future of Work Taskforce to embed AI skills in our workforce and equip Londoners with the tools they will need to succeed in a fast-changing environment.

The Mayor's budget for 2026-27 will also invest in: supporting Londoners to secure better paid jobs; tackling inequality; supporting renters; helping businesses, both large and small; and keeping London as a world-leader in reducing air pollution, cleaning up our rivers and tackling the climate crisis.

Investing in the London Fire Brigade to Keep Londoners Safe

The London Fire Brigade (LFB) is rated as outstanding in how it responds to major and multi-agency incidents and now responds to emergencies quickly and effectively. This is a positive transformation that has been aided by significant investment from City Hall over recent years.

The Mayor's budget for 2026-27 will continue to support the London Fire Commissioner and his team with funding to maintain the LFB's operational capabilities and response times, deliver a Modern Firefighting Training Strategy across LFB, and invest in LFB's estate and infrastructure.

Investing to transform Oxford Street through the Oxford Street Development Corporation (OSDC)

The Mayor's budget includes the funding for the newly established Oxford Street Development Corporation (OSDC), which is supporting the development of Oxford Street's retail and leisure offer, including curating an ongoing programme of activations to provide a world-leading visitor experience. The OSDC will develop and implement sustainable commercial and financial strategies to support the long-term development, activation and operation of the area. The OSDC is not funded from council tax.

Delivering affordable housing through the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC)

The LLDC was set up to ensure that the city benefitted from a long-term legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Mayor's 2026-27 budget provides funding to complete the construction of East Bank, one of the world's largest and most ambitious cultural and education districts, in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

The Mayor's budget provides LLDC with the funding to provide ongoing support for the delivery of homes at Stratford Waterfront, Bridgewater Triangle, and Pudding Mill Lane residential sites, and to work with partners to progress major housing schemes across its landholdings. The LLDC is not funded from council tax.

Creating jobs and delivering affordable housing through the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC)

The OPDC has been established to support the creation of 65,000 new jobs and at least 24,000 new homes in west London over the next 20 years. The Mayor's budget supports the next stage of OPDC's development project, including progress towards the comprehensive regeneration of Old Oak and the provision of a low-carbon district heat network. The OPDC is not funded from council tax.

Summary of the GLA Group budget

The tables below show where the GLA's funding comes from and the reasons for the year on year change in the budget. It also explains how the GLA has calculated the sum to be collected from council tax (the council tax requirement).

How the GLA's budget is funded (£ million)	2026-27
Gross expenditure	19,079.0
Government grants and retained business rates	(8,466.8)
Fares, charges and other income	(8,815.1)
Change in reserves	(130.1)
Amount met by council taxpayers (£m)	1,667.0

Changes in spending (£ million)	2026-27
2025-26 council tax requirement	1,581.9
Net change in service expenditure and income	697.9
Change in use of reserves	261.2
Government grants and retained business rates	(874.0)
Amount met by council taxpayers	1,667.0

Detailed budget by service area

The table below compares the GLA Group's planned expenditure on policing, fire and other services (including transport) in 2026-27 with 2025-26.

The GLA's planned gross expenditure is higher this year. This reflects the additional resources the Mayor is investing in policing, the London Fire Brigade and transport services. Overall, the council tax requirement has also increased for this reason. There has been a 1.2 per cent increase in London's residential property taxbase.

Find out more about our budget at: www.london.gov.uk/budget.

Summary of Spending and Income (£ million) (figures may not sum exactly due to rounding)	Police (MOPAC)		Fire (LFC)		Other Services (incl. GLA, TfL, LLDC and OPDC)		GLA Group Total	
	2025-26	2026-27	2025-26	2026-27	2025-26	2026-27	2025-26	2026-27
Gross expenditure	5,051.6	5,287.7	628.6	660.6	12,281.4	13,130.7	17,961.6	19,079.0
Government grants and business rates	(3,530.1)	(3,795.6)	(330.6)	(352.3)	(3,815.3)	(4,318.9)	(7,676.0)	(8,466.8)
Other income (incl. fares and charges)	(398.8)	(343.2)	(52.7)	(59.3)	(7,860.9)	(8,412.6)	(8,312.4)	(8,815.1)
Net expenditure	1,122.7	1,148.9	245.3	249.0	605.2	399.2	1,973.2	1,797.1
Change to level of reserves	(94.3)	(59.0)	(13.5)	2.5	(283.5)	(73.6)	(391.3)	(130.1)
Council tax requirement (income)	1,028.4	1,089.9	231.8	251.5	321.7	325.6	1,581.9	1,667.0