

About the Kirklees Council Budget process

On an annual basis all councils are required to agree the budgets that will be used to deliver the services we provide to the communities we serve. This is done in February and means that we're able to plan how services will be delivered and set the level of Council Tax that will be charged to households for the following year.

The budget sets the amount of money that will be available to spend for all the services we provide. This includes both day-to-day expenditure, for example to provide homecare services and refuse collections (revenue expenditure) and longer term expenditure such as repairing our roads and investing in town centres (capital expenditure).

In setting the amount of money available, we have to make sure that Kirklees Council has sufficient funding to meet our spending plans for the following year. This is a statutory requirement (which means we're required to do this by law). Our main local funding sources are council tax and business rates, plus fees and charges. Councils can also use reserves, although these are one-off funding sources. We also receive Government grant funding, although this has reduced significantly since 2010.

There are rules that say how Kirklees Council will go about setting our budget, which have to be followed each year. Kirklees Council's Cabinet are required to publish and agree a budget proposal, which is then submitted to the Budget Council meeting, at which all Kirklees councillors are invited to attend, to approve the budget.

When the Cabinet have agreed a budget proposal, other political groups that make up the Council are then able to produce proposals to amend the budget. These proposals (called "amendments") are also considered by all Kirklees councillors at the Budget Council meeting. When all proposed changes have been considered, our councillors then vote on the final budget.

The Cabinet's Budget proposal will be published on Monday 21 January 2019, the day before the Kirklees Council Budget information event, and this will be available on the Kirklees Council website for people to look at before they attend the event.

Timeline

Monday 21 January 2019 – Cabinet Budget proposal published

Tuesday 22 January 2019 – Kirklees Council Budget information event

Wednesday 13 February 2019 – Budget Council meeting