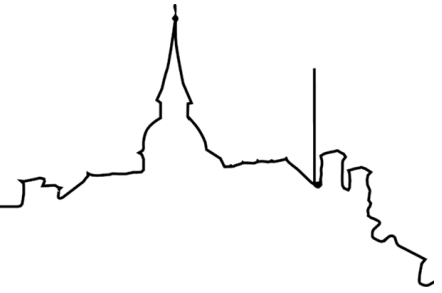




TOWCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN HALL
86 Watling Street East
Towcester
NN12 6BS

TOWN CLERK
Elizabeth Cox



BUDGET STATEMENT 2024/25

Towcester Town Council provides your local grass-roots level services in the parish of Towcester. Our aim is to work collaboratively with West Northants Council and other public services and local organisations, businesses and residents, to make Towcester a better place to live, work and visit.

Please visit our website for more detailed information about our budget and services or come along to the Annual Town Meeting on 4th March 2024 to meet your local councillors and other local community representatives.

Precept is a term used in the UK for the sum of money collected by the parish council (Towcester Town Council) via the annual Council Tax demand to fund local services and amenities. For the 2024/25 Financial Year, the Town Council will increase its precept by what appears to be a large percentage, which may leave residents wondering why this has happened and what benefits they can expect from it.

One reason for the increase in precept is the rising cost of providing services and amenities in the local area. Towcester Town Council is responsible for maintaining public open spaces, play areas, the Brackley Road Cemetery, allotments, and several community venues, with the cost of providing these services rising due to inflation and other economic factors.

However, there are also additional benefits residents can expect from the higher precept. Firstly, the increase in funding means that the council can invest in infrastructure for the community, including improvements to existing services and the delivery soon of a new community centre with sports facilities. Secondly, the higher precept allows the council to provide better services, as requested by residents through the '3 Wishes for Towcester' consultation, such as community events. Lastly, the increase in funding will create new job opportunities to support these improvements.

In conclusion, whilst the increase in precept may appear concerning, it equates to an additional 46 pence per week for a Band D property and Towcester still retains one of the lowest precepts in the county for a town of its size. It is important to understand that it is necessary to ensure the provision of high-quality services and amenities for the local community.