

Bovey Tracey Town Council - Precept demand

What is a Parish Precept?

A Parish Council gets its funding by receiving a small amount of the local Council Tax. This is referred to as a The Parish Precept.

How the precept is calculated

Each parish council forecasts how much money it is going to need the following year. This is then divided by the number of properties in the parish that fall into Band D Council Tax bands. This figure is adjusted to take account of such things as exempt properties and planned new houses to get the precept each Council Tax payer in the parish will contribute.

Bovey Tracey Town Council's Finance, Resources & General Purposes Committee recommended a parish precept of £232,850 for the financial year 2019/20. This is a 9.19% increase from 2018/19. The main changes are largely attributed to 5 key areas, which are further explained below:

i) **Council Tax Support Grant**

Each year the Town Council receives two payments from Teignbridge District Council (Precept & Council Tax Support Grant). This year (2018/19) the Council Tax Support Grant was reduced by 10% (£16,400 to £14,760). The Town Council were expecting further reductions for 2019/20, however this amount has now been removed completely.

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
£14,760	£0

ii) **Recreation Grounds**

2 years ago, the Town Council re-let its Grounds Maintenance Contract. As part of this tender exercise a new contractor was appointed. During the period of the contract, it was clear that the contractor could not provide the required level of service for the amount tendered and standards started to drop. For 2019/20 a new contract is being tendered.

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
£16,000	£18,000

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iii) Salaries & associated costs

The Town Council's employment contracts are in-line with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). NALC are proposing to restructure pay grades to ensure all reach the currently projected rate for the National Living Wage by 2020.

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
£86,000	£92,200

iv) Verges/Weed Spraying

Devon County Council offered a reduced service to roadside verges, committing to only cutting grass on visibility splays. The Town Council subsequently took on this function to cut all roadside grass verges in addition to the mandatory visibility splays. In addition, the Town Council would now like to now provide some form of roadside weed treatment throughout the parish, in main footfall areas.

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
£1,000	£2,000

v) Grants

During 2018/19, the Town Council resolved to create a Grant Awarding Policy in response to applications received for small grants from local groups and organisations. To support this offer, the Town Council wish to introduce a Grants budget.

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
£0	£1,000

Most other income/expenditure remains the same with little changed from the current year. The resulting increase in precept, per Band D property equates to approximately 12p per week/£6.47 per year.