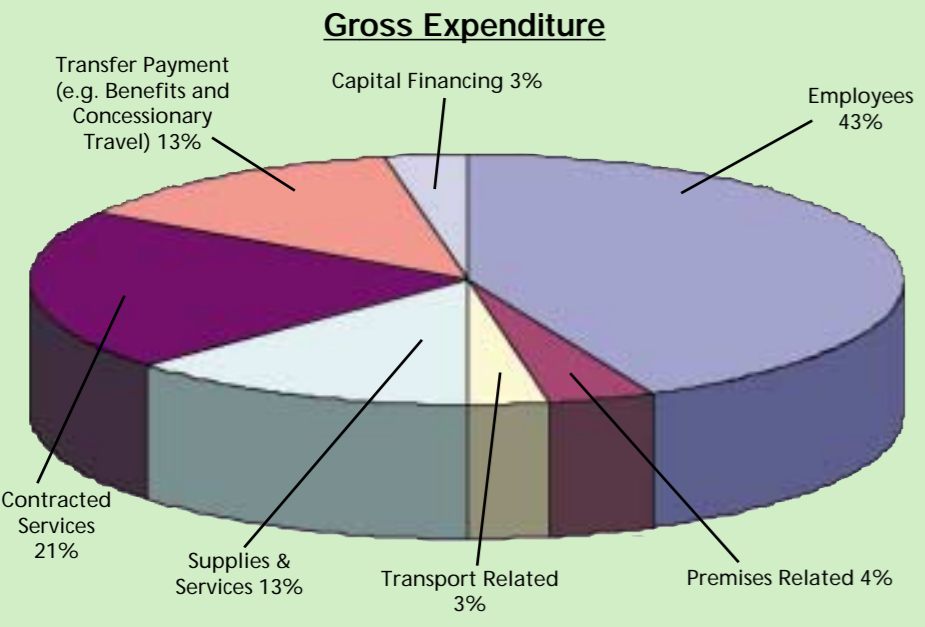


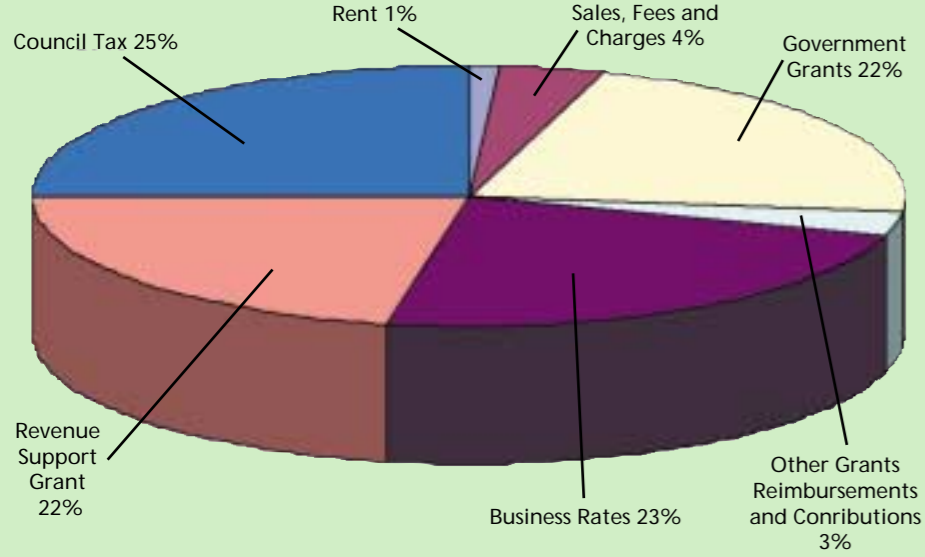
# Herefordshire Council - 2005/06 Bill



## Where the Money Goes (2005/2006)



## Total Expenditure is funded by:



**Manpower Levels**  
Herefordshire Council estimates to have a workforce of 3,970 (full-time equivalents) in 2005/2006

This side of the leaflet shows how your Council Tax for 2005/06 is calculated and how it will be used to support the many services the Council provides. On the reverse you will find information looking back at how your Council performed in 2004/05.

Your Council Tax contributes to the budget requirements of Herefordshire Council, your Town or Parish Council and the Police and Fire Authority all of whom provide services to the people of Herefordshire. As the billing authority Herefordshire Council collects the Council Tax on behalf of these bodies. For further information regarding the Police or Fire Authority, or for contact information for them, please refer to the leaflets enclosed with your Council Tax bill.

**The Councils Budget:** The Council's net spending for 2005/06 is budgeted to be £184,889,000, an increase of 5.5% from 2004/05. The net increase in Herefordshire Councils element of your Council Tax is 4.3%. Council Tax only provides around one third of the Council's net budget requirement with the remainder being provided by central Government. The balance of funding provided by central Government has therefore a fundamental impact on Council Tax levels. For 2005/06 the Council received a comparatively good settlement from Government, following extensive lobbying, and has therefore been able to keep the Council Tax increase to a moderate level. Government were able to provide an extra £1 billion funding to Local Authorities for 2005/06 to help keep Council Tax increases below 5%. This is in stark contrast with the position in previous years when budget pressures and legislation requirements were not wholly matched by Government funding. The consequence of the additional funding for 2005/06 not being repeated in future years will inevitably mean a return to higher Council Tax increases or reductions in the level of service provided.

**Public Consultation:** Herefordshire Council is responsible, directly or indirectly, for a huge range of services that matter to the people of the county - from schools and the care of the most vulnerable in our communities, to roads and public transport, libraries and leisure facilities, recycling and waste. How much they matter was made clear by the recent public consultation on future options for services and budgets, with well over 2,500 people letting us know what's most important to them, their families and their communities. The consultation showed equally that the great majority want these services to be provided without big increases in Council Tax. This was coupled with a willingness to see less-valued services reduced, if necessary. A major contribution to balancing the Council's books and improving priority services will be made by our continuing drive for greater efficiency. Budget reductions of over £3 million are planned for 2005/06 in order to ensure the Council can continue to target its limited resources to areas of greatest importance.

**Council Tax Pressures:** The Council builds in expected pay and price increases when it calculates the budget for each financial year. In addition, the costs the Council incur are affected by increases in volume, for example, increasing tonnage of waste disposed and the disproportionate growth in the number of older people, particularly those over 80, will place significant additional demands on the Council. There are also costs associated with legislative changes and new initiatives, for example the Councils responsibilities for the welfare of children are growing as a result of the new Children Act. Pressures are increasing in other areas too. For instance spending has to rise to meet Government targets for the recycling of waste and for investment in schools (an increase of 4.9% in schools net spending equating to around half of the Council Tax increase). The costs of petroleum-based products (particularly materials used in highway maintenance) have risen sharply with the cost of oil. This has a particularly severe effect on rural counties like Herefordshire. The Council will continue to campaign, with other rural local authorities, for a fairer deal, including the full use of up-to-date Census figures in the calculation of grant, which could see an increase in Council resources of an additional £2 million per annum. That will not come quickly, if at all; until it does, the Council will take decisive action to live within its means and ensure the affordability of its plans for delivering efficient and effective service to the people of Herefordshire.

**The Councils Strategy:** A strategic priority for the Council is to streamline its processes, assets and management structures, and secure significant efficiency savings so as to keep down Council Tax increases and invest in priority service improvements. Furthermore the Council is committed to ensuring that its essential assets, including schools, other buildings, roads and information and communications (ICT) infrastructure, are in the right condition for the long-term cost-effective delivery of services. The Council will strive to better understand the needs and preferences of service users and Council Tax-payers, and to tailor services accordingly. The Council will recruit, retain and motivate high quality staff, ensuring that they are trained and developed so as to maximise their ability and performance. The Council will continue to embed corporate planning, performance management and project management systems so as to maintain progress in driving up service standards and efficiency.

## How is the Money Spent?

2004/2005	2005/2006	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
84,008	95,686	7,706	87,980
37,006	56,042	(16,124)	39,918
10,916	14,158	(3,186)	10,972
6,728	10,620	(670)	9,950
9,985	14,360	(4,831)	9,529
7,964	11,742	(2,399)	9,343
3,951	4,292	(464)	3,828
2,825	3,600	(780)	2,820
2,569	3,801	(1,506)	2,295
2,227	2,524	(295)	2,229
1,524	37,132	(35,557)	1,575
1,322	9,100	(7,662)	1,438
925	2,760	(1,368)	1,392
1,346	1,369	(109)	1,260
2,018	243	0	243
6	727	(610)	117
<b>175,320</b>	<b>268,156</b>	<b>(83,267)</b>	<b>184,889</b>
1,851			1,979
<b>177,171</b>			<b>186,868</b>
		%	£000's
63,612		35.8	66,947
49,297		31.5	58,954
62,011		31.4	58,688
1,851		1.1	1,979
400		0.2	300
<b>177,171</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>186,868</b>



## Flood Defence and Land Drainage

The Herefordshire Council budget includes a provision to meet the special levies of the Environment Agencies, River Lugg Internal Drainage Board, Lower Wye I.D.B. and Lower Severn I.D.B.

	2004/2005	2005/2006
Net requirements (special levy)	£000's	£000's
Environment Agency - Wales (Wye LFDC)	1,503	0
Environment Agency - West Midlands	7	8
River Lugg I.D.B.	93	93
Lower Wye I.D.B.	3	3
Lower Severn I.D.B.	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>Total per Head</b>	<b>£9.12</b>	<b>£0.61</b>
<b>Total per Band D Equivalent</b>	<b>£24.18</b>	<b>£1.61</b>

From 1st April 2005 the Environment Agency - Wales receives direct funding from the Welsh Assembly Government.  
Further financial information for 2005/2006 in relation to the Environment Agency - West Midlands, Environment Agency - Wales and the three Internal Drainage Boards is available upon request from Financial Policy Section, Brockington, P.O. Box 240, Hereford, HR1 1ZT.

## How is the Council Tax bill calculated?

	2005/2006	2005/2006	2005/2006
	£000's	Amount per Band D Property	Amount per Person
	£	£	£
<b>Total Budget Requirement</b> (before parish or town councils)	<b>184,889</b>	<b>2,753.28</b>	<b>1,045.09</b>
Less:			
Revenue Support Grant	58,688	873.95	331.73
Redistributed Business Rates	58,954	877.92	333.24
Collection Fund Surplus	300	4.47	1.70
<b>Herefordshire Council's Charge</b>	<b>66,947</b>	<b>996.94</b>	<b>378.42</b>
Add:			
Parish and Town Council's Charge	1,979	29.47	11.19
Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority	3,965	59.05	22.41
West Mercia Police Authority	9,614	143.17	54.34
<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>82,505</b>	<b>1,228.63</b>	<b>466.36</b>

The net expenditure is divided by 67,152 (the number of homes in Herefordshire calculated as if all were in Band D). This gives a basic charge of £996.94. The amount of the bill will vary once the Police and Fire authority charges are added and also the individual parish or town council charge is added, these amounts are shown on your bill. It will also vary if your home is other than Band D. If it's Band A you need to multiply the total by 6/9; Band B by 7/9; Band C by 8/9; Band E by 11/9; Band F by 13/9; Band G by 15/9 and Band H by 2. The population base used to calculate the cost per person was 176,912 (2004/2005 176,471).

## Investing for the Future

Herefordshire Council is committed to investing in the area and plans to spend over £37.1 million on capital projects in 2005/2006. Capital expenditure creates new community assets (e.g. schools, roads & bridges) and improves existing ones.

	Investment per Service (£million)
Environment (e.g. Highways)	13.4
Strategic Housing	10.3
Education	6.7
Economic and Social Development	3.2
Policy & Finance	2.6
Property	0.3
Social Services	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.1</b>

Approximately 57% of this expenditure is likely to be financed with borrowing and the authority has been allocated £13.7 million in 2005/06 by Central Government representing the level of borrowing Government will support via Formula Grant. On 31st March 2005, the council's external debt liability was £67.7 million.



## Budget Changes

The significant changes are:

	£million	£ Band D
<b>2004/2005 Net Budget</b>	<b>175.3</b>	<b>955.73</b>
Provision for Pay and Price Increase	5.3	22.91
Increased Capital Financing Costs	3.1	13.35
Investment in Education	1.4	6.22
Social Services/IT	1.0	4.31
Waste Management	0.9	3.92
Other Areas	0.9	3.66
Budget Reductions	(3.0)	(13.16)
<b>2005/2006 Net budget</b>	<b>184.9</b>	<b>996.94</b>



## Parish and Town Councils with Precepts over £100,000

BROMYARD & WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL	2004/05	2005/06	HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL	2004/05	2005/06
	£	£		£	£
Administration	37,500	52,292	Parks and Open Spaces	212,000	218,800
Park & Open Spaces	22,500	12,785	Administration	120,509	139,760
Public Works	14,500	2,230	City Centre Management	80,291	83,200
Grants	7,000	5,000	Civic and Ceremonial Events	27,400	34,140
Burial Committee	1,600	1,793	Grants and Donations	15,000	15,000
Repairs & Renewals	4,200	20,200	Allotments	10,000	10,000
Mayor's Allowance	1,200	1,700	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>465,400</b>	<b>500,900</b>
Floral Decorations	7,000	7,000	Interest Received	(6,500)	(7,500)
Elections	2,000	1,000	Contributions to Provisions/Reserves	19,100	25,600
Office Accommodation	12,500	0	<b>NET REQUIREMENT - PRECEPT</b>	<b>478,000</b>	<b>519,000</b>
UDP Fees	0	2,000	<b>BAND D EQUIVALENT</b>	<b>478,000</b>	<b>519,000</b>
<b>NET REQUIREMENT - PRECEPT</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>PROPERTIES</b>	<b>1,471.75</b>	<b>1,493.94</b>
<b>BAND D EQUIVALENT</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>COUNCIL TAX CHARGE</b>	<b>£74.74</b>	<b>£70.95</b>
<b>LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>2005/06</b>
	£	£		£	£
Environment and Leisure Committee	50,300	87,500	Administration and Accommodation	9,300	22,000
Burial Grounds	28,050	45,400	Amenity and Environment	10,000	15,000
Recreation and Environment	36,700	24,350	Festive Lights	58,400	30,000
Town and Tourism	43,795	54,470	Grants and Community Support	7,800	5,400
<b>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>146,845</b>	<b>172,720</b>	Civic	8,000	8,000
Administration	90,279	90,452	Closed Churchyard	5,000	4,000
Listed Buildings	40,798	36,088	Sport, Leisure and Recreation	5,000	10,000
Grants and Charities	26,375	28,975	Contingency	5,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>265,997</b>	<b>279,735</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>153,800</b>	<b>181,900</b>
Estimated Working Balance	(65,577)	(67,814)	Projected Working Balance	(40,000)	(24,150)
<b>NET REQUIREMENT - PRECEPT</b>	<b>200,420</b>	<b>211,921</b>	Projected Income	(6,600)	(2,000)
<b>BAND D EQUIVALENT</b>	<b>200,420</b>	<b>211,921</b>	<b>NET REQUIREMENT - PRECEPT</b>	<b>107,200</b>	<b>155,750</b>
<b>PROPERTIES</b>	<b>3,528.19</b>	<b>3,525.36</b>	<b>BAND D EQUIVALENT</b>	<b>107,200</b>	<b>155,750</b>
<b>COUNCIL TAX CHARGE</b>	<b>£56.81</b>	<b>£60.11</b>	<b>PROPERTIES</b>	<b>3,880.28</b>	<b>3,894.88</b>
			<b>COUNCIL TAX CHARGE</b>	<b>£27.63</b>	<b>£39.99</b>

## Spending by Parish and Town Councils

The Parish Council's requirement for 2005/2006 total £1,978,996.50 an average of £29.47 per Band D property.  
The table below shows the precept for each parish for 2005/2006

PARISH	2004/2005	2005/2006	Band D
	Precept	Precept	Equivalent
	£	£	£
Abbeydale & Bacton Group Parish Council	1,600.00	4,100.00	26.41
Aconbury Parish Meeting	0.00	50.00	1.49
Action Beachamp Group	1,200.00	1,500.00	9.02
Altenmore Parish Council	1,000.00	1,500.00	6.40
Almsley Parish Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	20.11
Ashton Parish Council	2,750.00	3,000.00	26.88
Aston Ingham Parish Council	1,750.00	1,500.00	7.30
Aventbury Parish Council	1,500.00	1,800.00	16.90
Armesbury Parish Council	2,000.00	2,200.00	26.63
Ballingham Bolstone & Hentland Group Parish Council	3,000.00	3,700.00	13.45
Bartestree & Luggwade Group Parish Council	18,000.00	21,000.00	27.25
Belmont Rural Parish Council	30,000.00	20,000.00	14.50
Billey with Upper Hill Parish Council	17,500.00	14,833.00	12.63
Bishop's Frome Parish Council	14,000.00	14,000.00	43.68
Bishopstone & District Group Parish Council	2,575.00	3,347.50	18.25
Bodenham Parish Council	3,000.00	6,500.00	14.25
Border Group Parish Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	16.77
Bosbury and Coddington Parish Council	4,500.00	3,500.00	9.46
Brampton Abbots & Foy Group Parish Council	1,000.00	3,000.00	14.56
Bredonbury & District Group Parish Council	1,500.00	1,500.00	9.33
Brinton Parish Council	5,000.00	5,250.00	13.44
Birklow Parish Council	4,000.00	3,800.00	13.13
Brilley Parish Council	1,750.00	1,750.00	15.05
Brimfield and Little Hereford Group Parish Council	6,000.00	6,000.00	12.13
Brookhampton Parish Council	1,850.00	1,850.00	22.29
Buckley and Coddington Parish Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	28.73
Bromyard & Winslow Town Council	110,000.00	106,000.00	70.95
Burghill Parish Council	8,000.00	8,925.00	12.85
Callow & Haywood Group Parish Council	1,200.00	1,500.00	8.32
Cheltenham Parish Council	17,500.00	14,000.00	24.31
Clifford Parish Council	6,000.00	3,000.00	12.18
Colwall Parish Council	48,033.00	48,993.00	42.99
Malvern Hills Conservators (Colwall Parish Council)	26,600.00	27,400.00	24.04
Cusop Parish Council	4,000.00	4,500.00	24.29
Dilwyn Parish Council	9,250.00	9,880.00	32.79
Dinmore Parish Council	6,000.00	5,000.00	40.99
Dinmore Parish Meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dorington & Modford Group Parish Council	4,500.00	4,500.00	14.47
Dorstone Parish Council	1,500.00	1,700.00	11.05
Earlsdon Parish Council	7,000.00	8,500.00	37.60
Earlsley Group Parish Council	5,000.00	6,000.00	12.64
Eastnor & Donnington Parish Council	2,000.00	1,500.00	10.63
Edon Parish Council	3,500.00	4,000.00	22.11
Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council	12,435.00	14,749.00	32.82
Fewston Group Parish Council	14,000.00	16,000.00	47.79
Foxley Group Parish Council	1,300.00	1,300.00	8.01
Garway Parish Council	3,500.00	3,500.00	22.26
Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Group Parish Council	3,000.00	3,000.00	11.96
Hampton Bishop Parish Council	3,250.00	3,500.00	18.63
Hampton Charles Parish Meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hatfield and District Group Parish Council	1,250.00	2,500.00	12.13
Hereford City Council	478,0		