

LICHFIELD CITY COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 2025/26

The budget report is based on Council Tax level of £77.08 (for an average Band D property), an increase of £3.32p per year. The report shows:

- Actual net expenditure 2023/24 (last year)
- Original budget for 2024/25 (current year)
- Year-end estimate for 2024/25
- Draft budget estimates 2025/26
- Balances and reserves for 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26
- The Council Tax analysis for the three years

Following the report there is a detailed draft budget analysis to provide further background to members on the headline figures supplied.

Note 1: Includes increase in grant funding to general outside bodies, churchyards and 'school holiday activities' as recommended by the Grants Committee and subsequently adopted by council

Note 2: Includes anticipated additional costs of switch-on event following security review and feedback from 2024 event. The Deputy Town Clerk is preparing a report to Council with further detail.

Note 3: Includes revenue funded projects as adopted by council following JBAC recommendation.

Note 4: Includes increased employee costs following review of staff work areas.

Note 5: Slightly lower interest rate payable for 2025 fixed term Treasury Account.

Note 6: Receipts from SCC for highway verge cutting, only basic anticipated payment is included in budget, further payments may follow for additional cuts if SCC decide they wish to progress these.

Note 7: Total Cost of **£36,493** To be funded from the **CAPITAL reserve** - the draft Repairs and Renewals programme is detailed at **APPENDIX 5**. Reduced employee costs allocation to reflect reduced programme

Note 8: Based on known allocation/spend; subject to variation dependent upon CIL requests received, amounts awarded, and timescales for CIL funded projects.

Note 9: Summarised in table below:

Total to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	
- Contribution from Repairs and Renewals Capital Earmarked Reserve	£36,493
- Contribution to CIL Reserve	£9,846
Total Contribution from Reserves	£26,647

Note 10: A report to Audit Committee is being prepared to discuss the opportunities for replenishing this reserve in the coming years.

General Notes:

Draft budget includes increases for Guildhall lettings and Market pitch fees (excluding Service Charge) as detailed separately on the agenda. General inflationary increase also included where applicable.

Draft budget includes a 2.8% provision for 2025/26 pay award (subject to national agreement), a provision for the possible recruitment to the RFO post as created by Council in December 2024, a 1% reduction in the Local Government Pension Scheme employers contribution, plus nationally implemented increase in Employer NI contributions.

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve the Budget Estimates and Report for the 2025/26 financial year totalling **£1,025,345**; and that the precept for 2025/26 be set at **£998,698**.

<u>Net Expenditure</u> SERVICE AREAS	ACTUAL 2023/24 £	BUDGET 2024/25 £	ESTIMATE 2024/25 YEAR END £	BUDGET 2025/26 £	Note
Parks and Footpaths	281,806	265,053	273,264	273,982	
Guildhall	135,092	153,425	143,515	141,786	
Community Centres	16,160	14,335	15,201	15,199	
Markets	1,442	2,948	147	3,615	
Civic	97,772	101,307	99,442	108,287	
Grant Aid/Partnerships	54,310	54,755	59,854	77,474	1
Arts/Tourism/Twinning	73,051	85,971	92,077	90,478	2
Johnson Birthplace Museum	136,732	159,544	167,812	176,020	3
Democratic Services	162,428	153,566	156,201	176,067	4
Investment Interest	-68,881	-55,150	-72,020	-61,110	5
Loan Charges	0	0	0	0	
Agency	-5,108	-3,944	-12,262	-3,100	6
Total Service Cost	£884,804	£931,850	£923,231	£998,698	
Repairs and Renewals	533,354	103,749	103,985	36,493	7
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	86,634	-5,364	11,088	-9,846	8
SUB TOTALS	£1,504,792	£1,030,235	£1,038,304	£1,025,345	
PRECEPT	£860,670	£939,900	£939,900	£998,698	
To/(From) Balances	(£644,122)	(£90,335)	(£98,404)	(£26,647)	9

<u>Balances and Reserves</u>	ACTUAL 2023/24 £	BUDGET 2024/25 £	ESTIMATE 2024/25 YEAR END £	BUDGET 2025/26 £	
Opening Balance (1 April)	2,357,664	1,696,359	1,713,542	1,615,138	
To/(From) balances	(644,122)	(90,335)	(98,404)	(26,647)	
Closing Balance	£1,713,542	£1,606,024	£1,615,138	£1,588,491	
<u>Closing balance held as:</u>					
Capital Reserve - Repairs/Renewals	849,624	771,286	745,639	709,146	10
Grant Aid Reserve	8,789	8,789	4,033	4,033	
Parish Election Reserve	9,713	15,000	24,713	24,713	
Twinning Reserve	-	17,000	17,000	17,000	
CIL Reserve	115,650	121,597	104,562	114,408	
General Revenue Reserves	729,766	672,352	719,191	719,191	
Closing Balance	£1,713,542	£1,606,024	£1,615,138	£1,588,491	

<u>Council Tax Analysis</u>	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	
		2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	
Precept	£860,670	£939,900	£939,900	£998,698	
Apportioned Tax Base	£12,515.9	£12,742.6	£12,742.6	£12,957	
RESULTANT BAND D TAX	£68.76	£73.76	£73.76	£77.08	

DRAFT BUDGET 2025/26 ANALYSIS

<u>Net Expenditure</u>		ACTUAL 2023/24	BUDGET 2024/25	ESTIMATE 2024/25	BUDGET 2025/26
SERVICE AREAS		£	£	£	£
Parks and Footpaths					
Employee costs		37,773	39,669	39,947	42,939
Central administration		26,192	28,850	29,730	31,349
Contract repair/maintenance		143,308	144,780	145,150	149,510
Other repair/maintenance		68,171	42,544	53,229	42,724
Energy		9,485	12,470	8,480	10,720
Miscellaneous income		-1,676	-1,660	-1,672	-1,660
Burial fees income		-347	-500	-500	-500
Allotment rents		-1,100	-1,100	-1,100	-1,100
Total		281,806	265,053	273,264	273,982
Guildhall					
Employee costs		95,619	100,420	101,123	108,698
Central administration		25,289	27,855	28,705	30,268
Repair/maintenance		12,091	16,720	22,576	16,800
Energy		27,874	41,600	23,570	25,930
Rates		8,099	8,740	7,750	8,650
Supplies and Services		25,469	25,580	31,295	26,510
Lettings		-59,349	-67,490	-71,504	-75,070
Total		135,092	153,425	143,515	141,786
Community Centres					
Employee costs		7,000	7,351	7,402	7,957
Central administration		2,710	2,984	3,076	3,242
Boley Hall		744	1,000	1,723	1,000
Curborough		240	1,000	1,000	1,000
Cruck House		875	1,000	1,000	1,000
Darwin Hall		4,591	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total		16,160	14,335	15,201	15,199
Markets					
Employee costs		49,400	51,880	52,243	56,156
Central administration		16,257	17,908	18,454	19,459
Repair/maintenance		1,381	2,310	2,310	2,310
Energy		4,528	4,820	3,110	5,300
Rates and Water		20,075	21,000	19,240	19,950
Supplies & Services		12,675	12,230	12,230	13,000
Misc. lettings		-15,542	-14,300	-16,000	-15,020
Friday market income		-31,725	-30,600	-32,840	-34,150
Saturday market income		-31,034	-34,210	-32,320	-33,780
Farmers/Producers market income		-3,476	-3,270	-3,460	-3,630
Tuesday market income		-21,097	-24,820	-22,820	-25,980
Total		1,442	2,948	147	3,615

Net Expenditure		ACTUAL 2023/24	BUDGET 2024/25	ESTIMATE 2024/25	BUDGET 2025/26
SERVICE AREAS		£	£	£	£
Civic					
Employee costs		57,946	60,856	61,282	65,872
Central administration		20,773	22,881	23,579	24,865
Mayor's allowance		1,857	3,650	2,430	3,650
Sheriff's allowance		3,042	3,150	2,100	3,150
Supplies and services		5,855	2,600	2,600	3,100
Events		6,626	6,210	6,210	6,210
Mayor's Banquet		645	640	441	440
Sheriff's Ride		1,028	1,320	800	1,000
Total		97,772	101,307	99,442	108,287
Grant Aid/Partnerships					
Employee costs		5,396	5,667	5,706	6,134
Central administration		9,032	9,948	10,252	10,810
Grants to outside bodies		32,742	32,000	36,756	50,000
Grants for open Churchyards		7,140	7,140	7,140	10,530
Total		54,310	54,755	59,854	77,474
Arts/Tourism/Twinning					
Employee costs		29,365	30,839	31,055	33,381
Central administration		11,741	12,932	13,326	14,052
Arts/Culture/Tourism		3576	4,760	4,535	4,535
Christmas Lights		28,456	37,540	43,161	38,510
income		-87	-100	0	0
Total		73,051	85,971	92,077	90,478
Johnson Birthplace Museum					
Employee costs		110,747	116,307	117,121	125,894
Central administration		14,451	15,917	16,403	17,296
Repair/Maintenance		3,354	4,200	8,517	4,370
Energy		5,994	7,520	7,520	8,270
Rates and Water		358	400	430	440
Supplies and Services		18,786	32,070	34,676	36,620
Promotion		1,118	2,000	2,000	2,000
Restoration		2,615	750	0	750
Stock for sale		3,125	3,000	3,765	3,000
Sales income		-12,496	-10,980	-10,980	-10,980
Contribution from Birthplace Trust		-11,320	-11,640	-11,640	-11,640
Total		136,732	159,544	167,812	176,020

<i>Net Expenditure</i>		ACTUAL 2023/24	BUDGET 2024/25	ESTIMATE 2024/25	BUDGET 2025/26
SERVICE AREAS		£	£	£	£
Democratic Services					
Employee costs		70,030	81,326	81,895	93,013
Central administration		41,547	51,730	53,309	61,834
Supplies and Services		1,993	15,000	15,000	15,000
Election costs		45,288	1,910	1,910	2,060
Newsletter		3,300	3,300	3,787	3,860
Member allowances/travel etc.		270	300	300	300
Total		162,428	153,566	156,201	176,067
Investment Interest					
Interest		-68,881	-55,110	-72,020	-61,110
Total		-68,881	-55,110	-72,020	-61,110
Agency					
Employee costs		2,784	2,924	2,944	3,165
Central administration		1,806	1,992	2,053	2,165
Contract repair/maintenance		17,530	14,480	14,480	14,910
SCC Verge Income		-27,228	-23,340	-31,739	-23,340
Total		-5,108	-3,944	-12,262	-3,100
Total Service Costs		£884,804	£931,850	£923,231	£998,698
Repairs and Renewals					
Employee costs		14,816	7,780	7,834	1,627
Central administration		10,838	5,969	6,151	866
Guildhall/Donegal House		0	0	1,840	7,000
Samuel Johnson Birthplace		43,235	45,000	43,160	6,000
Parks and Footpaths		7,060	0	22,000	15,000
Community Centres		457,115	45,000	23,000	6,000
Friary Clock Tower		290	0	0	0
Total		533,354	103,749	103,985	36,493
community Infrastructure Levy(CIL)					
Expenditure		108,688	0	55,140	41,657
Receipts		-22,054	-5,364	-44,052	-51,503
Total		86,634	-5,364	11,088	-9,846
Johnson Birthplace Charitable Trust					
Grant/Donations		-8,654	-8,360	-8,360	-8,360
Admissions income		-2,666	-3,280	-3,280	-3,280
Funding to LCC		11,320	11,640	11,640	11,640
Total		0	0	0	0
TOTAL		£1,504,792	£1,030,235	£1,038,304	£1,025,345
PRECEPT		£860,670	£939,900	£939,900	£998,698
TOTAL To/ (From) balances		(£644,122)	(£90,335)	(£98,404)	(£26,647)

<i>Net Expenditure</i>		ACTUAL 2023/24	BUDGET 2024/25	ESTIMATE 2024/25	BUDGET 2025/26
SERVICE AREAS		£	£	£	£
NOTE-Internal Recharges					
Employee Cost					
Employee costs		568,811	597,370	601,550	646,610
Recharge to Services		-568,811	-597,370	-601,550	-646,610
Total		0	0	0	0
Central Administration					
Employee costs		87,937	92,352	92,998	101,775
Central administration		0	0		0
Mileage Allowance		866	500	800	500
Professional Fees/Audit Fees		3,100	8,900	8,600	8,900
Office Rates/Water		10,121	10,410	10,210	10,370
Office Energy		15,201	21,550	11,890	13,080
Supplies & Services		31,349	29,010	39,987	37,230
Telephone/Postage		3,343	4,530	4,530	4,610
Subscriptions. Courses/Training		3,518	4,720	4,720	4,720
Insurance		30,937	32,800	37,272	40,826
Office Rent		-5,706	-5,800	-5,930	-5,800
Miscellaneous Receipts		-29	-10	-44	-10
Recharge to Services		-180,637	-198,962	-205,033	-216,201
Total		0	0	0	0
Balances & Reserves					
Opening Balance		2,357,664	1,696,359	1,713,542	1,615,138
to/-from reserve		-644,122	-90,335	-98,404	-26,647
Closing Balance		£1,713,542	£1,606,024	£1,615,138	£1,588,491
Breakdown of Reserve					
Repairs/Renewals Reserve-Building		849,624	771,286	745,639	709,146
Grant Aid Reserve		8,789	8,789	4,033	4,033
Election Reserve		9,713	15,000	24,713	24,713
Twinning Reserve		0	17,000	17,000	17,000
CIL Reserve		115,650	121,597	104,562	114,408
General Revenue Reserves		729,766	672,352	719,191	719,191
Closing Balance		£1,713,542	£1,606,024	£1,615,138	£1,588,491
Total Expenditure		1,822,188	1,320,135	1,396,623	1,376,643
Total income		-317,396	-289,900	-358,319	-351,298
Net Expenditure		1,504,792	1,030,235	1,038,304	1,025,345
Precept		-860,670	-939,900	-939,900	-998,698
TOTAL (To)/From balances		£644,122	£90,335	£98,404	£26,647