

Budget Proposals and Financial Position

		2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	
	Starting Budget Gap	3,013	10,588	15,988	This position has been carried forward from 2025/26 Budget Setting and reflects all previously approved Budget changes
	Resources				
1	Council Tax	(1,805)	(5,605)	(9,405)	The previous assumption provided in the budget is a 3% increase on Council Tax. These resources represent an increase limited to 3.95% for 2026-27 and assumes 5% for future years.
2	Collection Fund forecast outturn and surpluses	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	This item includes estimates around the forecast outturn position for 2025/26 and uncommitted surpluses from 2024/25 held within the Collection Fund.
3	Local Government Settlement	(32,470)	(59,167)	(87,462)	Allocation from Multi-year Local Government Funding Settlement, including transitional impact over 3 years.
4	Extended Producer Responsibility Grant (ERP)	(2,005)	(1,505)	(1,005)	Coventry's 2026/27 allocation of Extended Producer Responsibility Grant has been confirmed at £7m. This represents the figure above the value included in base budget assumptions of £5m.
	Subtotal Resources	(38,280)	(68,277)	(99,872)	
	Service and Technical Pressures				
5	2025/26 Pay Award Confirmed	346	346	346	Additional budget requirement following the agreed pay award for 2025/26 at 3.2%. This was 0.2% above the 3% provided in the budget.
6	2026/27 & Future years Pay Award Assumptions	1,840	3,735	5,630	Estimated additional requirement above the previous budget provision for 2026/27 onwards of 2% pay award. These pressures represent 3% pay award in 26/27 ongoing.
7	Inflation and Contingencies (non-pay)	6,646	11,218	16,350	This reflects the continued impact of the inflation environment affecting the Council's supplies and services expenditure, in addition to the £2m growth provided in the base budget.
8	Adult Social Care - Price increases	1,845	4,338	8,698	This relates to the additional cost of the National Living Wage recently announced in the Governments Autumn Budget 2025 and other price rises on existing adult social care packages.
9	Adult Social Care - Additional Package cost	4,341	5,514	7,970	This represents impacts of demographic change and the anticipated costs of new care packages
10	Children's Services - Homes for Children in Care	2,500	2,500	2,500	Children's Services continues to see a significant increase in the average unit cost of homes for children in care. This is due to there being a lack of sufficiency in the market to meet the needs of young people in care and is a local, regional and national issue.

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11	Community Safety	289	289	289	To continue to enhance the Community Safety team to tackle criminal antisocial behaviour across the city.
12	Financial Risk	9,000	9,000	9,000	Provision for the replenishment of reserves in response to uncertain financial risk.
13	Collection of Food Waste	1,607	1,891	1,864	This is a new statutory service for the Collection of Food Waste which is due to go live part way through 2026/27.
14	Food Waste Target	465	465	465	Since the original target was set, market conditions have changed and the new target reflects the current costs and income that is deliverable.
15	Housing Benefit Subsidy	1,505	1,805	1,805	Additional resource to manage and address the gap in funding for supported accommodation costs where the Council is only partly reimbursed by the Government.
16	Elections	661	661	661	The introduction of the Individual Elections Registration created a new financial burden on the elections budget. This along with the increasing cost to run an election has diminished the smoothing reserve which has supported this finite budget. This requires additional core budget to support all out election running costs in 2026/27 and replenish the reserve to support future costs.
17	No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)	550	550	550	To recognise a financial pressure resulting from an increase in the number of No Recourse to Public Funds families who we obliged to support.
18	Lone Working	450	241	241	Provision of technology and associated services to support staff who are identified as being lone workers.
19	SEND Transport & Capacity	300	500	750	As is being seen nationally, the number of SEND pupils within Coventry continues to grow, resulting in an increase in the number of commissioned specialist placements, and consequently more children and young people requiring specialist transportation to school. The continued growth in demand also impacts capacity across SEND Statutory Services.
20	Operational Pressures	2,900	2,817	2,702	A number of underlying pressures exist within the current budgetary control environment including Mandatory Tree Surveys and Pest Control backlog, Adults Social Care IT system implementation, and Council Tax Card Payment Fees.
	Subtotal Service & Technical Pressures	35,245	45,870	59,821	
	Technical Savings				

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21	Pension Rate savings	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)	Employers Superannuation Rate reduced from a rate of 21.2% in 2023/24 to 2025/26 to 14.1% in 2026/27 to 2028/29
22	Corporate Asset Management Revenue Account	(500)	0	0	This additional income for 2026/27 is the combined impact of the Council's treasury activity resulting from reduced borrowing, a continued reduction in rates and improved short-term investment income.
	Subtotal Technical Savings	(7,700)	(7,200)	(7,200)	
Policy Investment					
Anti-Social Behaviour including Fly Tipping (£2.2m)					
23	Bringing the Tip to You	552	0	0	This 12month trial will help us understand the benefits of offering extra waste-month trial will help us understand the benefits of offering extra waste management support to communities that face additional-management support to communities that face additional challenges. Mobile teams will visit selected streets and areas where residents may have limited access to existing waste facilities, giving an alternative and convenient way for residents to dispose of excess waste responsibly.
24	Build Your Future (Eco-Force Crew) Coventry	377	384	392	Creation of an initiative to recruit NEET individuals into structured 12-week paid placements of 16 hours per week as part of 'Eco Force Crews' working alongside Council Officers in Highways, Environmental Services, and Parks. Young people will choose their preferred service area based on career interests and job goals. Each participant will receive dedicated employment mentoring, vocational training, and emotional wellbeing support, with additional interventions where needed to secure progression into employment or further training. The programme will support 75 residents annually through rolling cohorts of five young people at a time.
25	New Approach to tackle Anti-social behaviour	245	245	245	Change the way enforcement activity is undertaken by moving to a more ward based compliance officers' approach who will investigate environmental ASB from first referral to prosecution. Additional compliance officers will also enable targeted community engagement whilst providing resilience for teams to be mobilised to hot spot areas. This will be complimented by looking into new and innovative ways of deterrent and punishment

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26	Food waste behaviour change	300	200	200	Adoption of a behavioural insights approach to understand awareness and attitudes, and to positively influence behaviours towards waste disposal and recycling including uptake of a new food disposal service. This is designed to save the council significant resources by reducing waste contamination and encouraging uptake of the new food disposal service. If successful, the principles can be rolled out into other policy challenges including fly tipping, e-bikes, pavement parking and other anti-social behaviour.
27	Enhanced cleansing services	760	760	760	Last year, Streetpride received investment to boost cleansing in areas most affected by litter, fly-tipping, and anti-social behaviour. This extra funding will enable this work to continue, delivering real improvements for residents as well as building on this success with the introduction of two new dedicated teams operating across Foleshill, Henley, and Tile Hill.
Good jobs, investment and prosperity - NEET, youth unemployment, education achievement (£0.8m)					
28	Plas Dol-y-Moch Site Refurbishment and Development	325	325	0	Coventry City Council has owned and successfully operated Plas Dol-y-Moch for over 60 years, with the centre fully funded through traded income. This project will provide a dedicated social space alongside refurbishment of the main house to ensure the site remains financially viable and fit for modern use, addressing outdated accommodation and layout while protecting a valued council asset for the future.
29	Connected Futures: Bridging the GAP from Education to Employment	300	250	200	The Connected Futures programme will identify young people at early risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and support them through tailored 14–16-year pathways into aligned 16-18 study programmes and onward to employment or training.
30	Transforming Futures: A Strategic Approach to Tackling NEET	128	133	139	Transforming Futures is a programme targeted at post 16 young people for those without sixth form offers, particularly those who find it a struggle to engage in mainstream college environments. Long term delivery will be funded through DfE post 16 funding however this seeks initial investment to support set-up and proof of concept.
Helping people to manage - bills, energy, to help themselves (£1.8m)					
31	Council Tax - Increase Council Tax by less than the maximum	-	-	-	As per the report Council Tax has not been set at the maximum rate of 5% and has been limited to a rise of 3.95% which reduced the Council's potential income from Council tax by £1.8m. (The reduced resources are shown in line 1 above)
Keeping People Safe - crime, clean, well lit, city centre improvements (£0.4m)					

32	Increased capacity and new approach to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	248	248	248	Increase the number of community wardens from 2 to 8 meaning residents will notice a greater presence in the city of these officers who can step in to deter and act on Anti-Social Behaviour. This will move capacity into wards across the City and will also enable deployment to areas where issues of Criminal ASB are being reported.
33	Average Speed Enforcement (ASE)	153	182	182	Sustain ongoing maintenance, calibration and reactive repairs of existing cameras alongside making provision to enable the continued managed expansion of the network in line with corporate, political and community priorities.
Local environments & deprived neighbourhoods (£0.9m)					
34	Godiva Festival & Extended Events Programme	400	400	400	This will provide a Godiva in the City event alongside an extended programme of events celebrating the city.
35	Free to play facilities improvement scheme (War Memorial Park)	440	5	5	Following the permanent closure of the popular water feature in the War Memorial Park in 2023, this funding will enable its replacement and the renewal of the aging children's play facilities. The project will deliver a free to use, modern and fully accessible Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), creating high quality, inclusive facilities that encourage physical activity and support healthy lifestyles.
36	Community Grow Sites	100	100	100	In line with Coventry's Climate Change Strategy, development of a network of community growing sites for residents to help create and enjoy.
Protecting vulnerable people – including child poverty (£1.9m)					
37	Care leaver council tax exemption	380	399	419	This looks to extend our current council tax exemption for Care Leavers, from up to age 21 to age 25 which will help prevent debt, reduce homelessness, impact positively on health and wellbeing and support education and training pathways leading to better life chances and outcomes.
38	Increasing family Temporary Accommodation owned by the City Council	559	637	1,434	This represents match funding to purchase an additional 20 properties for Temporary Accommodation as part of the Local Authority Housing Fund (round 4) programme.
39	Increasing number of 5/6 bed family large Temporary Accommodation properties	250	250	0	This provides additional funding to support the purchase of 5 larger properties to meet temporary accommodation need for larger families.
40	Support for Foster Care Households	735	772	810	This seeks to invest in further support for carers to address recruitment and retention challenges, with the aim of ensuring that our most vulnerable children with complex needs can be supported in foster carer households where appropriate.

Roads and pavements - conditions and safety (£1.5m)					
41	Car park improvement schemes	150	150	150	Targeted investment to refurbish and repair public car parks, including the introduction of EV charging points, and improved lighting and drainage.
42	Defect Repairs	750	750	750	Following the one-off investment in last year's budget this funding will maintain the 4 additional defect repair gangs and enable the service to move to a more proactive approach to maintenance.
43	Minor Asset Management	320	320	320	The funding will enhance maintenance and repair of signs, posts, pedestrian guardrails and other street furniture.
44	City Centre Red Route Enforcement	250	100	100	The funding will enable investment in modern, 24/7 Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera systems, transforming the effectiveness and efficiency of parking enforcement, deterring illegal parking and keeping key routes clear for everyone.
	Subtotal Policy Investments	7,722	6,610	6,854	
	Final Budget (Surplus)/Deficit	0	(12,409)	(24,409)	