

Delivering, protecting and enhancing community facilities

within a Green Community Investment Plan

Sevenoaks Town Council has made investing in the local environment and making Sevenoaks greener its number one priority. The Town Council's overall aim is to put in place affordable and practical initiatives with long term green benefits for the local community and to support and encourage residents to pursue individually. For more details, please review the Green Community Investment Plan at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Sevenoaks Town Council operates and looks after a wide range of community facilities including allotments, bus shelters, cemetery, community halls, public open spaces and play areas for a full list see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Sevenoaks Town Council also remains committed to assisting local voluntary groups who do so much for the town. This is achieved by offering grants and practical support where possible.

For any organisation to operate effectively it needs a sound budget. The past couple of financial years have been difficult for most and with the current concerns over the 'cost of living' including utility costs, there are expected to be continued financial pressures in the forthcoming year. Please see overleaf for figures relating to Sevenoaks Town Council Budget for 2023 - 2024.

Average Band D home contributes

£139.17

per annum/
£2.68 per week

Some of the functions and facilities the Town Council provides

(For full details see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

7 Play areas



£53k

**Grants to local
organisations**



**Climate change
initiatives**



**Youth cafe
& Youth Council**

**17 public
open spaces**

**2 Allotment
sites**



**Litter bins
& litter collecting**

Public toilets

Cemetery

Bus shelters

11 Sports pitches



**Floral displays
& Christmas lights**

Community events

Markets

Public seats

**6 Community
buildings**

Where does the £1,954,749 Sevenoaks Town Council budget come from?

ANNUAL PRECEPT

£1,370,074

70% of the budget comes from the domestic ratepayer's precept (council tax). The Town Council does not receive any portion of business rates or government grants.

INCOME FROM SERVICES

£510,433

26% of the budget comes from fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafes

RESERVES

£74,242

4% of the budget will be from Town Council's reserves. £94,242 will be taken from HLF dedicated reserves to support Bat & Ball Station project during initial years of opening. This is offset by £20,000 budget put into revenue reserves.

Wherever possible the Town Council aims to provide community facilities at the lowest cost possible to reduce the burden on the taxpayer. At the same time providing the facilities that the community wants and needs. This is often achieved by volunteers assisting in this for which the Town Council continues to remain grateful.

There are some facilities which are not commercially viable including maintenance of public open spaces and play areas and youth facilities, these do not generate income as they are free for public use.

What will it cost per average household (Band D)?

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Public Open Space - £431k
(net cost £371k)

Community Events - £67k
(net cost £49k)

Cemetery - £136k
(net cost £61k)

Community Venues -
£364k (net cost £102k)

Markets - £44k
(net income £6k)

Youth Provision - £45k
(net cost £40k)

**Total £1,087k
Net Cost £617k (56%)**

ADMINISTRATION & FACILITATION

Council Administration
£485k (net cost £456k)

Council Offices - £76k
(net cost £64k)

IT - £33k

Insurance - £19k

Professional Fees - £16k

**Total £629k
Net Cost £588k (32%)**

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Public Works Loan -
£72k

Contingency -
£66k

Local Grants to voluntary
organisations - £53k

Total £191k (10%)

LOCAL REPRESENTATION

Planning Consultation -
£28k

Democracy costs
(including elections) - £20k

Total £48k (2%)



Total Annual Revenue Budget £1,954,749

Annual Cost per Household (Band D) £139.17 per year / £2.68 per week

An increase of £6.50 per year / 13 pence per week = 4.9% compared to 2022-2023