

Local Elected Members providing local services with a commitment to delivering and protecting Community Facilities



BUDGET 2025/2026

2025/2026 Budget Key Points

Sevenoaks Town Council remains committed to supporting local voluntary groups, increasing grant funding by 6.5% to help charities continue vital community services.

Challenges and Strategic Goals for 2025/2026

The 2025/2026 budget has been developed amid challenging financial conditions, including increased employer contributions to national insurance and a rise in the minimum wage equal to a 2% uplift. Despite these pressures, the Council has identified the following key aims, in addition its day to day operation for the upcoming year:

1. Sustaining Service Delivery:

Ensuring that all existing services continue to be provided at the highest possible standard.

2. Supporting the Volunteer Sector:

Reinforcing the invaluable work of local voluntary groups by enhancing funding opportunities.

3. Prioritising completion of two Masterplans.

4. Subject to successful funding progressing Greatness Recreation Ground new Pavilion.

5. Continuing to provide "free to attend" community events.

6. Reviewing and consulting on the future of Community Assets subject to the local Government re-organisation.

Some of the functions and facilities the Town Council provides:

- Grants to local organisations £67K
- Cemetery
- Bus shelters
- 7 play areas
- 6 community buildings
- 17 public open spaces
- 2 allotment sites
- Community events
- Markets
- Public seats
- Youth Café & Youth Council
- 11 Sports Pitches
- Floral displays and Christmas Lights
- Litter bins and litter collecting
- Public toilets

For a full 2024/2025 annual report please view www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/Annual_Report_30259.aspx

Average Band D home contributes £153.67 per annum/ £2.96 per week



Where does the £1,997,096 Sevenoaks Town Council budget come from?

ANNUAL PRECEPT

£1,545,147

77% 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

£451,949

22% of the budget comes from fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafe.

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	ADMINISTRATION & FACILITATION	COMMUNITY INVESTMENT	LOCAL REPRESENTATION
Public Open Space – £462k (net cost £320k)	Council Administration £589k (net cost £536k)	Public Works Loan – £72k	Planning Consultation – £41k
Community Events – £61k (net cost £43k)	Council Offices - £53k (net cost £43k)	Contingency – £62k	Democracy costs (including elections) – £16k
Cemetery - £165k (net cost £87k)	IT – £38k	Local Grants to voluntary organisations – £63k	Total £57k (3%)
Community Venues – £219k (net cost £52k)	Insurance – £20k	Total £201k (10%)	
Markets – £43k (net income £9k)	Professional Fees – £15k		
Youth Provision – £73k (net cost £67k)	Total £715k Net Cost £579k (36%)		
Total £1m Net Cost £542k (51%)			

Total Annual Revenue Budget £1,997,096

Annual Cost per Household (Band D)
£153.67 per year / £2.96 per week

An increase of £8.34per year / 17pence per week
= 5.7% compared to 2024-2025

