



Precept Setting

The budget process sets out expected income and expenditure for the next financial year. This determines the sum the council is required to raise from resident contributions (precept), which is calculated by deducting the expected income from the expected expenditure. It does not set a % increase.

For the FY26/27 budget that figure is £43,056. This is less than 14% of the council's total income as it has other significant income streams.

A change to the boundaries for parishes in the borough agreed in January 2026 following consultation resulted in a decrease of households in the parish. The effect is that fewer households are contributing to the parish precept so each must pay a slightly higher amount and is showing as a 10.7% increase to the precept on your council tax bill (with the previous boundary it would have been 4.54%), in actual terms this is an additional precept ranging from £1.40 per year for a Band A property to £4.19 per year for a Band H property.

For comparison Swallowfield has the 3rd lowest precept in the borough (those households moving to Arborfield will pay 140% more than if they'd stayed with Swallowfield but will see it as a 0% increase on their bills). Our Band D precept is £37.44, the lowest in the borough is £31.00 and the highest is £117.09

Summary

Expenditure	£311,373
less	
Income from other sources	<u>£258,617</u>
Difference between income and expenditure	£52,756
less	
Money set aside in earmarked reserves (for specific projects)	<u>£9,700</u>

FY26/27 precept for Swallowfield Parish Council £43,056

This figure is then apportioned across all households in the parish according to the council tax band their property sits in. The rates set can be found on the Wokingham Borough Council website at [2026/2027 Council Tax Bands for Wokingham Borough](#)

