

Ottery St Mary Town Council, in a decision made by Councillors on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2024, has approved an increase of 9.3% in its overall precept for the financial year 2024/25. The precept, which is the Town Council's share of the Council Tax, reflects the Council's commitment to providing essential local services as requested to residents, businesses, visitors, and support organisations in the community.

The uplift in the precept equates to £1.85 per week for a Band D home, compared to £1.70 per week in the previous year. The decision to increase the precept was not taken lightly, with the Council being acutely aware of the ongoing challenging times. However, the Council has ambitious plans for the upcoming year, including:

- Continuing the transport study in the town
- Undertaking a feasibility study for developing the Station Hub
- Increasing provision for young people and families by providing a youth club at the Station and supporting mental health facilities for young people
- Implementing regeneration projects
- Continuing with the Coast Meets Country project encouraging visitors to the parish
- Extending the Shop Front Grant scheme
- Continuing the Community Grant scheme
- Continuing with the Multi Use Games Area project at Strawberry Lane

Following advice from their accountant, the Council has transitioned to a Rolling Capital budget, distinguishing between requirements for the everyday running of the Council and those for project work. Additionally, the Council has been diligently working on a Strategic Plan, soon to be published, which will outline the priorities guiding the Council's actions moving forward. The Council emphasises its commitment to engaging closely with the community on these forthcoming plans.

For more information about Ottery St Mary Town Council and its initiatives, please visit the Council website.

Kerry Kennell

Ottery St Mary Town Clerk

KEY	
CONFIRMED 24/25 FIGURE	
ACTUAL 23/24 FIGURE	

TOWN	PRECEPT 23/24	CHANGE	PRECEPT 24/25	HOUSES	PER HOUSE	PER HOUSE 23/24	INCREASE PER HOUSE
EXMOUTH	£733,025	-	£733,025	13,181	£55.61	£56.91	£-1.30
OTTERY ST MARY	£256,383	26,127	£282,510	2,922	£96.68	£88.84	£7.85
AXMINSTER	£263,161	-	£263,161	2,898	£90.81	£93.39	£-2.58
SIDMOUTH	£700,000	-	£700,000	6,952	£100.69	£100.66	£0.03
HONITON	£437,375	142,850	£580,225	4,000	£145.06	£112.81	£32.24
SEATON	£389,187	45,576	£434,763	3,278	£132.63	£121.32	£11.31
BROADCLYST	£360,540	26,048	£386,588	2,757	£140.22	£153.55	£-13.33
CRANBROOK	£618,312	-	£618,312	2,574	£240.21	£256.03	£-15.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>PRECEPT</b>		<b>PRECEPT</b>	<b>HOUSES</b>	<b>PER HOUSE</b>		<b>AVERAGE</b>
EAST DEVON TOWNS	£3,757,983		£3,998,584	38,562	£104		£18.41

### 2024/25 Precept

