



How the council spends your money to make Thame a great place to live, work, visit & enjoy.

Precept 2026-27

Thame Town Council does not receive any direct funding from central government or from business rates. Our primary source of income comes from the Precept, which is a share of the Council Tax that is collected from each household by the District Council. This is calculated on an average household (Band D property).

The contribution you make through the precept is used to run the Council, and maintain and improve the facilities, activities, and services that the Council provides in Thame and Moreton.

Here, we explain the contribution you make to the Town Council through your Council Tax and how it is spent:



In considering its proposed budget for the coming year and assessing the funding that will be required to deliver its services, Thame Town Council estimates that its total expenditure in 2026/27 will be in the region of £1,185,865, which is an increase from last year of £83,440.

In 2026-27, this will be funded by a charge of £228.80 per year (£4.39 per week) for a Band D property, through the precept portion of Council Tax, equating to an annual increase of £14.94 per year (or just under 29p per week).

THE COUNCIL HAS ALLOCATED:



£10,550 for the Red Kite Family Centre.
£10,550 for Thame Senior Friendship Centre.
£15,825 towards a Youth Worker (retained).
£6,875 contribution towards Citizens Advice Service.



Monies for a new town council website to ensure compliance with accessibility legislation and improve functionality.



£5,000 funding to build a reserve to improve Thame's existing play parks.



Additional monies for necessary repairs, maintenance and refurbishments to town council assets including the town hall lift and maintenance vehicles.



Monies to modernise systems and processes to improve efficiencies and generate cost savings of up to £40,000.

For every £1 spent by Thame Town Council...



Central Services

Includes administration of Thame Town Council functions, projects, and services. Central Services also include staff costs, office costs, insurance, democratic services, civic support, and professional fees.

Outside Services

Includes maintenance depot & staff, vehicles, town & park upkeep, equipment, insurance & utilities.

Community Activities

Includes meeting spaces, Christmas, town fairs, open spaces, CCTV, festival support, Remembrance, Town Centre management, and Information Centre.

Neighbourhood Plan

Implementation of the second TNP (TNP2) adopted in February 2025. Advice and support to the council and community on compliance with TNP2.

Recreational Facilities

Includes the upkeep of Cuttle Brook, Elms Park, Memorial Gardens, Recreation Grounds, Skate Park, and Playgrounds.

Devolved Services

Includes financial support for the Thame Senior Friendship Centre, Red Kite Family Centre, and Thame Youth Projects.

Environment

Includes implementation of the Thame Green Living Plan.

Investment Activities

Includes managing capital reserves.

Grants

Financial support for Citizens Advice.

Markets

Covers the Charter Market & Local Produce Market.

WHAT WE DELIVERED IN 2025/26

EVENTS: 80th Anniversary VE Day and VJ Day, Taste of Thame, Town Awards, Town Fair, Charter Fair, Thame Art Crawl, Remembrance, Themed Markets, Christmas Lights Switch On.

NEW EVENTS: Vegan Markets, supported Thame Sportive, supported Thame Pride, Volunteer Fair.

ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES: New public art on Lea Park, planting and flood mitigation works in Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve, smoke free signage in play areas, a new footpath in Rycote Meadow, new 400m running track, upkeep of 7 play areas, grass cutting and tree maintenances, new benches at Southern Road Recreational Ground and Health Centre.

COMMUNITY: Speedwatch scheme rollout, defibrillator ownership and maintenance, secured major funding for the Community & Youth Centre.

You said, we did...



Thame Town Council would like to thank everyone who completed our Budget Questionnaire in 2024. We have listened, and the following provides some of the many examples where we've taken action to ensure your priorities are heard. We continue to take your feedback into consideration as we develop Thame and our services.

More trees planted

✓ We supported 21st Century Thame to plant 280 trees.

To know more about councillors

✓ We introduced 'Mayor on the Market' so you can meet your representatives.

More for the youth of Thame

✓ We successfully applied for major funding for a Community & Youth Centre.

Stricter and safer speed limits

✓ We've introduced a neighbourhood speed watch and are training volunteers.

More support for the lonely & vulnerable

✓ We are launching a monthly community lunch ('Munch') in the Town Hall starting in March to tackle loneliness.

Flood mitigation

✓ We escalated flooding issues in Thame with OCC, which triggered an investigative report - results due imminently.

More activities for children

✓ We celebrated our first half-term 'Hogfest' and continued offering free entertainment at the Christmas Lights Switch On, and child-friendly activities during town events.