

	23/24	24/25	Difference
AGAR Box 2	£ 230,000.00	£ 463,300.00	£ 233,300.00

Reason

The main driver for increasing the expenditure budget, and thus the precept, was the financial crises at Somerset Council and the related likelihood of devolution of services to city, town and parish councils. At the time of setting the precept, Somerset Council had not provided any firm proposals for services to be devolved nor any figures / cost calculations, so the Town Council believed it to be prudent to include reasonable budget provision for work / services / asset transfers it may need or be expected to provide in the event of Somerset Council failing or choosing not to provide services.

Expenditure Item / Service	23/24 Budget Estimate	24/25 Budget Estimate	Comments
Employees	62,208	153,762	additional £53,333 included in budget to cover increased staffing levels if services devolved
Admin	15,650	23,050	Increased provision for legal costs to enable service level agreements or land transfers if services devolved from Somerset Council
Local Democracy	12,600	6,400	reduced as not an election year so reduced elction and training new councillor costs
Cemetery	27,570	30,158	increased maintenance regime of cmetary chapel (listed buildings)
Allotments	1,305	1,655	increased maintenance of boundary trees and hedges
Playing Fields & Open Spaces	20,140	24,640	Increased to enable increased and improved maintenance of play equipment and improved play equipment inspection regime
Communal areas / street cleaning	50,200	147,267	increased to include an amount for devolved services, additional litter bins and bus shelter cleaning.
Grants	36,000	26,000	reduced as limited demand in previous years
library	23,876	27,860	Increased to allow for pay award for library staff and increased rental of library facility

other services	21,300	57,850
Capital projects / contribution to EMR	6,000	31,155
Total	276,849	529,797

Increased youth service provision including potential direct employment of a youth leader. Change of Christmas decorations from real trees to light motifs.

	23/24		24/25	difference
AGAR Box 3	£ 210,356.31	£	123,717.49	£ 86,638.82

Service / project	23/24		24/25		Difference
allotment deposits repaid		-£	100.00		£ 100.00
Bank Interest	£ 5,123.46	£	5,038.02		£ 85.44
Burial Fees	£ 34,090.00	£	21,930.23		£ 12,159.77
CIL	£ 151,514.39	£	36,637.93		£ 114,876.46
ERB advance purchase	£ 3,910.00	£	7,480.00		£ 3,570.00
Rent Fordgate former allotment land	£ 586.00	£	586.00		£ -
Income Bond	£ 530.82	£	551.02		£ 20.20
Library fees	£ 1,067.52	£	951.45		£ 116.07
Memorial fees	£ 4,251.33	£	1,745.00		£ 2,506.33
Misc Income	£ 6,509.24	£	1,930.37		£ 4,578.87
rent from Cricket & Bowls clubs	£ 1,916.08	£	1,916.08		£ -
Rent North Newton former allotment land	£ -	£	1,500.00		£ 1,500.00
Grants	£ 2,000.00	£	2,000.00		£ -
Allotment Rents	£ 3,448.25	£	3,094.58		£ 353.67
Allotment deposits	£ 1,000.00	£	350.00		£ 650.00
Yield from Public Sector					
Deposit Fund Investment	£ 201.44	£	17,107.40		£ 16,905.96
Vat Interest repayment	£ 2.26	£	3.03		£ 0.77
Wayleaves	£ 388.40	£	25.28		£ 363.12
Refunds	£ 678.10				£ 678.10
nppft repayment		£	12,912.12		
rtt		£	793.00		
Total	£ 217,217.29	£	116,451.51		
less prior year adjustments	£ 21,996.62	£	15,135.64		
					£22901.62 year end debtors, less 500.00 receipt in advance)
Plus year end adjustments	£ 15,135.64	£	22,401.62		
Grand total as on AGAR	£ 210,356.31	£	123,717.49		

Explanation

no deposits repaid in 2024/25

transferred money to PSDF for higher yield, so less money in bank account

less interments

reduced amount of residential development started / completed in 24/25

greater number of advance purchases and increased fee

reduced interest rate

reduced number of active library members and physical book issues

reduced number of new memorials

23/24 included £6,000 donation towards the cost of wheeled library shelves

new tenancy agreement implemented

less turnover of allotment holders in 24/25 (rents are not repaid if a tenant leaves mid way through year)

reduced turnover of allotment holders

Monies transferred from bank accounts into PSDF in order to get better yield

wayleave income not received

refund on a planning application fee and water charges

repayment from NPPFCT not made in 23/24

RLT transfer from adjacent parish council in a one-off agreement

	23/24	24/25	difference	reason
AGAR Box 4	£ 63,975.05	£ 90,589.44	£ 26,614.39	<p>The Town Council employed an additional member of staff - an Admin Assistant in April 2024 for 21 hours per week on SCP 8 £14,752 pa; the additional pension & NI contributions for the new member of staff £5,600</p> <p>The Town Clerk received 1 increment on her salary wef 01.04.2024 taking the salary from SCP 39 to 40 - a difference of £1,050. + additional NI & pension costs</p> <p>The Town Council implemented the 24/25 pay award salary cost £1,429 pa + additional NI & pension costs</p> <p>Total annual costs of above changes:</p> <p>salaries £17,231</p> <p>HMRC £3463</p> <p>Pension £5929</p> <p>Total: £26,623</p>