

# **Facts & Figures 2009/10**

## **Introduction**

This brief guide to Aberdeenshire Council's Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2009/12 has been produced as an insert for the Council's Official Yearbook. It also appears on our website. It is intended to be used as a handy at-a-glance reference guide to the main financial and statistical features of the Council's activities.

In December 2007, figures were announced for Revenue Support Grant covering the three years to 2011. It had been expected that these would be updated in December 2008 but the only update was for 2009/10, with an indication that the figures produced previously for 2010/11 would be subject to revision in the light of the emerging economic crisis. This means that, unlike previous years, there can be no certainty over the finances that will be available beyond the end of the financial year 2009/10. As a result the much-needed stability and predictability for service users in Aberdeenshire cannot be provided on this occasion.

This guide does not contain figures for 2010 - 2012 as the figures released by the government are provisional and will be subject to considerable change in December 2009. The Council expects it will need to consider spending cuts that may be as high as £10m in 2010/11.

Government Grant continues to lag far behind the rest of Scotland, at 14.2% below the average of other councils when measured by grant per head of population. This grant meets around 80% of our expenditure so this level of shortfall is significant. If paid at the Scottish average grant would be £69m higher.

In common with all other Scottish councils, Aberdeenshire agreed to respond positively to the request by the Scottish Government to continue to hold our council tax at the

2007/08 level. This is a request that will be considered afresh for 2010/11. In the light of the postponement of proposals for a local income tax it is unclear what will happen in 2011/12.

More detailed information on the Council and its finances may be obtained from Aberdeenshire Finance, Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen AB16 5GB (Tel. 08456 08 12 07) or by visiting the Council's website at [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

**Charles Armstrong**  
*Director of Corporate Services*

## **Funding - Aberdeenshire**

The sources of money to pay for spending in 2009/10 are Aggregate External Finance (comprising Revenue Support Grant, Business Rates and Ring Fenced Grants), Fees & Charges and Council Tax.

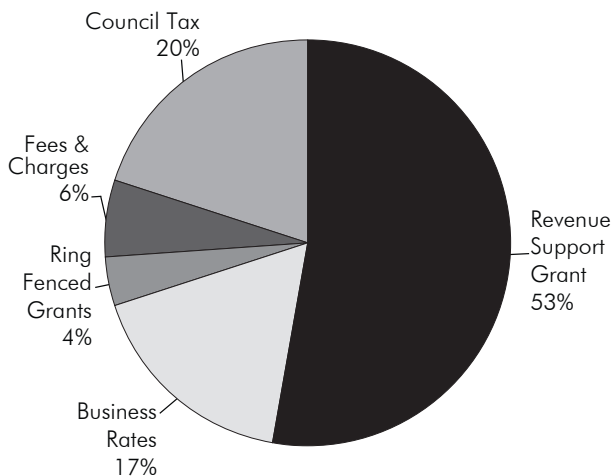
The figure for Aggregate External Finance (AEF) is worked out by a combination of the relative spending need of each council, and the amount of grant which the Scottish Government decides should be paid to councils in total.

The Remaining Ring Fenced Grants are paid towards the cost of certain specific services, mainly Police. Business Rates are collected by councils from businesses in their area, and paid over to the Scottish Government, who then re-distributes the total back to councils on the basis of their population. The difference between the sum of these two elements of AEF and each council's total AEF is paid in the form of the Revenue Support Grant.

The difference between the total to be spent, and the money paid by the Scottish Government is met by local residents from fees & charges and council tax.

	<b>2009/10 £m</b>	<b>2010/11 £m</b>	<b>2011/12 £m</b>
Revenue Support Grant	304.4	*	*
Business Rates	98.9	*	*
Ring Fenced Grants	21.3	*	*
Fees & Charges	37.6	*	*
Council Tax	114.2	*	*
	576.4	*	*

\*Data in relation to government funding for 2010/11 and 2011/12, has not been issued by the Scottish Government.



## The 2009/12 Revenue Budgets

The aim of the Council's three year Revenue Budget is to provide a clear basis for forward planning. Firm figures for grants have been issued and Council Tax calculated for 2009/10. The 2010/11 & 2011/12 Aggregate External Finance (AEF) figures have not been updated by the Government due to the uncertainty surrounding the level of savings included in the UK Government's budget report.

The total gross expenditure for 2009/10 is £576.4m, an increase of 2.18% above 2008/09. Government Grants and Business Rates of £424.6m finance 74% of this total. The Council Tax payers' contribution is £114.2m. Assuming a 98½% collection rate, this gives a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,141.

An overview of the position is shown below:-

	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Gross Expenditure	576.4	Figures	Figures
Aggregate Ext Finance	(424.6)	Not	Not
Fees & Charges	(37.6)	Available	Available
Council Tax	114.2		

Council Tax (Band D) £1,141

## 2009/10 Revenue Budget

### Council Tax

Band	Valuation	2009/10
	£	£
<b>A</b>	0- 27,000	760.67
<b>B</b>	27- 35,000	887.44
<b>C</b>	35- 45,000	1,014.22
<b>D</b>	45- 58,000	1,141.00
<b>E</b>	58- 80,000	1,394.56
<b>F</b>	80- 106,000	1,648.11
<b>G</b>	106- 212,000	1,901.67
<b>H</b>	over 212,000	2,282.00

The Band D Council Tax for 2008/09 was £1,141 and the 2009/10 figure is £1,141, representing a 0% increase from the previous financial year.

The Band D wastewater and domestic water charges of £393.57 set by Scottish Water for 2008/09 has increased by £14.04 (3.7%).

The overall increase at tax payer level is 0.92%.

The number of Band D equivalent properties in 2009/10 is estimated to be 102,458.

The expected collection rate is 98½%.

Each £1 of council tax raises about £100,000.

<b>Business Rates</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
National Business Rate	45.8p per £	48.1p per £
Rateable value over £29,000	46.2p per £	48.5p per £

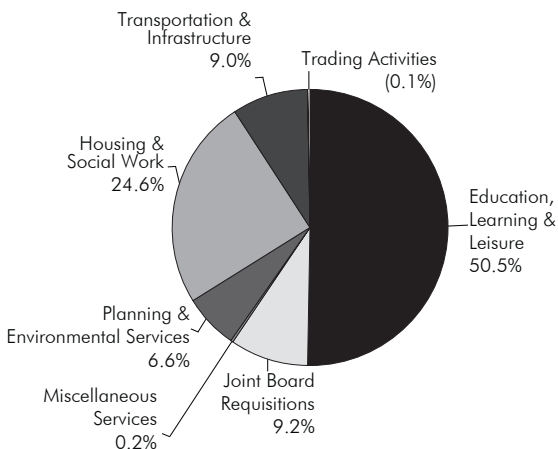
### Council Tax Benefit

Estimated number of Council Tax Payers on benefit	13,691
Estimated value of benefit to be paid during 2009/10	£10,080,050

## 2009/10 Revenue Budget

### Analysis of Budgeted Net Expenditure by Service

Service	Budget £'000	%	Cost per Head of Population £
Trading Activities	(706)	(0.1)	(2.93)
Education, Learning & Leisure	269,597	50.5	1,119.11
Joint Board Requisitions	49,104	9.2	203.83
Miscellaneous Services	981	0.2	4.07
Planning & Environmental Services	35,045	6.6	145.47
Housing & Social Work	131,207	24.6	544.64
Transportation & Infrastructure	48,021	9.0	199.34
	<b>533,249</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,213.53</b>
Adjustment for Capital Charges	5,608		23.28
	<b>538,857</b>		<b>2,236.81</b>



# 2009/10 Revenue Budget

## Analysis of Budgeted Net Expenditure by Type

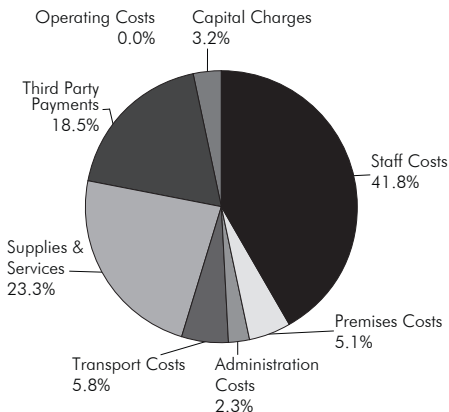
Service	Budget £'000	%
Staff Costs	308,697	41.8
Premises Costs	37,616	5.1
Administration Costs	16,738	2.3
Transport Costs	42,528	5.8
Supplies & Services	171,601	23.3
Third Party Payments	135,991	18.5
Operating Costs	6	0.0
Capital Charges	23,697	3.2
	736,874	100.0

Deduct:

Income - Fees & Charges	(37,522)
- Transfer Payments	(160,495)
Net Expenditure	538,857

Financed by:

Government Grants	325,719	60.4
Non-Domestic Rates	98,891	18.4
Council Tax	114,247	21.2
	538,857	100.0



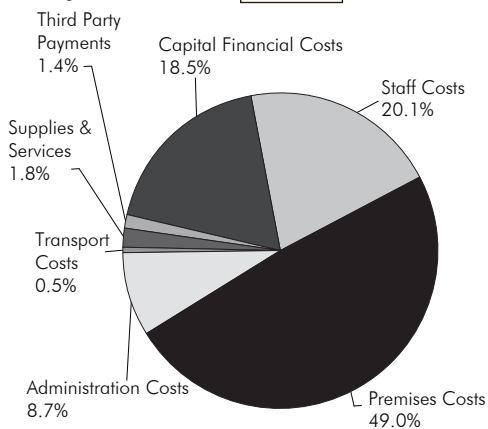
## Council Tax Levels in Scotland

Band D Charges	2008/09 £	2009/10 £
Aberdeen City	1,230	1,230
<b>Aberdeenshire</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1,141</b>
Angus	1,072	1,072
Argyll & Bute	1,178	1,178
Clackmannanshire	1,148	1,148
Dumfries & Galloway	1,049	1,049
Dundee City	1,211	1,211
East Ayrshire	1,189	1,189
East Dunbartonshire	1,142	1,142
East Lothian	1,118	1,118
East Renfrewshire	1,126	1,126
Edinburgh (City of)	1,169	1,169
Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	1,024	1,024
Falkirk	1,070	1,070
Fife	1,118	1,118
Glasgow City	1,213	1,213
Highland	1,163	1,163
Inverclyde	1,198	1,198
Midlothian	1,210	1,210
Moray	1,135	1,135
North Ayrshire	1,152	1,152
North Lanarkshire	1,098	1,098
Orkney	1,037	1,037
Perth & Kinross	1,158	1,158
Renfrewshire	1,165	1,165
Scottish Borders	1,084	1,084
Shetland	1,053	1,053
South Ayrshire	1,154	1,154
South Lanarkshire	1,101	1,101
Stirling	1,209	1,209
West Dunbartonshire	1,163	1,163
West Lothian	1,128	1,128

# Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

## HRA Summary Budget 2009/10

	<b>Budget £'000</b>	<b>%</b>
Staff Costs	8,724	20.1
Premises Costs	21,305	49.0
Administration Costs	3,773	8.7
Transport Costs	225	0.5
Supplies & Services	775	1.8
Third Party Payments	609	1.4
Capital Financial Costs	8,027	18.5
	<b>43,438</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Total Expenditure	43,438	
Total Income	(41,396)	
Deficit	<b>2,042</b>	
Improvement Fund		
Opening Balance	(23,005)	
Deficit Transferred	2,042	
Closing Balance	<b>(20,963)</b>	
HRA Working Balance	<b>2,000</b>	



# Capital Budget 2009/10

## **All Services (Excluding Housing Revenue Account)      £'000**

Fleet Vehicles and Quarry Plant	6,751
Education, Learning & Leisure	21,269
Personnel & ICT	2,390
Planning & Environmental Services	7,567
Housing & Social Work	8,126
Transportation & Infrastructure	40,223
	<b>86,326</b>

### **Financed By**

Borrowing	54,726
Capital Grant	24,704
Capital Receipts	6,896
	<b>86,326</b>

## **Housing Revenue Account      £'000**

Expenditure on Public Housing	<b>18,103</b>
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### **Financed By**

Capital Financed from Current Revenue	13,542
Usable Capital Receipts	4,561
	<b>18,103</b>

## Staffing Statistics

### Budgeted Number for 2009/10 (full time equivalent)

Service	No.	%
<b>Central Services</b>		
Chief Executive	73	0.7
Office Accommodation	12	0.1
Finance	284	2.8
Law & Administration	126	1.2
Members Support	2	0.0
<b>Personnel &amp; ICT</b>		
Personnel	95	0.9
ICT	125	1.2
<b>Education, Learning &amp; Leisure</b>	4,829	47.6
<b>Planning &amp; Environmental Services</b>		
Planning	180	1.8
Environmental Services	1,198	11.8
<b>Housing &amp; Social Work</b>		
Social Work	1,833	18.1
Housing	474	4.7
<b>Transportation &amp; Infrastructure</b>		
Transportation & Roads	157	1.5
Operations	603	5.9
Property	113	1.1
Economic Development	25	0.3
Landscape Services	35	0.3
	10,164	100.0

# Aberdeenshire Services

## Education

	<b>Schools/ Centres</b>	<b>Pupils</b>	<b>Teachers (FTE)</b>
Nursery	84	3,651	104
Primary	152	19,106	1,213
Secondary	17	15,176	1,274
Special Schools	4	560	254
Units for pupils with additional needs	51		
Community Centres	17		

## Recreation

Leisure Centres	12
Swimming Pools	14
Ski Facilities	2
Museums	12
Heritage Centres	3
Libraries	36
Libraries - Mobile	6

## Housing

No. of Council Houses	12,960
Average Weekly Rent (2008/09)	£49.03
(2009/10)	£50.56
Sheltered Houses	1,548

## Number of Tenants receiving Housing Benefits

Council	6,869
Private landlord	3,723

# Aberdeenshire Services

## Social Work

	No. of Centres	No. of Places	
Children's Homes	3	15	
Day Centres - Older People	19	952	person places per week
Homes - Adults with disabilities	7	1,990	person places per week
Care Homes - Older People	8	238	registered capacity
Homes - Adults with disabilities	1	14	registered capacity
Family Centres	10		

## Planning & Environmental Services

Total length of streets cleaned	6,618 miles
Refuse collection - No. of uplifts per week	54,016
Consumers/Traders enquiries	1,787
Premises with private water supply	11,671
Weights & Measures - Instrument Testing	3,177
Health & Safety - Premises Inspected	598
Animal Welfare - Farm Animal Holdings	8,084
Stray dogs uplifted	320
Food premises inspected	1,021
Food poisoning notifications	377
Workplace accidents investigated	85
Planning applications registered	3,981
Planning appeals processed	61
Building warrants registered	3,797
Completion certificates issued	3,175

## Sustainability

Energy - CO2 emissions from Council buildings	52,750 tonnes
Waste - Percentage of municipal waste which is recycled	30%
Waste - Percentage of municipal waste which is recycled	60%

## **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Council roads	3,400 miles
Bridges	1,323
Miles of footways	750
Car parks	108
Street lights	39,122
Harbours	7

## **Transportation**

Bus shelters	652
Taxi cards	3,844
Supported bus services	
Aberdeenshire Local	119
Registered School Transport Services	11

## **Property**

Industrial Sites & Business Parks	47
Businesses supported with loans or grants	24
Burial Grounds & Cemeteries	212
Play Areas	45
Country Parks	4

# **Glossary of Financial Terms**

## **Aggregate External Finance (AEF)**

funding determined by Central Government and out with council control. Allocated to each local authority by the Scottish Government to help finance the cost of services, AEF comprises Revenue Support Grant, Business Rate Income and Ring Fenced Grants.

## **Base Budget**

the cost of existing policies/services, before growth or reductions, expressed at a specified price base.

## **Budget**

quantifies in financial terms the policies of the authority; enables financial control to be exercised during the course of the financial year.

## **Capital**

expenditure on fixed assets which will be of use or benefit to the council beyond the year of account. Expenditure can be capitalised if it leads to the creation of an asset, lengthens its useful life, increases market value, or the extent to which it can be used for the purposes of the council. Normally financed from the sale of existing assets or by borrowing over a number of years.

## **Capital Budget**

the total cost of the capital projects which the council propose to undertake in a specified financial year.

## **Capital Financed from Current Revenue (CFCR)**

expenditure from within the Revenue Budget which is used to finance capital additions, at the council's discretion.

## **Capital Plan**

approved by Policy & Resources Committee, the Plan is a five year rolling programme reflecting Council policy, area needs and available capital funding.

## **Capital Receipts**

income from the sale of capital assets or income from capital grants.

## **Corporate Management**

involves all activities which Aberdeenshire Council engages in, over and above the provision of any single service, such as meetings of the council and local election expenses.

## **Deficit**

the shortfall of income compared with expenditure.

## **Financing Costs**

the cost of financing assets, including loan repayments, interest charges, leasing charges and debt management expenses.

## **General Fund**

the fund into which Revenue Support Grant, Business Rates and Council Tax are received and out of which revenue expenditure is met. Housing expenditure and house rents are excluded.

## **Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE)**

this is a figure that is calculated by the Scottish Government for each Council. It assesses the council's "need to spend" in relative terms to other Councils.

GAE calculations are prepared by using the Client Group Approach, a systematic means of allocating pre-determined levels of expenditure equitably among authorities. The total relative GAE is the sum of the separate assessments for individual services. The GAE estimates for each authority is used by the Scottish Government in the allocation of Aggregate External Finance (AEF).

## **Gross Expenditure**

the total cost of providing services before deducting income such as Specific Grants, rents, fees, charges etc.

## **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**

an entirely self-financing account, being met by rents from Council House tenants. It shows the expenditure and income associated with providing, managing and maintaining the authorities stock of public housing.

## **Revenue Expenditure**

the day-by-day running costs of services.

## **Revenue Support Grant (RSG)**

received from the Government to help finance the cost of council services.

## **Ring Fenced Grants**

grants from the Scottish Government that are directed to the provision of a particular service.

## **Three-year Budgeting**

the preparation of budget for three years, which allows the council to plan ahead for more than one year and to see clearly the impact of decisions made in year one on years two and three.

## **Transfer Payments**

relate to subsidies and contributions from other bodies such as Health Boards, and income from the council's trading activities.

## **Working Balance**

an amount held to meet any expenses which may fall due before the money to be received, in respect of Council Tax for the next financial year, will become available.