

Wales Budget 2022–2025

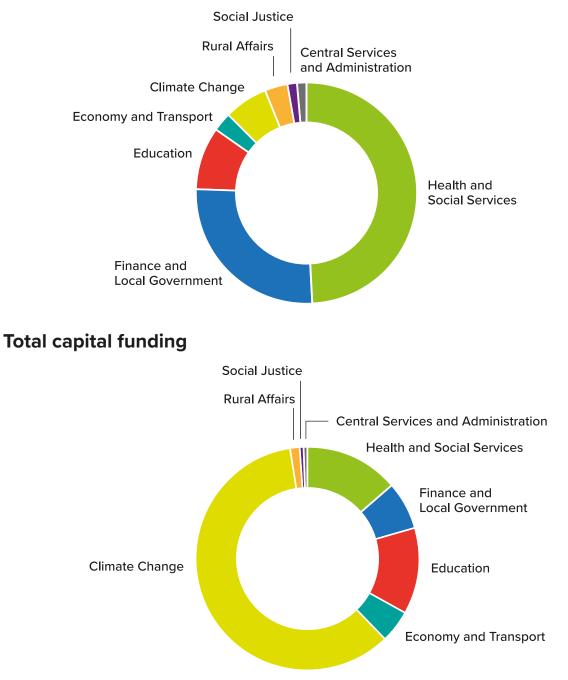


How does the Welsh Government spend your money?

- Wales has its own government which decides how it will spend your money each year to improve people's lives.
- The Finance Minister, Rebecca Evans, sets out these decisions in the Budget.
- The money spent in Wales is raised in taxes from people and businesses. We have rules over the way we can spend money.
- Some of these taxes are raised by the Welsh Government. 18p out of every £1 we spend in Wales comes from Welsh taxes.
- The other taxes are raised by the UK Government and apply to the whole of the UK, including Wales.
- For the first time since 2017 we can provide money for the next 3 years across our whole budget. We are planning to spend over £60 billion up to 2024–25.
- Between April 2022 and 31 March 2023 we plan to spend almost £22 billion.
- This money is used to deliver vital public services in Wales and respond to important issues like climate change.

How are we planning to spend the money for Wales over the next 3 years?

Additional revenue funding



Capital and Revenue are words you'll hear as we talk about the Welsh Government Budget

'Revenue' funding is money that we can use to spend on things like running schools and hospitals, or helping businesses and charities that help people or look after our environment.

'Capital' funding is money we can use to spend on things like buildings, houses, roads, energy projects like wind turbines, new hospitals and schools.

Health and Social Services

Additional revenue funding – **£1.5 billion** Total capital funding – **£1.1 billion**

Paying for all the doctors, nurses and dentists who look after us, as well as improving our hospitals, medicines and other ways we can stay healthy.

The COVID 19 pandemic has had a big impact on all of us. We value those people who work in our hospitals to treat people and help us to stay healthy and cared for. We want to make sure that we keep looking after the people who do this by spending money to protect them.

Just over half of the Budget is spent on health and social services with most of the additional money that we can spend on day to day things going to our National Health Service (NHS). This money will protect our NHS, so it can continue to help everyone in Wales if they get ill and to support our recovery from the pandemic. We are also spending extra money to help improve how social care works in Wales. We want to make sure that people whose job it is to look after others are also looked after themselves in a career which is fair and fulfilling.

It is important to us that our minds are healthy, as well as our bodies, and so we are investing extra money in prioritising mental health and wellbeing.

Our investment in capital spend will make sure that our recovery is supported by the best possible facilities in our NHS, this includes our hospitals and surgeries as well as the digital technology that we need.

Finance and Local Government

Additional revenue funding – **£800 million*** Total capital funding – **£560 million**

Money for local authorities to pay for schools, those who look after other people – both young and old, and to do lots of other things that are really important for the areas we all live in.

We are providing the most money we can to help local authorities do things that really matter where people live.

Local authorities will get more money next year to make sure we have schools and teachers, people to look after others when they need help, and to pay for the things people use in their local areas, like libraries, leisure centres and parks.

* This number includes money we get as a result of non-domestic rates. This is a tax collected from businesses in your area and across Wales. The money is used by local authorities to spend on important services in your community.

Education

Additional revenue funding – **£280 million** Total capital funding – **£1 billion**

Making sure everyone can learn the things they need to help them in life and to find a job, no matter where they come from.

We know that the virus has affected how children and young people learn, whether they are in schools, colleges or universities in Wales.

This Budget will spend additional money over the next three years to make sure that education in Wales is accessible for everyone and that we continue to improve how we deliver it.

We are spending more to make sure children in school can get the help they need to 'catch up' on their education. This builds on the work we've carried out so far on our exciting new Curriculum in Wales, which is the information that teachers use to teach the skills needed for life and work.

We will make sure that education is fair for everyone, to support those who need it most. This support covers 'every-day' costs such as school uniform, equipment for sports and activities outside of the school day.

Economy and Transport

Additional revenue funding – **£80 million** Total capital funding – **£390 million**

How we help people to increase skills and get jobs.

We are doing all that we can to help people to broaden their skills and fulfil their potential. We want to do this in a way that is fair and increases life chances for everyone.

We will be investing over the next three years to support schemes such as our 'Young Person's Guarantee' – making sure that everyone between the ages of 16-24 can access help linked to work, education, training or becoming self-employed. Also, our 'Personal Learning Accounts', which will help people acquire new skills to improve their opportunities.

How we value and celebrate our rich heritage and culture.

We want to see a stronger Wales and we understand just how much our culture, language, tourism and sports can have a positive effect on how we feel and our mental health. We are investing to help support recovery from the pandemic in particular areas and to improve how we access and participate in activities in our communities.

We are also investing to push towards a million Welsh speakers, and to make sure our tourism, sports and arts industries can thrive.

The way we travel.

We are spending a lot of money to help protect the way we travel, particularly buses and trains. Many of us need these to go to different places, like school and work, or to visit new places.

We want to invest money in ways which strengthen and protect the Wales in which we live. This money will enable us to improve our train and bus services and will include a new 'metro' for South Wales.

Climate Change

Additional revenue funding – **£200 million** Total capital funding – **£4.8 billion**

How we will play our part to make sure we face a greener future.

As a world we face a climate and nature emergency which demands an urgent response.

This year, we will set out how we plan to spend our money over the next ten years to invest in infrastructure – this includes buildings like schools and hospitals, and how we travel, such as trains and railway tracks. We are doing this at the same time as we publish our Budget to show how focusing the money we spend over the long term can help us to achieve a zero-carbon economy in the future, and improve the lives of people in Wales.

A really important part of this plan is focusing our money on how to best respond to the climate and nature emergency, strengthening the link between how we invest in Wales and how we tackle the climate and nature crisis.

This will include spending money on building new schools and improving those we already have so we can meet our net-zero targets. We will also spend to improve our hospitals and surgeries to allow better access to doctors, nurses, dentists and other health professionals.

Other projects will focus on our natural environment, for example we're spending money to create a National Forest which will reach from the top of Wales right to the bottom.

We will continue to spend to increase 'active travel' – this means making journeys by being physically active, like walking or cycling. Doing more of this can help us to become more healthy and happy. It can also help to make the air we breathe cleaner if there are less cars on the road.

Rural Affairs

Additional revenue funding – **£100 million** Total capital funding – **£110 million**

How we support our farmers.

It is really important that we work with our farmers to make sure that the land in Wales can support and strengthen farming whilst also protecting the nature around us. We also recognise how important family farms are in Wales.

This funding will create new ways to support farming. We will help to improve I.T systems and place a new focus on how we produce and sell food. We believe that by doing this we will help to make our communities stronger and provide more opportunities for working together within those communities.

Social Justice

Additional revenue funding – **£40 million** Total capital funding – **£50 million**

Making sure support is provided where it's needed most.

In our mission to create a more equal society, we have promised to try something new and different in Wales by spending to introduce a new **Basic Income Scheme**.

We also want to celebrate diversity and recognise the rich voices throughout Wales, therefore we are investing in delivering the outcomes of the Race Equality Action Plan, the Disability Rights Taskforce, the LGBTQ+ Action plan and all other plans we have in place to ensure these voices are heard.

Central Services and Administration

Additional revenue funding – **£40 million** Total capital funding – **£30 million**

Making the Welsh Government sustainable for the future.

Alongside other organisations that provide public services in Wales, we need to make sure that the Welsh Government is ready for the future. Money pays for staff costs, I.T and the Welsh Government buildings.

As part of our future, we need to learn from the past and we are spending money to make sure we can learn important lessons about how we have responded to the pandemic.

Money will also be spent to understand more about what is needed for the future of Wales. This includes how we contribute to the rest of the UK and how power and resources is shared between us. These are important questions to ask, particularly now as we have left the EU and continue to respond to the pandemic. We need to make sure that we are doing what is right for the people living in Wales.

To find out more about how we spend this money visit our website

https://gov.wales/welsh-government-budgets where you'll find each area organised by topic. We want to know what you think about how the money we get in Wales is spent. Write to the Minister in charge of something you are interested in and tell them what you think we should be spending the money on.

Here's a link showing what each Minister is in charge of. Click on their name to find out: https://gov.wales/cabinet-members-and-ministers

Here's a link to the Ministers' email addresses:

https://gov.wales/contacting-welsh-government-ministers