



The draft Green budget for  
Brighton & Hove City Council



**Green Party**

**Fair is worth fighting for**

[brightonhovegreens.org](http://brightonhovegreens.org)

# sewIL qhnoL ni A Fair City Budget

## What's in the City's first Green Budget?

On 1st December Green councillors published their draft budget for the next two years. Here's what they propose to do in the face of massive government imposed cuts.

Greens would protect:

- The new Living Wage of £7.19/ hour for council staff
- Support for carers & respite care
- Frontline mental health services
- Keeping fair access to adult social services
- Services to help stop homelessness
- Funding for community groups
- Services for disabled children
- Funding to enhance local communities
- Libraries from closure

Greens will re-prioritise budgets to:

- Give an extra £300k to community-run youth services
- Test a home food waste collection service
- Protect our green spaces through a renewed Downland Initiative
- Support council initiatives to make us the UK's greenest city
- Minimise council job losses & protect the local economy

Find out more inside or by visiting [www.brightonhovegreens.org](http://www.brightonhovegreens.org)

Promoted by Nigel Tart, on behalf of Brighton & Hove Green Party, all at 39-41 Surrey Street,

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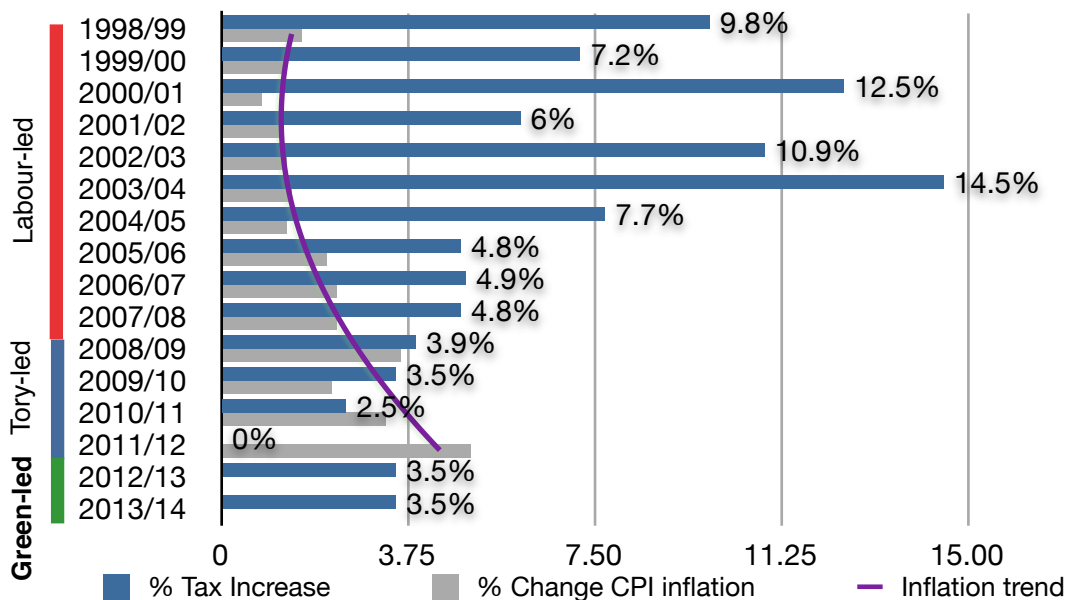
## Protecting Frontline Services for just 57p more per Week

Despite rising inflation, Greens are proposing **one of the lowest council tax increases in local history** (see graph). We believe a small steady increase, worth just 57p more a week to the average home, is fair, protects key services and is more sensible than Tory gimmicks.

### NO TORY GIMMICKS

Tory ministers have proposed a one-off tax freeze gimmick. This Tory trickery would lose the council £5.4m of income which Greens plan to use protecting services for vulnerable children & adults, and could mean a tax rise of about 8% the year after.

Track the history of council tax rises by ruling party in our city



### Safer with the Greens: What does 57p more tax a week get me?

- Care for vulnerable & disabled children, and support for their carers
- Looking after the elderly & vulnerable, and support for their carers too
- Parks, seafront, museums, libraries, downland and playing fields
- Action on noisy neighbours
- Children's centres, childcare directory and toy libraries
- Checks on pubs, clubs & restaurants
- Bus passes for the elderly & disabled, sustainable transport for all
- Street cleaning, bin collections and recycling... and much more...

## Making Every Penny Count

As we fight to resist the Conservative-led government's unprecedented cuts on government funding, every penny counts. Greens are working hard to ensure your council is efficient so that we can put as much money as possible into key frontline services. Over the next two years we will reduce spending by £35m through savings and new income.

### Your cash being made to work harder

**£2.5m**

savings from consolidating council offices over the life of this council term

**£400k**

saved from more efficient management of the Waste PFI contract

**£400k**

saved from fixed price bus contracts

**£372k**

saved from efficiencies in IT

**£300k**

saved by improved ways of treating VAT

**£200k**

saved through reduced senior exec pay

**£150k**

to support sustainability initiatives which reduce emissions & save money

**£205k**

saved through efficiencies & new income in the finance dept

**£150k**

estimated income from auctioning the Mayor's custom number plate to fund community grants

**£120k**

new income from more efficient tax collection



### Ways to have your say...

- Tweet or blog with the #bhbudget tag
- Write to your councillors - find them at writetothem.com
- Try the budget simulator at [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/budget](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/budget)
- Have a budget discussion at your local community association meeting

For much more detailed information, frequently asked questions & more, visit our website or get in touch...  
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