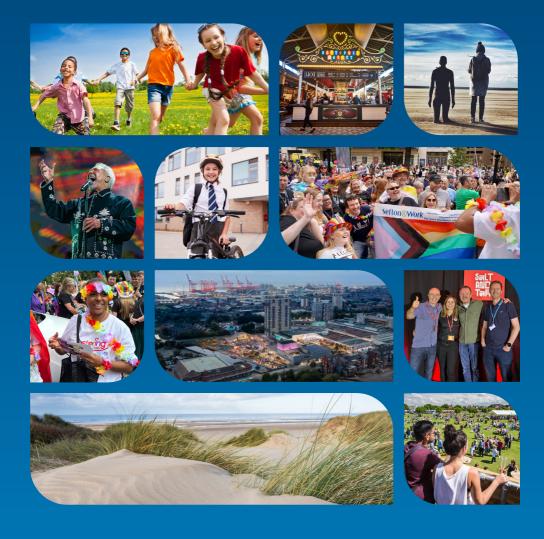


# Service information and help with your council tax



#### Introduction from the Leader

Welcome to this year's council tax booklet, which provides an overview of where our money is spent as well as useful service information. We know that it is a difficult time for many of our residents as we all face increasing costs for the things we need in our everyday lives so we've also set out the help and support available, which you can read below. Our commitment is to provide the best value services we can and focus on the things that matter to you. We will continue to be ambitious for Sefton and you can see more on our priorities on pages 6 and 7.



Cllr. Marion Atkinson
Labour Leader, Sefton Council

All this help and support is available at sefton.gov.uk/costofliving.



You can get free computer, internet and wi-fi access at any of our libraries or if you prefer, you can call us on 0345 140 0845.



Welfare Benefits – check if you're entitled to any benefits



Emergency Funds – we can support with urgent help to buy essentials



Help with Rent



Cost of Living Payments



Help with Council Tax – you may be eligible for reductions



Financial Advice



Fuel Bills and Energy Saving



Sefton's Warm Spaces network



Free School Meals



Childcare and maternity costs



Foodbanks and Food Pantries



Jobs and Volunteering

#### **Council Tax discounts and exemptions**

The most common discount is 25% off your bill for people who live alone.

You may also be able to claim a 25% discount if you are the only person living with any of the following:

- Full time students, student nurses, apprentices and youth trainees
- Severely mentally impaired people
- 18 or 19-year-olds who are still at school or college, or have just left school or college
- Anyone caring for someone with a disability who is not their spouse, partner, civil partner or child under 18
- A 50% discount is available for non-dependent relatives occupying annexes which are part of a larger property



Worried about a child or young person? Think they may be at risk of neglect or harm or need a social worker?

Sefton
Family Hubs

Our Family Hubs are open to support you and your family

> We have a network of Family Hubs across Sefton where you can find support or simply pop in for a cuppa and a chat.

#### You can get support in areas like:

Parenting, speech and language, health, mental health, sexual health education, training, early learning, relationships, counselling, loneliness, trauma, welfare, benefits, debt advice, housing support, community events, clubs, activities all in one place - find the support when you need it!

You can find our locations, timetables and contact details at www.sefton.gov.uk/familyhubs



Scan for more information



Find support from FAST on 0151 934 4545

If you or a family you know need support from our Early Help Service, Sefton Family Advice and Support Team (FAST) can help with parenting, managing conflict, family life and more.

#### **REGISTER TO VOTE**

**Paying Council Tax does not register you to vote.** You can register to vote at **gov.uk/register-to-vote** 



#### **SEFTON COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

The next Sefton Council Elections will be held on 7 May 2026, when every seat is up for re-election following a boundary review.



Domestic abuse can happen to anyone of any gender, age, race, religion or sexual orientation.

If you or someone you care about has any concerns within their relationships, please call the Sefton Domestic Abuse Helpline 0151 394 1400 or visit www.sefton.gov.uk/domesticabuse for free, confidential advice and support.



Help is available to everyone in Sefton.

## A new plan for Sefton

#### Our priorities reflect what people have told us is important to them:



#### **Children & Young People**

▶ Sefton is an inclusive child-friendly borough where children and families thrive. Children will be at the heart of everything we do.



#### **Health & Wellbeing**

▶ Improving the health and wellbeing of everyone in Sefton and reduce inequality.



#### **Adult Social Care**

▶ Empowering people to live an independent life, exercise choice and control, and be fully informed.



#### **Inclusive Growth**

▶ Creating more and better jobs for local people and expanding housing and regeneration efforts to stimulate job creation while improving living standards for residents.



#### **Working for Our Communities Every Day**

▶ Working together to deliver affordable services which achieve the best possible outcomes for our communities.



#### **Financial Sustainability**

▶ Delivering a balanced budget and ensuring we provide value for money on the services we deliver.

You can read the new corporate plan by searching 'Sefton Corporate Plan'

We know everyone in Sefton wants the best for our borough so over the last few months we've launched a new Corporate Plan to show a real ambition for the place we call home.



Increasing local provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - we have created more than 100 places in Sefton schools this academic year.



We continue to prioritise mental health support for our residents and launched a 'We're Here' campaign to support those most in need.



We're expanding our occupational therapy mobile clinic to seven days per week to ensure residents get quicker access to aids to keep them safe at home.



Major work taking place to transform Bootle and Southport town centres to create more jobs and boost the local economy.



We know cleaner streets is a priority for residents – we will continue to take pride in our borough and encourage everyone to do the same.



We're investing in areas that matter most while balancing our books. This year has seen the first council housing for a generation in Sefton and we are committed to building more.

or scan this QR code. •





# Looking for work? Help with training or education?

We offer 1:1 Advice and Guidance

**Work Placements** 

**Volunteering opportunities** 

Skills and experience

**Jobs and Training** 



Find us in The Strand, Bootle, or Cambridge Arcade, Southport

Call: 0151 934 2610 or visit: www.seftonatwork.net













MORE MORE MORE

ONE MEMBERSHIP SIX LOCATIONS

**Crosby** Lakeside **Dunes** Splash World

**Bootle** Leisure Centre **Litherland** Sports Park **Meadows** Leisure Centre **Netherton** Activity Centre







active sefton





### What goes in each bin?



**Brown bin/ hessian sack** - Plastic bottles, cardboard boxes/ packaging, glass bottles and jars, food tins, drinks cans, paper.



No bagged waste in the recycling- this cannot be recycled.



**Grey bin/ refuse sack** - non-recyclable household waste





**Green bin** - garden waste, grass clippings, tree and shrub clippings, dead flowers, leaves



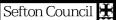
If you would like more information on what you can recycle, please visit: recycleright.org.uk



Bulky household items, including sofas, beds, fridges and furniture should be disposed of properly, and not dumped in rear alleys or fly tipped.

Options for disposing of bulky household items include:

- **Donate furniture to charity** Contact British Heart Foundation, Emmaus and Age Concern to see if they will accept your preloved items.
- ▶ A bulky item collection service is available for residential properties. For more details on accepted items and collection information, please visit the Sefton Council website or call our contact centre.



Get the latest news straight to your inbox.

Scan the QR code with your smart phone

## **Paperless** billing

Sign up today and access your bills 24 hours a day, report changes and manage your account online.



Sefton Council # sefton.gov.uk/counciltax/myaccount

# Where does every £100 of your Council Tax go?

