

South Lanarkshire Budget Consultation 2024-2025

South Lanarkshire Council is in the process of setting its budget for 2024-25. In line with local authorities across Scotland, we are facing unprecedented financial challenges, with a £70.6 million budget gap in the next two years.

Put simply, we no longer have the funding available to provide the same number and level of services we have provided in previous years. This means some truly difficult decisions must be made around what we can afford to do.

This will mean deciding what services can be adapted or cut so they cost less. It may also mean deciding what services we have to stop providing at all.

This is not a situation that anyone wants to be in. South Lanarkshire Council is a high-performing council and we are proud of the work we do with, and for, our communities, especially the young, the old and the most vulnerable.

But while the Scottish Government's revenue budget has gone up by 8.3% since 2013-14, local government has been squeezed.

In fact, when 'ringfenced' funding that is awarded to councils to carry out specific tasks required by the Scottish Government is removed from the calculations, local government revenue funding has fallen by 9.6% in the last decade.

This has inevitable consequences, and in the next two financial years the council will need to find ways to overcome a budget gap of more than £70 million. Every year during the budget process we ask our residents for their views, so we can share them with the councillors who will make the final decisions

Given the difficult financial position, we need your input more than ever. To help protect the services that mean the most to you and allow your voice to be heard, we would be grateful if you can tell us what you think are acceptable changes we can make to ensure we can keep delivering them.

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

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