

Dave Davis welcomes confirmation of biggest funding boost for local councils in a decade

Dave Davis, Conservative candidate for Shevington ward, has welcomed the Government's confirmation that Knowsley will see its budget increased by 6.8% this year, part of the Conservatives' commitment to level up local services across the country.

Local authorities across the country, including Knowsley, will receive a share of £49.2 billion local government funding this year – a 4.4 per cent real terms increase and the largest year-on-year real terms increase in a decade. Funding for key public services in will be protected, with significant extra resources dedicated to areas where they are needed most. Thanks to the investment being made by the Conservatives, Knowsley will have an extra £ 10.4 million to spend this year.

The latest Local Government Finance Settlement, which was confirmed by Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick in February, includes an additional £1.5 billion for social care. When added to the existing social care package, local authorities will now have access to over £5.5 billion of dedicated funding across adult and children's social care in 2020-21.

Local authorities will also be rewarded for building new homes, with another £907 million committed to the New Homes Bonus scheme for 2020-21 to encourage development that benefit local communities.

Thanks to measures taken by the Conservatives, local authorities will be able to prevent excessive Council Tax rises – striking the right balance between the interests of council taxpayers and addressing pressures on services.

Commenting, Dave Davis said:

"Local authorities play a vital role in our communities, providing the crucial local services that people rely on every day.

"I am delighted that the Conservative Government has confirmed Knowsley will have additional funding this year, which will help our local leaders make positive change in the area.

"The Conservatives were elected on a promise to level up local communities across the whole country, and with this funding increase, we can start to do exactly that, ensuring everyone lives in a community they can be proud of."

ENDS

For more information please contact Dave Davis, Knowsley Conservative Association, 33 The Park, Huyton, Knowsley L36 5SU.

Notes to Editors

- **Giving local authorities a 4.4 per cent real-terms increase in the Core Spending Power, helping them to deliver quality local services.** Core Spending Power will increase from £46.2 billion in 2019-20 to £49.2 billion in 2020-21 (MHCLG, *Final local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021*, 6 February 2020, [link](#)).
- **Giving local authorities access to an additional £1.5 billion for social care.** We want to build a cross-party consensus on social care, and will do all we can to support local authorities in the meantime. We

will provide an extra £1 billion of additional grant for both adult and children’s social care and a proposed 2 per cent council tax precept for adult social care, which will enable councils to access a further £500 million (MHCLG, *Final local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021*, 6 February 2020, [link](#)).

- **Rewarding local authorities who build the homes we desperately need.** We have committed £907 million to continue the New Homes Bonus scheme in 2020-21, which financially rewards local authorities for the number of new homes they build locally, incentivising housing growth and creating homes for local residents (MHCLG, *Final local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021*, 6 February 2020, [link](#)).
- **Maintaining the Rural Services Delivery Grant at its highest ever level – to deliver fairness for all communities.** The Rural Services Delivery Grant is £81 million, the highest it has ever been (MHCLG, *Final local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021*, 6 February 2020, [link](#)).
- **Preventing excessive council tax rises.** Local residents will have the power to veto excessive Council Tax rises, with a referendum being required if local authorities propose raising the tax above 2 per cent, with extra flexibility for some authority types (MHCLG, *Final local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021*, 6 February 2020, [link](#)).

Annex: Figures by Local Authority

Figures below denote core spending power by local authority in 2020-21 compared to 2019-20.

Local Authority	Core Spending Power 2019-20 (£ million)	Core Spending Power 2020-21 (£ million)	Spending Power Increase (£ million)	Percentage increase
Knowsley	153.2	163.6	10.4	6.8