

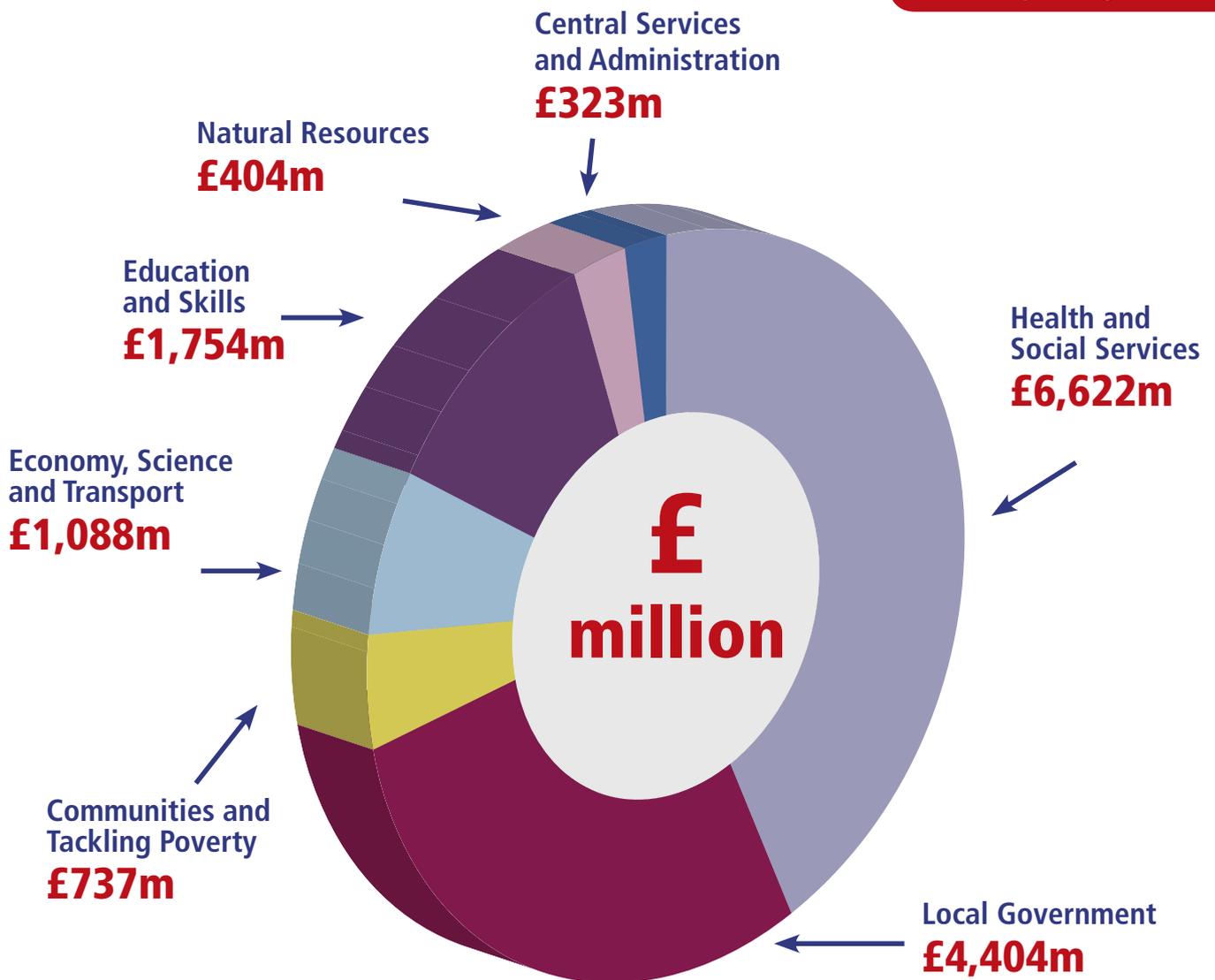
# Our Draft Budget 2015-2016

## How will the Welsh Government spend the money for Wales?



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

[www.cymru.gov.uk](http://www.cymru.gov.uk)



Wales has its own Government - making policies and laws for our country. The Welsh Government has the power to make decisions in many areas such as education; health; transport; the environment and housing.

The Welsh Government set out in the 'Programme for Government' how it aims to improve people's lives. It has just over £15 billion each year to spend and decides how best to spend this money in line with the promises it made in the Programme for Government. The money available has been reducing over the last few years but we are still on track to meet our commitments. Each Autumn, Jane Hutt, the Minister for Finance and Government Business, publishes a Draft Budget which sets out how the Welsh Government intends to spend the money available for the following year.

On 30 September 2014 the Minister for Finance and Government Business published the Draft Budget 2015-16 which covers the financial year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

## Our main goal is to deliver the 'Priorities for Wales' which are:

- **Growth and Jobs** – to make it easier for businesses to create jobs, now and in the future. An important way that Government can help create jobs is by investing in buildings and infrastructure. The Budget includes support for schemes worth over £1 billion in total, with £90 million to be spent in 2015-16.
- **Health** – to ensure that there is better health for all and reduced health inequalities. In our Draft Budget we are spending an extra £425 million on health over two years, including £200 million in 2014-15.
- **Schools** – to help everyone reach their potential we are protecting the money we give to schools. We are also increasing the Pupil Deprivation Grant from £918 to £1050 per eligible pupil, to help make sure everyone can do their best.
- **Protecting the vulnerable** – to create a fair society and help those who suffer most when we are in difficult times. We are giving local authorities an extra £10 million to spend on social services.
- **Universal Benefits** – to ensure access to vital services such as free prescriptions and free primary school breakfasts and milk. These budgets continue to grow. We are introducing a new scheme to give cheap bus travel to 16 and 17 year olds.
- **Early intervention** – wherever possible, using our money today to reduce the need to spend in the future. For example, the Welsh Government plans to spend £77 million on the Flying Start programme, to give children the best start in life.

## The Welsh Government is proposing to spend its budget as follows:

### Health and Social Services

**£6,622 million**

This includes money to:

- Provide doctors, dentists and nurses, who help keep us healthy.
- Improve hospitals.
- Fund some of the care services for children and the elderly.

#### Did you know?

We are spending £4.9m to help people make healthy choices - like eating the right things and stopping smoking. This can stop them needing hospital treatment in the future

### Local Government

**£4,404 million**

This includes money to:

- Fund council services including schools, social services and rubbish collection.
- Support for leisure centres.

#### Did you know?

We are spending £5.1m to help stop Domestic Abuse - which can save money elsewhere, such as in courts and in hospitals

## Communities and Tackling Poverty

**£737 million**

This includes money to:

- Help achieve a fairer future for all.
- Help children to get the best start in life.
- Build new affordable homes and improve the quality of existing homes.
- Bring empty houses in Wales back into use.
- Make improvements to our town centres.
- Help people to live in their homes for longer.

### Did you know?

We are spending £11.3m to help stop people becoming homeless. This is better than finding them a new home when they are homeless

## Economy, Science and Transport

**£1,088 million**

This includes money to:

- Create jobs in Wales.
- Improve our roads, rail and bus services.
- Improve our walking and cycling routes.
- Encourage everyone to do more exercise.
- Look after our castles and historic buildings.
- Give free entry to national museums.

### Did you know?

The Welsh Government will spend £5m on a scheme to allow 16 and 17 year olds to travel on the bus cheaper

## Education and Skills

**£1,754 million**

This includes money to:

- Help young Welsh people to study in college or university.
- Build and maintain schools.
- Improve standards in schools.
- Provide funding to colleges and universities.
- Encourage people to use the Welsh language.
- Improve the skills of young people so that they can get a job.

### Did you know?

The Welsh Government has increased the money for schools by £105.9m since 2010-11

## Natural Resources

**£404 million**

This includes money to:

- Support rural communities and agriculture.
- Protect our buildings from damage caused by floods and the sea.
- Make better use of our energy and water.
- Recycle more rubbish and waste.
- Tackle climate change.
- Promote food produced in Wales.
- Implement and improve the way we manage our seas.

### Did you know?

Every year in Wales we throw away 4m tonnes of rubbish. That's enough to fill the Millennium Stadium every 20 days. The Welsh Government is investing nearly £80m in 2015-16 to help reduce waste going to landfill

## Central Services and Administration

**£323 million**

This money is used to enable the running of the Welsh Government and includes funding for staff, IT services and the Welsh Government buildings.

It also includes money to:

- Raise the profile of Wales across the world.
- Encourage Wales to be a Fair Trade Country.

### Did you know?

The Welsh Government will spend £21.3m helping organisations across Wales to save money through its Invest-to-Save Fund

**Every pound we spend can have an impact on your life**

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

**[www.wales.gov.uk](http://www.wales.gov.uk)**

**where you'll find each area organised by topic**