



## What is Council Tax?

Council Tax is a tax local authorities charge to raise money to pay for their services.

Almost every household has to pay Council Tax, whether your home is a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home or houseboat, and whether you own or rent it.

Each property is put into one of eight bands, depending on how much it was worth on 1 April 1991.

Your Council Tax bill shows the band your home is in.

We (Tendring District Council) collect your Council Tax and put it into a separate fund called the collection fund. We share this fund with Essex County Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire and the Parish and Town Councils.

| Valuation band | Value of property on 1 April 1991 |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Band A         | £40,000 or less                   |
| Band B         | £40,001 to £52,000                |
| Band C         | £52,001 to £68,000                |
| Band D         | £68,001 to £88,000                |
| Band E         | £88,001 to £120,000               |
| Band F         | £120,001 to £160,000              |
| Band G         | £160,001 to £320,000              |
| Band H         | More than £320,000                |

This year we need to collect £88 million in Council Tax. Every £1 of Council Tax is shared in the following way.



- Essex County Council use Council Tax to pay for services such as social services, highways and libraries.
- We use Council Tax to help pay for services such as collecting rubbish, planning, leisure services and improving facilities for our community.

\* These are averages across all the Parish and Town Councils.

## Who has to pay Council Tax?

Council Tax is charged for every domestic dwelling in the country.

In most cases the person (or people) aged 18 or over nearest the top of the following list will be responsible for paying Council Tax:

- Owner-occupiers
- Leaseholders
- Tenants
- People who have a licence to occupy
- Residents with no legal interest in the property
- People who own the property but don't live in it.

People such as joint tenants and couples are jointly and severally liable for all the Council Tax for their dwelling.

## Adult Social Care

In relation to the year beginning in 2020 and any subsequent year, the following statement—

The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities. ("Adult social care authorities" are local authorities which have functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014, namely county councils in England, district councils for an area in England for which there is no county council, London borough councils, the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly.)

The offer was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its council tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.

## How to pay

Information on various payment methods and your options for instalment plans is available on the back of your bill and on our website.

[www.tendringdc.gov.uk/council-tax/pay](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/council-tax/pay)

## People with Disabilities

The Disabled Band Reduction scheme makes sure disabled people don't pay more Council Tax if they need a bigger property, or have adapted their home because of their disability.

You may qualify if your property has

- A room which is mainly used by a disabled resident and is essential, or of major importance to their welfare; or
- An extra bathroom or extra kitchen which is necessary to meet the needs of the disabled resident; or
- Enough floor space to use a wheelchair. The disabled resident must need to use their wheelchair indoors.

## Empty Properties/Second Homes

There is usually a full charge for unoccupied properties, whether they are furnished or unfurnished. Some unoccupied properties can receive an exemption. Details about exemptions can be found later in this leaflet.

## If Your Circumstances Change

If you claim a Council Tax discount, exemption or Local Council Tax Support, you must inform us immediately about any change in your circumstances which may affect your entitlement.

**A £70 penalty notice will be issued to anyone who either fails to inform the Council within 21 days of any relevant change in circumstances or provides false information to obtain any Council Tax discount or exemption.**

## Discounts

A full Council Tax bill is based on at least two adults living in your home. You will get 25% off the bill for your main home if you live alone, or are the only person living in the property who is counted for Council Tax purposes.

These people are not counted for Council Tax:

- Children under 18
- People on some apprentice schemes
- 18 and 19 year olds in full-time education
- Full-time college and university students
- Young people under 25 who get funding from the Skills Funding Agency or Young Peoples Learning Agency
- Student nurses
- Foreign language assistants registered with the British Council
- People with a severe mental disability
- Live-in carers who look after someone who isn't their partner, spouse or child
- Diplomats
- Members of International Headquarters and Defence Organisations
- Members of religious communities
- People in prison or detained under the Mental Health Act.

## Repairs or Alterations

A property may receive a 100% discount for up to 12 months if it requires or is undergoing structural alterations.

In case of repairs, a further 6 month discount can be granted after the works are completed, as long as the total duration of both discounts does not exceed 12 months and the property remains unfurnished and unoccupied.

Further details are available on our website:

[www.tendringdc.gov.uk/council-tax/discounts](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/council-tax/discounts)

## Reductions for Annexes

A 50% reduction in Council Tax applies for people living in annexes provided they are related to the person liable to pay Council Tax on the main dwelling.

The reduction also applies for people living in dwellings with annexes which are unoccupied provided they are using the annexe as part of their main residence.

## Exemptions for Unoccupied Properties

- B. Unoccupied dwellings owned by charities - up to 6 months only
- D. Unoccupied because the taxpayer is in prison or detained under The Mental Health Act
- E. Unoccupied because the taxpayer has moved to a care home or hospital
- F. Unoccupied when the owner has died and the property has to be sold to clear the debts of the estate or the deceased did not leave a will. The exemption can only apply for up to 6 months after probate or letters of administration have been granted
- G. Occupation is prohibited by law
- H. Empty dwelling being held for a Minister of Religion
- I. Unoccupied by a person receiving care
- J. Unoccupied by a person providing care elsewhere
- K. Unoccupied by students
- L. Repossessed properties
- Q. Property left empty by a bankrupt
- R. Unoccupied caravan pitches and boat moorings
- T. Is part of a property that also includes another home and cannot be let separately due to planning restrictions.

## Exemptions for Occupied Properties

- M. College/university halls of residence
- N. Property solely occupied by full time students
- O. Armed forces accommodation
- P. Visiting forces accommodation
- S. All occupants are aged under 18
- U. Property occupied solely by those who are severely mentally impaired
- V. Diplomats property
- W. Annex occupied by a dependant relative.

## Local Council Tax Support (LCTS)

Local Council Tax Support is a reduction of your council tax bill based on:

- Your income
- The size of your family
- Other adults living with you
- The amount of Council Tax you have to pay

In general, the lower your income the more the bill can be reduced by Local Council Tax Support. Everyone of working age will have to pay at least 20% of their bill.

Other adults (non-dependants) who live with you may be expected to help you pay the Council tax. This means you may get less help from Local Council Tax Support.

The rules for Local Council Tax Support are different depending on whether you are:

- Working age
- Pension age

For more information about Local Council Tax Support, and to find out whether you are eligible please visit [www.tendringdc.gov.uk](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk)

Your Local Authority may prosecute or impose a sanction if you give false information when applying for a Council Tax Reduction, or if you don't tell the Local Authority about a change in your circumstances which affects your award within 21 days of the change taking place.

In some cases the Local Authority may not prosecute you but may impose a sanction which could include asking you to pay a penalty.

The £70 fixed penalty is in addition to repaying any Council Tax Reduction you shouldn't have received.



## Fraud

### Not Every Person is Honest

Do you know of anyone who is currently trying to abuse the system by falsely claiming a Council Tax discount (including Local Council Tax Support) or an exemption?

Funding has been cut for the Council, but help us to prevent further cuts to **your** Council services by stopping those individuals who are not fully paying their way.

If you do have any suspicions contact us anonymously

Telephone on 0800 1697 004 or  
E-mail [fraud.hotline@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:fraud.hotline@tendringdc.gov.uk) or  
complete an online referral by visiting the Council's website on <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/benefits/fraud>

All the information you provide us with will be treated in the strictest confidence, and can be anonymous.

***Tendring District Council is  
dedicated to tackling any form of  
Fraud.***

### **WARNING — FRAUD**

*You will have to pay back any overpayment in all circumstances. If the Council feels a serious offence has been committed in relation to Local Council Tax Support you can be interviewed under caution. This could result in the Council prosecuting you or you being offered a caution or an Administrative Penalty (fined up to 50% of the original total overpayment).*

## How do I appeal?

### Valuation appeals

If you think your home should be in a different valuation band, please contact the **Valuation Office Agency** (not us).

You can contact the VOA at any time using [www.gov.uk/contact-voa](http://www.gov.uk/contact-voa) to find the relevant details. If you cannot use the online service, call 03000 501 501. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 5.00 pm.

### Other appeals

You can appeal to us if:

- you feel the property should be exempt from Council Tax
- you believe we have made a mistake working out your bill
- we have not given you a discount, or
- we have not reduced your bill because you or someone you live with has a disability.

If you think the decision is wrong you can:

1. Make an appeal in writing to Tendring District Council telling us why you think the decision is wrong. Making an appeal does not allow you to withhold payment of Council Tax.
2. If the Council cannot resolve your appeal or you do not get a reply within 2 months you may appeal to the Valuation Tribunal. You must do this within 2 months of the date of when the Council notified you of its decision or, if you have received no reply from us, within four months from the date of your initial appeal. You will need to fill in an appeal form. You can do this online at [www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk](http://www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk).

If you appeal, you must continue to pay your Council Tax until your appeal is decided. If your appeal succeeds, we will give you back any Council Tax you have overpaid.

## Privacy Notice

**Privacy Notice** - Tendring District Council is required by law to protect the public funds it administers. In order to meet this requirement, this will include sharing information internally and externally to prevent and detect fraud, improve the way it delivers services and for the purpose of performing its statutory obligations and enforcement duties. All personal information will be processed in accordance with current data protection legislation

## Is your bill correct?

Please tell us about any changes in your circumstances, or if your billing details are wrong.

**DO NOT IGNORE YOUR BILL** - If you do not pay it and do not agree any other arrangement, we may take action against you which could increase the amount you have to pay.

## Penalties

A £70 penalty notice will be issued to anyone who fails to inform the Council within 21 days of any relevant change of circumstances which affects entitlement to a discount, (including Local Council Tax Support) or exemption, or fails to reply to a request for information in relation to an entitlement to a discount (including Local Council Tax Support), or provides false information to obtain any Council Tax discount or exemption.

## How we work out your Council Tax

The table shows how much we plan to spend on each of our main services.

We collect some of this money through Council Tax, but we have two other sources of income:

Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates.

The Government pays the Revenue Support Grant out of the taxes it collects.

We collect Business Rates and split them with the Government. 50% will go to the Government and the remaining 50% will be split as 40% for Tendring, 9% for Essex County Council and 1% for Essex Fire.

|   | Last Year<br>(2019/20) | This Year<br>(2020/21) |       |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|-------|
|   | £000                   | £000                   |       |
| General Council Costs   | 3,126                  | 3,571                  |       |
| Coastal Protection  | 2,677                  | 2,751                  |       |
| Collecting Local Taxes & Paying Council Tax Benefit   | 2,008                  | 1,879                  |       |
| Community Safety  | 293                    | 325                    |       |
| Environmental and Public Health   | 4,829                  | 5,101                  |       |
| Highways, Roads & Transport   | 1,019                  | 860                    |       |
| Housing   | 73,742                 | 73,939                 |       |
| Leisure & Tourism   | 8,338                  | 8,884                  |       |
| Planning, Community, Partnership & Renewal  | 5,454                  | 5,596                  |       |
| Waste Collection & Recycling  | 3,652                  | 3,979                  |       |
| Other Services  | (2,821)                | (917)                  |       |
| <b>Gross Expenditure</b>  | <b>102,317</b>         | <b>105,968</b>         |       |
| Parish/Town Council Precepts  | 1,874                  | 2,046                  |       |
| <b>Less Income From:</b>  |                        |                        |       |
| Grants & Contributions  | (65,049)               | (65,485)               |       |
| Rents/fees/charges/interest   | (23,754)               | (24,350)               |       |
| <b>Net Expenditure</b>  | <b>15,388</b>          | <b>18,179</b>          |       |
| Transfer from/to Reserves   | 43                     | (1,551)                |       |
| Parish/Town Council Precepts  | (1,874)                | (2,046)                |       |
|   | <b>13,557</b>          | <b>14,582</b>          |       |
| Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates  | (4,892)                | (4,867)                |       |
| Income from Collection Fund   | (710)                  | (1,361)                |       |
| <b>Council Tax Requirement *</b>  | <b>7,955</b>           | <b>8,354</b>           |       |
| Average Council Tax for a property in band D* in Tendring District Council and the percentage change comparing last year and this year. | £167.64                | £172.64                | 2.98% |

\* Excluding parish and town councils

## Facing cost changes

The table below shows why our spending has changed. Government policies and the state of the national economy affect our spending in general, and also affect some particular services.

|   | £000          |
|---|---------------|
| Money needed for 2019/20                      | 13,557        |
| Changes in spending on services               | 3,651         |
| Changes in grants, fees and other charges     | (1,032)       |
| Changes to how we use savings and reserves    | (1,594)       |
| <b>The amount we need to raise in 2020/21</b> | <b>14,582</b> |

## How much do you have to pay?

We work out how much Council Tax we must collect by adding together the money each of the authorities need. The amount for Tendring District Council is split between General and Special Expenses. General Expenses are applied across the whole district and Special Expenses vary from area to area.

We work out how much Council Tax the properties in each valuation band should pay in line with the amount homes in band D will pay.

So, if your home is in band D, your Council Tax for this year will be £1,754.10 plus an amount you have to pay to your local Parish/Town Council for their precept and to Tendring District Council for Special Expenses (if applicable). The table below shows the Council Tax for a property in band D.

|  | Amount Needed<br>£000 | Council Tax for each property in Band D<br>£ |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Tendring District Council - General Expenses                       | 7,765                 | 160.47                                       |
| Essex County Council   | 63,931                | 1,321.11                                     |
| Essex Fire   | 3,576                 | 73.89  |
| Essex Police   | 9,612                 | 198.63                                       |
| <b>Total (excluding Parish/Town Councils and Special Expenses)</b> | <b>84,884</b>         | <b>1,754.10</b>                              |

## Council Tax amounts for each area in the district

This chart shows how much Council Tax you have to pay, depending on where you live and which valuation band your home is in.

|                      | A<br>£   | B<br>£   | C<br>£   | D<br>£   | E<br>£   | F<br>£   | G<br>£   | H<br>£   |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Unparished Area:     |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Clacton              | 1,183.56 | 1,380.82 | 1,578.08 | 1,775.34 | 2,169.86 | 2,564.38 | 2,958.90 | 3,550.68 |
| Parishes of:         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Alresford            | 1,240.61 | 1,447.38 | 1,654.15 | 1,860.92 | 2,274.46 | 2,688.00 | 3,101.53 | 3,721.84 |
| Ardleigh             | 1,196.67 | 1,396.11 | 1,595.56 | 1,795.00 | 2,193.89 | 2,592.78 | 2,991.67 | 3,590.00 |
| Beaumont-cum-Moze    | 1,190.70 | 1,389.15 | 1,587.60 | 1,786.05 | 2,182.95 | 2,579.85 | 2,976.75 | 3,572.10 |
| Great Bentley        | 1,239.33 | 1,445.89 | 1,652.44 | 1,859.00 | 2,272.11 | 2,685.22 | 3,098.33 | 3,718.00 |
| Little Bentley       | 1,188.05 | 1,386.05 | 1,584.06 | 1,782.07 | 2,178.09 | 2,574.10 | 2,970.12 | 3,564.14 |
| Bradfield            | 1,252.27 | 1,460.99 | 1,669.70 | 1,878.41 | 2,295.83 | 2,713.26 | 3,130.68 | 3,756.82 |
| Brightlingsea        | 1,211.59 | 1,413.52 | 1,615.45 | 1,817.38 | 2,221.24 | 2,625.10 | 3,028.97 | 3,634.76 |
| Great Bromley        | 1,207.16 | 1,408.35 | 1,609.55 | 1,810.74 | 2,213.13 | 2,615.51 | 3,017.90 | 3,621.48 |
| Little Bromley       | 1,180.69 | 1,377.47 | 1,574.25 | 1,771.03 | 2,164.59 | 2,558.15 | 2,951.72 | 3,542.06 |
| Little Clacton       | 1,221.17 | 1,424.69 | 1,628.22 | 1,831.75 | 2,238.81 | 2,645.86 | 3,052.92 | 3,663.50 |
| Elmstead             | 1,204.36 | 1,405.09 | 1,605.81 | 1,806.54 | 2,207.99 | 2,609.45 | 3,010.90 | 3,613.08 |
| Frating              | 1,197.59 | 1,397.19 | 1,596.79 | 1,796.39 | 2,195.59 | 2,594.79 | 2,993.98 | 3,592.78 |
| Frinton and Walton   | 1,230.49 | 1,435.57 | 1,640.65 | 1,845.73 | 2,255.89 | 2,666.05 | 3,076.22 | 3,691.46 |
| Harwich              | 1,205.39 | 1,406.29 | 1,607.19 | 1,808.09 | 2,209.89 | 2,611.69 | 3,013.48 | 3,616.18 |
| Lawford              | 1,224.16 | 1,428.19 | 1,632.21 | 1,836.24 | 2,244.29 | 2,652.35 | 3,060.40 | 3,672.48 |
| Manningtree          | 1,198.28 | 1,397.99 | 1,597.71 | 1,797.42 | 2,196.85 | 2,596.27 | 2,995.70 | 3,594.84 |
| Mistley              | 1,217.93 | 1,420.92 | 1,623.91 | 1,826.90 | 2,232.88 | 2,638.86 | 3,044.83 | 3,653.80 |
| Great Oakley         | 1,210.32 | 1,412.04 | 1,613.76 | 1,815.48 | 2,218.92 | 2,622.36 | 3,025.80 | 3,630.96 |
| Little Oakley        | 1,199.17 | 1,399.04 | 1,598.90 | 1,798.76 | 2,198.48 | 2,598.21 | 2,997.93 | 3,597.52 |
| Ramsey and Parkeston | 1,235.13 | 1,440.99 | 1,646.84 | 1,852.70 | 2,264.41 | 2,676.12 | 3,087.83 | 3,705.40 |
| St Osyth             | 1,218.14 | 1,421.16 | 1,624.19 | 1,827.21 | 2,233.26 | 2,639.30 | 3,045.35 | 3,654.42 |
| Tendring             | 1,199.87 | 1,399.85 | 1,599.83 | 1,799.81 | 2,199.77 | 2,599.73 | 2,999.68 | 3,599.62 |
| Thorpe-le-Soken      | 1,214.39 | 1,416.79 | 1,619.19 | 1,821.59 | 2,226.39 | 2,631.19 | 3,035.98 | 3,643.18 |
| Thorrington          | 1,198.47 | 1,398.21 | 1,597.96 | 1,797.70 | 2,197.19 | 2,596.68 | 2,996.17 | 3,595.40 |
| Weeley               | 1,211.90 | 1,413.88 | 1,615.87 | 1,817.85 | 2,221.82 | 2,625.78 | 3,029.75 | 3,635.70 |
| Wix                  | 1,215.93 | 1,418.59 | 1,621.24 | 1,823.90 | 2,229.21 | 2,634.52 | 3,039.83 | 3,647.80 |
| Wrabness             | 1,188.13 | 1,386.16 | 1,584.18 | 1,782.20 | 2,178.24 | 2,574.29 | 2,970.33 | 3,564.40 |

## Parish and Town Council spending and special expenses

**Parish/Town Council precepts:** These are the extra amounts of money that these councils need to pay for things like footpaths and community centres. The Council pays the precepts requested to the Parish and Town Councils and recovers the cost by collecting an extra amount in the area. These are shown in the table below.

**Special expenses:** The cost of the Council's services throughout the whole district is spread across all Council Tax payers. However, some specific functions are also carried out by Parish/Town Councils in their own areas. These functions include maintaining recreation grounds, open spaces and children's play areas. The Council calculates how much it spends in each area on those functions, reduces the general Council Tax by this amount and then charges it directly to the area where the service has been provided.

The table below shows Parish and Town Councils that spend more than £140,000 per annum

|  | <b>Last Year<br/>(2019/20)</b> | <b>This Year<br/>(2020/21)</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | £000                           | £000                           |
| <b>Frinton and Walton Town Council</b> |                                |                                |
| Recreation and Tourism                 | 100                            | 124                            |
| Police Community Support Officers      | 240                            | 255                            |
| Other Services                         | 187                            | 168                            |
| Establishment                          | 137                            | 146                            |
| Contribution from Reserve Fund         | -                              | 10                             |
| Less Income                            | (122)                          | (108)                          |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>542</b>                     | <b>595</b>                     |
| <b>Harwich Town Council</b>            |                                |                                |
| Recreation and Tourism                 | 57                             | 60                             |
| Police Community Support Officers      | 19                             | 20                             |
| Economic Development                   | 18                             | 16                             |
| Establishment                          | 134                            | 135                            |
| Contribution from Reserve Fund         | (8)                            | (7)                            |
| Less Income                            | (22)                           | (16)                           |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>198</b>                     | <b>208</b>                     |
| <b>Brightlingsea Town Council</b>      |                                |                                |
| Recreation and Tourism                 | 251                            | 234                            |
| Waterside Activities                   | 7                              | 7                              |
| Special Projects                       | 6                              | 4                              |
| Improvements                           | 10                             | 6                              |
| Establishment                          | 127                            | 86                             |
| Less Income                            | (228)                          | (156)                          |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>173</b>                     | <b>181</b>                     |

## Parish and Town Council spending and special expenses

|                      | Amount each parish needs to raise in 2019/20<br>£ | Amount each parish needs to raise in 2020/21<br>£ | Parish part of the Council Tax for a Band D property 2020/21<br>£ | Special Expenses at Band D 2020/21<br>£ |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Clacton (Unparished) |   |   |   | 21.24                                   |
| Parishes of:         |   |   |   |   |
| Alresford            | 76,089  | 83,200  | 106.82  |   |
| Ardleigh             | 36,390  | 39,400  | 40.90   |   |
| Beaumont-cum-Moze    | 3,971   | 4,000   | 31.95   |   |
| Great Bentley        | 88,262  | 93,235  | 104.90  |   |
| Little Bentley       | 2,967   | 3,300   | 27.97   |   |
| Bradfield            | 62,269  | 60,168  | 124.31  |   |
| Brightlingsea        | 172,729   | 181,365   | 63.28   |   |
| Great Bromley        | 21,829  | 21,829  | 56.64   |   |
| Little Bromley       | 1,685   | 1,700   | 16.93   |   |
| Little Clacton       | 77,862  | 80,000  | 77.65   |   |
| Elmstead             | 34,311  | 37,840  | 52.44   |   |
| Frating              | 8,913   | 9,000   | 42.29   |   |
| Frinton and Walton   | 541,822   | 595,611   | 74.62   | 17.01                                   |
| Harwich              | 197,889   | 207,909   | 37.79   | 16.20                                   |
| Lawford              | 87,539  | 124,750   | 78.81   | 3.33                                    |
| Manningtree          | 17,407  | 20,397  | 60.69   | (17.37)                                 |
| Mistley              | 60,035  | 76,000  | 72.80   |   |
| Great Oakley         | 21,479  | 22,175  | 61.38   |   |
| Little Oakley        | 16,173  | 16,825  | 44.66   |   |
| Ramsey and Parkeston | 68,153  | 71,108  | 98.60   |   |
| St Osyth             | 129,104   | 136,253   | 73.11   |   |
| Tendring             | 12,440  | 13,000  | 45.71   |   |
| Thorpe-le-Soken      | 44,924  | 51,893  | 67.49   |   |
| Thorrington          | 21,786  | 22,000  | 43.60   |   |
| Weeley               | 42,796  | 46,172  | 63.75   |   |
| Wix                  | 19,476  | 21,002  | 69.80   |   |
| Wrabness             | 5,580   | 5,545   | 28.10   |   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>1,873,880</b>                                  | <b>2,045,677</b>                                  |   |   |

# Council Tax Information



**2020/21**

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# Better lives for people who call Essex home

## Essex is a great county

We are home to vibrant urban centres, beautiful rural countryside and the longest coastline in England. International ports and airports, universities and world class businesses, and a rich cultural heritage, makes us one of the most dynamic places in the country.

At the County Council, we are passionate about helping create better lives for people who call Essex home. We believe increasing prosperity is the best route to achieving this. Our job is often about helping people to help themselves, their families and their communities. We are also ready to step in when people need us to – to protect vulnerable children, to help care for older people, or to support young people to get into work or training.

Our population is growing and getting older: we face increasing demand for services which care for the elderly; help adults with learning disabilities live independent lives; protect vulnerable children and support families; and maintain and improve highways to support a growing economy.

The cost of those services in the coming year is £1.9 billion. We also plan to invest a further £235 million through our capital programme, building or improving homes, schools, roads and transport networks.

We have a track record on providing value which is second to none. For the second year running, we have been ranked as one of the top 10 most productive councils in the country.



**Councillor Finch**  
Leader of the Council

## Listening to you

We carried out an on-line consultation with nearly 400 residents and businesses during November and December 2019. You told us that:

- 55% feel well informed about public services
- 84% recognised the financial challenges facing the county council
- The majority of residents would be prepared to either pay more, or give their time, to support local services
- Over 80% identified care and support for vulnerable older people and those with mental health needs, and the maintenance of roads, footways and bridges as services which should be protected.



## Investing

Climate change will begin to impact the lives of everyone in Essex unless we begin to take action.

Our budget includes an investment of £5 million to take action on climate change. We will set up an independent commission to guide the council on its strategies to reduce carbon, protect our environment and increase recycling.

High on your list of priorities was repairing and improving our roads and footways. Our roads are in the top 25% in the country for their condition, and we want to stay there. So in 2020/21, we will invest £5 million to repair potholes and other defects.



Alongside our revenue budget, we need to ensure effective services not just for today, but for the future. We have ambitious plans for our capital investment - a capital programme of £235 million for 2020/21.

In some cases our capital investment provides us with income, such as our Housing Programme to redevelop redundant Council property to provide much needed homes for sale. The 2020/21 programme includes investment in highways such as M11 Junction 7a, A127 Fairglen Interchange and transport improvements in Chelmsford, as well as independent living schemes for older and vulnerable adults, new school places for the growing population and new schools for children with special needs.



## Saving

Recent years have seen significant reductions in local authority grants. We have had to cut our cloth accordingly, so over the past ten years, we have saved £820 million.

We have done this through redesigning services, better use of new technology and developing new income streams.

In 2020/21, we will deliver a further £58 million through savings and new income.



## Spending and charges explained

There is always a balance between investing in and protecting services, and asking people to pay a little more. This year, we will be taking up the 2% Adult Social Care precept, which is a facility offered by Government to raise income for social care. Our general Council Tax precept will also increase by 1.99%. This will result in an increase in council tax for a band D property of 97p per household per week, taking the Band D charge to £1,321.11.

The following table shows the Council tax charge by band.

| Band | Council tax charge<br>£000 | Band | Council tax charge<br>£000 |
|------|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| A    | 880.74                     | E    | 1,614.69                   |
| B    | 1,027.53                   | F    | 1,908.27                   |
| C    | 1,174.32                   | G    | 2,201.85                   |
| D    | 1,321.11                   | H    | 2,642.22                   |

The 2020/21 budget sets out the financial resources that the Council has available to deliver the Organisation Plan.

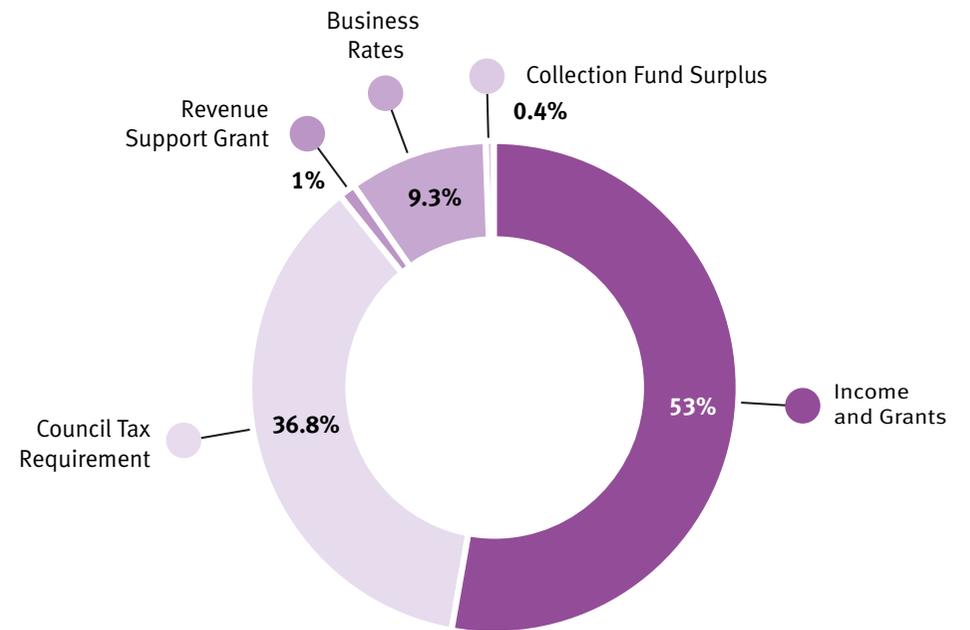
| Financial Overview             | 2019/20<br>£m  | 2020/21<br>£m  | Change<br>£m  |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Total expenditure              | 1,850.6        | 1,944.0        | 93.4          |
| Income and grants              | (971.8)        | (1,030.4)      | (58.6)        |
| <b>Budget requirement</b>      | <b>878.8</b>   | <b>913.6</b>   | <b>34.8</b>   |
| <b>This is paid for by:</b>    |                |                |               |
| Collection fund surplus        | (8.7)          | (7.1)          | 1.6           |
| Business Rates                 | (180.5)        | (180.1)        | 0.4           |
| Revenue Support Grant          | (18.3)         | (18.6)         | (0.3)         |
| <b>Council tax requirement</b> | <b>(671.3)</b> | <b>(707.8)</b> | <b>(36.5)</b> |
| <b>Total funding</b>           | <b>(878.8)</b> | <b>(913.6)</b> | <b>(34.8)</b> |

## Funding for services

Around half of the Council's funding is from grants or income such as fees and charges, of which £506 million is passed directly to schools. The rest of the funding comes primarily from tax payers – whether through Business Rates (£180.1 million) or Council Tax (£707.8 million).

| Funding for Services    | £m             |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Income and Grants       | 1,030.4        |
| Council Tax Requirement | 707.8          |
| Revenue Support Grant   | 18.6           |
| Business Rates          | 180.1          |
| Collection Fund Surplus | 7.1            |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>1,944.0</b> |

Figure 1: Funding for services



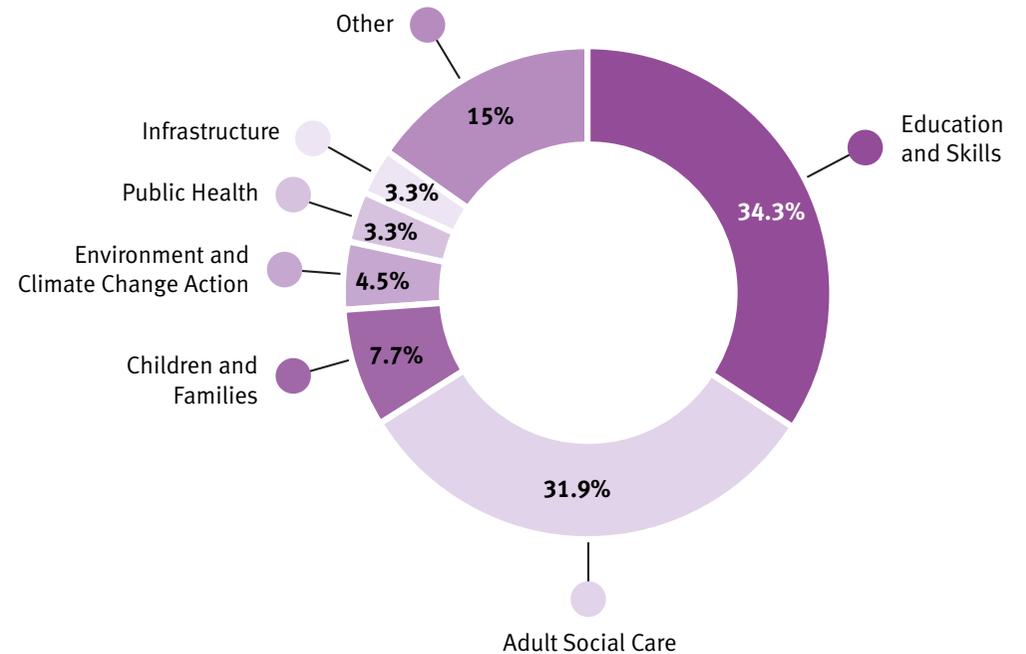
## Expenditure on services

The Council has committed to spending:

- £668 million on Education and Skills
- £620 million on services supporting vulnerable adults
- £150 million on services supporting vulnerable children and families

| Expenditure on Services  | £m             |
|--|----------------|
| Education and Skills   | 667.6          |
| Adult Social Care  | 620.0          |
| Children and Families  | 149.8          |
| Environment and Climate Change Action  | 86.9           |
| Public Health  | 63.9           |
| Infrastructure   | 63.8           |
| Other, which includes services such as Libraries, Coroners, Registrars and Country Parks | 292.0          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1,944.0</b> |

Figure 2: Expenditure on services



This is how much we spend per day on some of the services we provide to the general public.

|  |  |   |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Adult Social Care</b><br><br><b>£1,698,647 per day</b> | <b>Schools</b><br><br><b>£1,250,376 per day</b>         | <b>Children Services</b><br><br><b>£360,496 per day</b>     | <b>Early Years &amp; Child Care</b><br><br><b>£264,404 per day</b> | <b>Environment &amp; Waste</b><br><br><b>£224,404 per day</b> | <b>Public Health</b><br><br><b>£175,131 per day</b>      |
| <b>Infrastructure</b><br><br><b>£174,819 per day</b>    | <b>Library Services</b><br><br><b>£38,739 per day</b> | <b>Economic Development</b><br><br><b>£18,582 per day</b> | <b>Coroners Services</b><br><br><b>£9,198 per day</b>            | <b>Country Parks</b><br><br><b>£8,917 per day</b>           | <b>Registrar Services</b><br><br><b>£6,961 per day</b> |

This information is issued by:

**Essex County Council**  
**Finance and Technology**

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The information contained in  
this document can be translated,  
and/or made available in alternative formats,  
on request.

Published February 2020.

# ESSEX POLICE AND ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE PRECEPTS 2020/2021

**PFCC**  
POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME  
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX



**Further investment in more local, visible and accessible policing:** increasing the number of police officers by 151 this year to 3,369, the biggest the force has been since 2012.



Essex County  
Fire & Rescue Service

**Safe and secure communities:** investing in operational firefighters training, developing the on-call firefighters programme and investing in technical fire safety and prevention to keep your homes and businesses safe.





We are investing more in policing to build a stronger, more local and visible police force. The extra investment for 2020/21 will allow the Chief Constable to recruit a further 151 officers increasing the total number of officers in Essex Police to 3,369: a growth of 519 officers in three years.

The Chief Constable plans to recruit 20 new officers to be based in local communities, working directly with partners and the public in towns and villages across Essex.

He will also use this funding to recruit 80 officers to investigate, gather intelligence and bring the most serious offenders in our county to justice.

To support this Essex Police will also be adding 51 officers into specialist capabilities within the force, such as firearm officers, cybercrime specialists as well as investing to increase the availability of Tasers. This will be accompanied by the support staff, equipment and facilities to help make Essex an even safer place to live.

Over the past two years we have increased the Council Tax precept for policing and as a result the Chief Constable has been able to grow the force. Thanks to your contribution we have already recruited 368 more officers. There are now Town Centre Teams, more officers dedicated to tackling gangs and serious crime, a new Business Team coming, schools' officers and an expanded Rural Engagement Team.

Following the Government's recent Police Spending Settlement announcement, which is boosting police finances, we don't have to contribute so much ourselves to continue to grow. So, for the next financial year, the policing element of Council Tax will rise by 2.94 per cent to cover inflationary costs. This is the equivalent to an increase of £5.67 a year from £192.96 to £198.63 for a Band D property.

In terms of Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, its element of the Council Tax precept will rise by 1.99 per cent. The equivalent of an increase of £1.44 a year from, £72.45 to £73.89 for a Band D property. We will be using the increase to invest in training of our firefighters, on-call development and our technical fire safety and protection activities.

Full details of the proposals are available to view at [www.essex.pfcc.police.uk](http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk)

**Roger Hirst - your Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner**

# ESSEX POLICE

**£318.5m**  
TOTAL BUDGET

**£188.6m**  
FROM CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT TAX

**£129.9m**  
FROM LOCAL  
TAXATION

 This extra investment means the Chief Constable will be able to recruit 151 additional officers on top of the 368 recruited over the last two years.

**20**

MORE OFFICERS BASED IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES



**80**

MORE OFFICERS TO TACKLE SERIOUS OFFENDERS

**51**

MORE OFFICERS TO GROW SPECIALIST CAPABILITIES, SUCH AS FIREARMS, CYBERCRIME & INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF TASERS

# ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

  
**£74.9m**  
TOTAL BUDGET

**£25.0m**  
FROM CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT TAX

**£49.9m**  
FROM LOCAL TAXATION  
& INTERNAL RESERVES

## Extra investment:

**£250,000**

ON-CALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**£1,048,000**

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

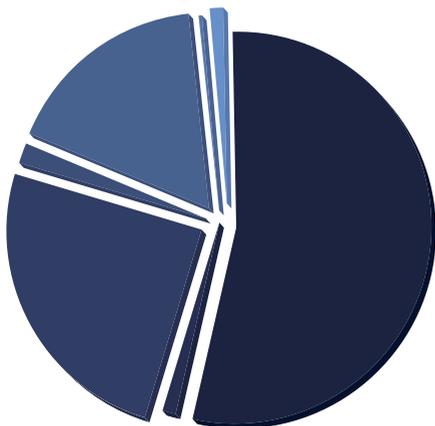


**£1,000,000**

TECHNICAL FIRE SAFETY & PROTECTION

# Expenditure Budgets (£000s) 2020 - 2021

## ESSEX POLICE



|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Police Officer pay & allowance              | 187,160         |
| PCSO Staff pay & allowances                 | 3,510           |
| Police Staff pay & allowances               | 86,573          |
| Other employees expenses                    | 6,214           |
| Premises, transport, supplies & services    | 58,461          |
| Office of the PFCC                          | 1,223           |
| Commissioning grants                        | 3,377           |
| <b>Gross Police &amp; Crime Expenditure</b> | <b>346,518</b>  |
| <b>Income</b>                               | <b>(27,624)</b> |
| <b>Contribution from Reserve</b>            | <b>(402)</b>    |
| <b>Net-cost of service</b>                  | <b>318,492</b>  |

## ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Firefighter pay                            | 41,526         |
| Control and support staff                  | 16,083         |
| Enabling services                          | 2,174          |
| Premises and equipment                     | 10,678         |
| Capital financing charges                  | 6,365          |
| Other costs                                | 5,574          |
| <b>Gross Fire &amp; Rescue Expenditure</b> | <b>82,400</b>  |
| <b>Operational grants &amp; income</b>     | <b>(7,539)</b> |
| <b>Net-cost of service</b>                 | <b>74,861</b>  |

