



## 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.

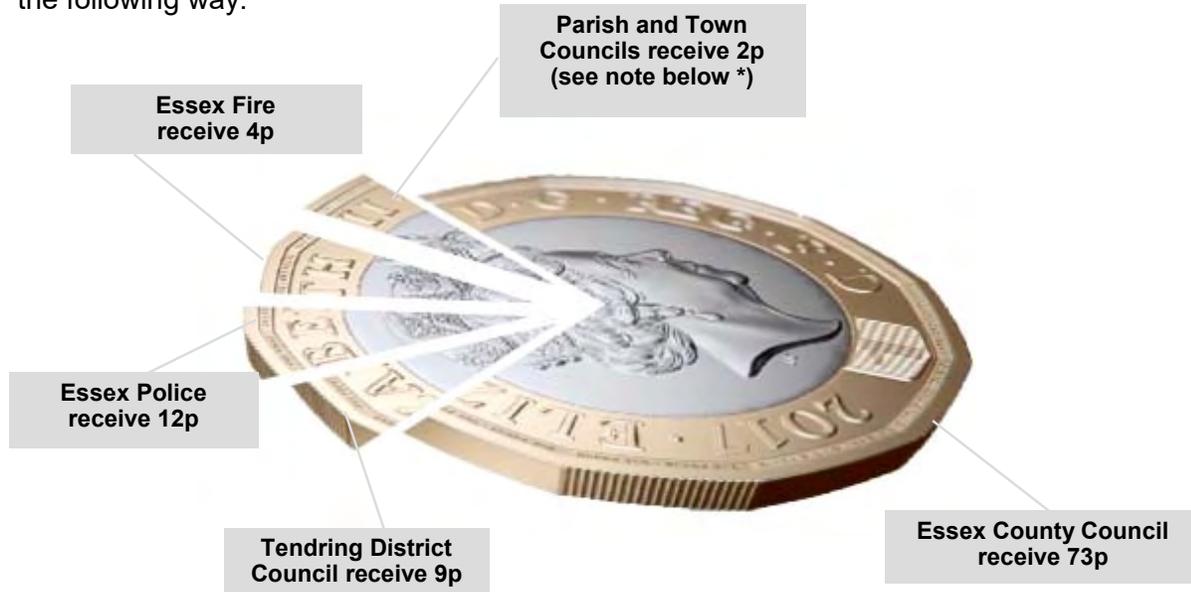
Each property is put into one of eight bands, depending on how much it was worth on 1 April 1991.

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 £102 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.tendingdc.gov.uk/council-tax/pay](http://www.tendingdc.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.

## Long Term Empty Premium

### Why

From 1st April 2019 the Local Government Finance Act 2012 gave local authorities the power to increase the Council Tax by way of a premium to encourage owners to bring empty properties back into use.

Empty homes are not just a problem in Tendring, but nationally and are a wasted resource. Given the acute need for housing, it is vital that every effort is made to bring such properties back into use at the earliest opportunity.

The changes proposed will therefore also bring us into line with many other local authorities, especially those across Essex where the 'premium' is already being charged. Tendring District council approved the following taking effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Premium Rate	Properties effected	Date From
100% (on top of what you normally pay)	Properties empty for 2 - 5 years	1st April 2022
200% (on top of what you normally pay)	Properties empty for 5 - 10 years	1st April 2022
300% (on top of what you normally pay)	Properties empty for 10 years and over	1st April 2022

The Empty Homes Premium will be added to any property which has remained empty and unfurnished for longer than two years; regardless of how long the current owner has had the property. Change of ownership or liability does not affect the premium charged and no account shall be taken for any one or more periods of less than 6 weeks during which the property is not empty. The Empty homes premium will not apply if:

- The property is the main residence of a member of the armed forces absent as a result of such service
- The property forms part of a single property (i.e. an annex) which is being treated as a part of the main dwelling by a resident of that property
- The property is on the market for sale or rent.

If your bill shows a long-term empty premium and you think that your property is in one of these categories please contact us straight away.

How do I to end the premium charge?

- To end the premium charge, you must bring the property back into use.

To notify the Council that you have done this please complete the online enquiry form on the link below:

<https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/council-tax/contact>

## 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).*



**HELP US STAMP OUT  
COUNCIL TAX  
DISCOUNT FRAUD  
AND  
EXEMPTION  
ABUSE**

## 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).

The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) values domestic properties for Council Tax. This valuation is used to set your council tax band. You might need to contact the VOA if you think your council tax band is wrong.

You can find out more about when you can challenge your band and what you need to do at [gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band](http://gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band). If you challenge your band, you must continue to [pay council tax](#) at your current band until your appeal is decided.

You can contact the VOA at [gov.uk/contact-voa](http://gov.uk/contact-voa). If you are unable to use the online service you can also contact the VOA on 03000 501 501 [English authorities] /03000 505 505 [Welsh authorities].

### 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

	Last Year (2022/23)	This Year (2023/24)	
	£000	£000	
General Council Costs	4,876	3,833	
Coastal Protection	2,712	2,867	
Collecting Local Taxes & Paying Council Tax Benefit	2,212	2,422	
Community Safety	406	386	
Environmental and Public Health	5,085	5,272	
Highways, Roads & Transport	843	871	
Housing	62,884	57,879	
Leisure & Tourism	9,497	10,358	
Planning, Community, Partnership & Renewal	6,713	6,980	
Waste Collection & Recycling	4,931	5,697	
Other Services	(5,702)	(3,891)	
<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>94,457</b>	<b>92,674</b>	
Parish/Town Council Precepts	2,273	2,378	
<b>Less Income From:</b>			
Grants & Contributions	(56,476)	(50,129)	
Rents/fees/charges/interest	(25,181)	(26,922)	
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>15,073</b>	<b>18,001</b>	
Transfer from/to Reserves	(3,402)	(1,481)	
Parish/Town Council Precepts	(2,273)	(2,378)	
	<b>9,398</b>	<b>14,142</b>	
Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates	(3,477)	(3,755)	
Income from Collection Fund	3,191	(784)	
<b>Council Tax Requirement *</b>	<b>9,112</b>	<b>9,603</b>	
Average Council Tax for a property in band D* in Tendring District Council and the percentage change comparing last year and this year.	£182.64	£188.11	2.99%

\* 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 2022/23	9,398
Changes in spending on services	(1,783)
Changes in grants, fees and other charges	4,606
Changes to how we use savings and reserves	1,921
<b>The amount we need to raise in 2023/24 *</b>	<b>14,142</b>

*\*The change between years largely reflects the unwinding of the impact of the effect of COVID 19 Business Rate Reliefs provided by the government.*

## 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 £1,939.41 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 £000	Council Tax for each property in Band D £
Tendring District Council - General Expenses	8,959	175.50
Essex County Council	74,031	1,450.17
Essex Fire	4,098	80.28
Essex Police	11,918	233.46
<b>Total (excluding Parish/Town Councils and Special Expenses)</b>	<b>99,006</b>	<b>1,939.41</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 £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Unparished Area:								
Clacton	1,307.97	1,525.96	1,743.96	1,961.95	2,397.94	2,833.93	3,269.92	3,923.90
Parishes of:								
Alresford	1,353.01	1,578.52	1,804.02	2,029.52	2,480.52	2,931.53	3,382.53	4,059.04
Ardleigh	1,337.47	1,560.38	1,783.29	2,006.20	2,452.02	2,897.84	3,343.67	4,012.40
Beaumont-cum-Moze	1,315.42	1,534.66	1,753.89	1,973.13	2,411.60	2,850.08	3,288.55	3,946.26
Great Bentley	1,379.87	1,609.85	1,839.83	2,069.81	2,529.77	2,989.73	3,449.68	4,139.62
Little Bentley	1,312.11	1,530.80	1,749.48	1,968.17	2,405.54	2,842.91	3,280.28	3,936.34
Bradfield	1,388.12	1,619.47	1,850.83	2,082.18	2,544.89	3,007.59	3,470.30	4,164.36
Brightlingsea	1,337.71	1,560.67	1,783.62	2,006.57	2,452.47	2,898.38	3,344.28	4,013.14
Great Bromley	1,331.48	1,553.39	1,775.31	1,997.22	2,441.05	2,884.87	3,328.70	3,994.44
Little Bromley	1,304.11	1,521.46	1,738.81	1,956.16	2,390.86	2,825.56	3,260.27	3,912.32
Little Clacton	1,346.28	1,570.66	1,795.04	2,019.42	2,468.18	2,916.94	3,365.70	4,038.84
Elmstead	1,338.23	1,561.26	1,784.30	2,007.34	2,453.42	2,899.49	3,345.57	4,014.68
Frating	1,320.19	1,540.22	1,760.25	1,980.28	2,420.34	2,860.40	3,300.47	3,960.56
Frinton and Walton	1,356.97	1,583.13	1,809.29	2,035.45	2,487.77	2,940.09	3,392.42	4,070.90
Harwich	1,329.65	1,551.26	1,772.87	1,994.48	2,437.70	2,880.92	3,324.13	3,988.96
Lawford	1,362.05	1,589.05	1,816.06	2,043.07	2,497.09	2,951.10	3,405.12	4,086.14
Manningtree	1,334.92	1,557.41	1,779.89	2,002.38	2,447.35	2,892.33	3,337.30	4,004.76
Mistley	1,347.14	1,571.66	1,796.19	2,020.71	2,469.76	2,918.80	3,367.85	4,041.42
Great Oakley	1,339.16	1,562.35	1,785.55	2,008.74	2,455.13	2,901.51	3,347.90	4,017.48
Little Oakley	1,328.36	1,549.75	1,771.15	1,992.54	2,435.33	2,878.11	3,320.90	3,985.08
Ramsey and Parkeston	1,360.59	1,587.35	1,814.12	2,040.88	2,494.41	2,947.94	3,401.47	4,081.76
St Osyth	1,348.51	1,573.26	1,798.01	2,022.76	2,472.26	2,921.76	3,371.27	4,045.52
Tendring	1,326.15	1,547.18	1,768.20	1,989.23	2,431.28	2,873.33	3,315.38	3,978.46
Thorpe-le-Soken	1,338.59	1,561.68	1,784.78	2,007.88	2,454.08	2,900.27	3,346.47	4,015.76
Thorington	1,324.53	1,545.29	1,766.04	1,986.80	2,428.31	2,869.82	3,311.33	3,973.60
Weeley	1,327.36	1,548.59	1,769.81	1,991.04	2,433.49	2,875.95	3,318.40	3,982.08
Wix	1,342.19	1,565.89	1,789.59	2,013.29	2,460.69	2,908.09	3,355.48	4,026.58
Wrabness	1,313.19	1,532.06	1,750.92	1,969.79	2,407.52	2,845.25	3,282.98	3,939.58

## 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.

	Last Year (2022/23) £000	This Year (2023/24) £000		Last Year (2022/23) £000	This Year (2023/24) £000
<b>Frinton and Walton Town Council</b>			<b>Brightlingsea Town Council</b>		
Recreation and Tourism	104	171	Recreation and Tourism	262	282
Police Community Support Officers	240	140	Waterside Activities	9	19
Other Services	221	198	Special Projects	19	5
Establishment	179	264	Improvements	18	14
Use of Reserves	40	-	Establishment	79	80
Less Income	(131)	(120)	Less Income	(195)	(199)
<b>Total</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Harwich Town Council</b>			<b>St Osyth Parish Council</b>		
Recreation and Tourism	61	63	Recreation and Tourism	28	46
Police Community Support Officers	21	21	Cemetery and War Memorial	25	30
Economic Development	28	13	Community Grants	16	15
Establishment	146	192	Establishment	116	127
Use of Reserves	(29)	-	Use of Reserves	-	-
Less Income	(17)	(77)	Less Income	(34)	(56)
<b>Total</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Lawford Parish Council</b>					
Public Realm	93	116			
Operation Quasar	5	6			
Grants	7	7			
Establishment	39	47			
Use of Reserves	-	-			
Less Income	(10)	(3)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>173</b>			

## Parish and Town Council spending and special expenses

	Amount each parish needs to raise in 2022/23 £	Amount each parish needs to raise in 2023/24 £	Parish part of the Council Tax for a Band D property 2023/24 £	Special Expenses at Band D 2023/24 £
Clacton (Unparished)				22.54
Parishes of:				
Alresford	88,230	88,230	90.11	
Ardleigh	68,500	73,170	66.79	
Beaumont-cum-Moze	4,400	4,400	33.72	
Great Bentley	127,252	133,000	130.40	
Little Bentley	3,345	3,345	28.76	
Bradfield	66,895	70,800	142.77	
Brightlingsea	192,347	201,327	67.16	
Great Bromley	23,350	25,250	57.81	
Little Bromley	1,700	1,700	16.75	
Little Clacton	80,000	85,000	80.01	
Elmstead	40,850	54,807	67.93	
Frating	9,500	11,400	40.87	
Frinton and Walton	653,533	653,533	78.31	17.73
Harwich	210,328	212,406	37.79	17.28
Lawford	133,970	172,550	100.24	3.42
Manningtree	26,007	27,764	79.80	(16.83)
Mistley	95,600	95,615	81.30	
Great Oakley	26,620	27,460	69.33	
Little Oakley	19,765	20,125	53.13	
Ramsey and Parkeston	74,168	74,168	101.47	
St Osyth	151,258	162,602	83.35	
Tendring	13,000	15,000	49.82	
Thorpe-le-Soken	58,500	61,250	68.47	
Thorrington	27,000	27,000	47.39	
Weeley	50,170	45,170	51.63	
Wix	21,032	24,992	73.88	
Wrabness	5,802	6,082	30.38	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,273,122</b>	<b>2,378,146</b>		



Essex County Council

# COUNCIL TAX INFORMATION 2023/24

EVERYONE'S  
ESSEX

# THIS IS HOW MUCH WE SPEND PER DAY ON SOME OF THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

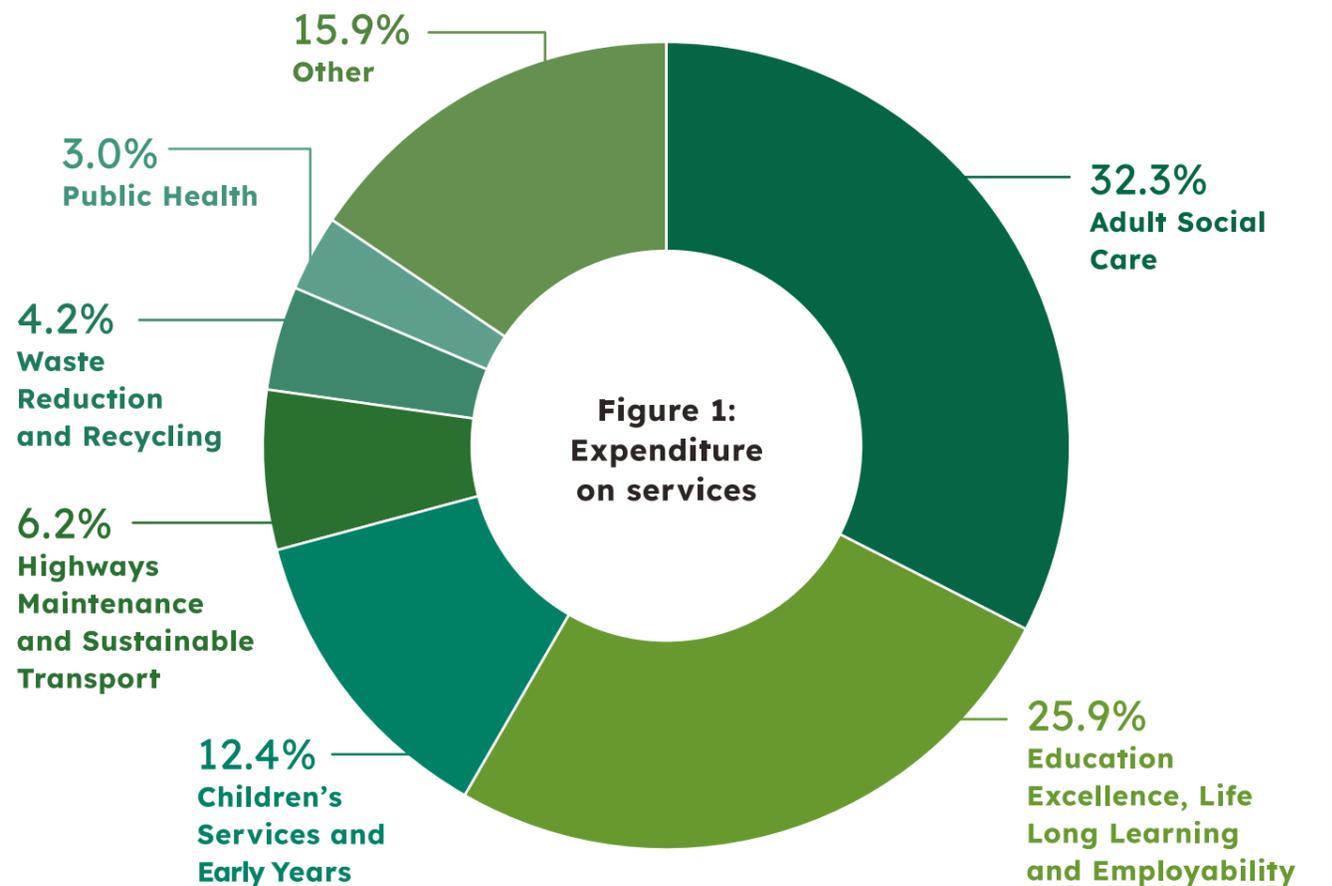
<b>Children's Services</b>  <b>£447,264</b> per day	<b>Early Years &amp; Child Care</b>  <b>£301,105</b> per day	<b>Adult Social Care</b>  <b>£2,028,830</b> per day	<b>Schools</b>  <b>£1,478,413</b> per day
<b>Public Health</b>  <b>£189,750</b> per day	<b>Home to School Transport</b>  <b>£98,504</b> per day	<b>Environment &amp; Waste</b>  <b>£262,108</b> per day	<b>Infrastructure</b>  <b>£202,149</b> per day
<b>Economic Development</b>  <b>£18,975</b> per day	<b>Coroner's Services</b>  <b>£13,232</b> per day	<b>Concessionary Fares</b>  <b>£44,075</b> per day	<b>Library Services</b>  <b>£40,165</b> per day
<b>Registrar Services</b>  <b>£8,606</b> per day	<b>Country Parks</b>  <b>£9,533</b> per day		

## Expenditure on services

The Council has committed to spending:

- £741 million on services supporting vulnerable adults
- £595 million on Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability
- £283 million on services supporting Children's Services and Early Years

Expenditure on Services	£m
Adult Social Care	740.5
Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability	595.2
Children's Services and Early Years	283.4
Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	143.1
Waste Reduction and Recycling	96.7
Public Health	69.3
Other, which includes services such as Libraries, Coroners, Registrars and Country Parks	365.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,293.9</b>



# BUILDING A FUTURE SO EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

## **Renewal, Equality and Ambition are at the heart of our plans for Essex.**

Last year's County Council budget was set in the extremely challenging circumstances of the pandemic. This year's has been set in similarly challenging circumstances, where we have focussed on the need to prioritise services for the vulnerable in a time of economic hardship.

In May we will reach the halfway point of the timeline of Everyone's Essex, our plan for levelling up the county from 2021 to 2025. While the aims and commitments in Everyone's Essex are focused on generational change, we have already done much in our first two years to set ourselves on course to achieve our goals.

I am pleased to say that we have progressed beyond expectations. We have prioritised renewal and growth in all stages of life, we have been internationally recognised for our levelling up and climate change work and we continue to deliver outstanding essential services with one of the lowest tax bases of any county council in the country. We've also confirmed additional financial support to help fund the ongoing and much needed programme repairing and maintaining our county's roads. I would want our residents to feel safe in the knowledge that we are here for them. On top of that, it is vital that you know that we still have our eyes on the future, and that what we said we would deliver, we are delivering, and we will continue to deliver for you.

**Councillor Bentley,  
Leader of the Council**



### Listening to you

During November 2022, we carried out a budget consultation and you told us that:

- National Health Service/ Healthcare and Social Care were the most important issues facing Essex today, followed by Crime/ Community Safety
- Priorities for immediate action include Developing Essex infrastructure; Supporting those who care for the sick or vulnerable children; Securing high standard education and Providing support to struggling families.

### Investing

On your list of priorities was care and support for vulnerable adults and supporting those who care for the sick or vulnerable children. We are investing an additional £72m combined in Adults and Children's social care in 2023/24, supporting over 16,000 adults in long term care every day, as well as impacting the lives of many other people on a short-term or regular basis, and 2,500 children in care or in need.

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 £275 million for 2023/24. This includes investments such as Beaulieu station and Chelmsford North-East bypass, and the A133-A120 Link Road.

We will continue the aspiration to achieve net zero through developing and investing in multiple schemes and innovative solutions, as part of our £200m Climate action plan.

### Saving

Recent years have seen significant reductions in local authority grants. We have had to cut our cloth accordingly, so over the past four years, we have saved £199 million.

In 2023/24, we will deliver a further £36 million through savings and new income, and continue to build on our learning from the different ways we are now working post pandemic.

**OVER THE  
PAST FOUR  
YEARS, WE  
HAVE SAVED  
£199 MILLION**



# 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 are increasing council tax by a total of 3.5%. This is made up of a 1.5% general council tax precept and a 2% adult social care precept, as set out by Government for 2023/24.

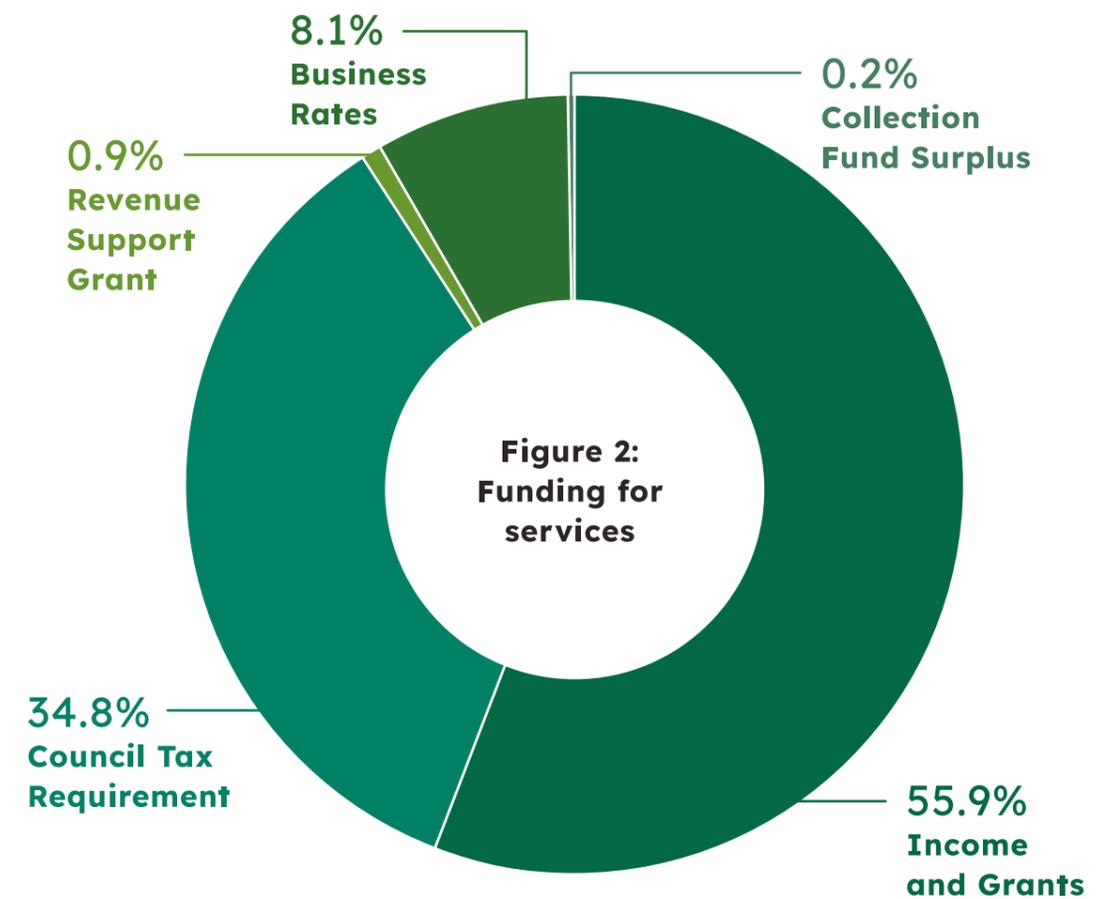
This will result in an increase in council tax for a band D property of 94p per household per week, taking the Band D charge to **£1,450.17**.

The following table shows the Council tax charge by band.

Band	Council tax charge £000
A	966.78
B	1,127.91
C	1,289.04
D	1,450.17
E	1,772.43
F	2,094.69
G	2,416.95
H	2,900.34

The 2023/24 budget sets out the financial resources that the Council has available to deliver the Annual Plan.

Financial Overview	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	Change £m
Total expenditure	2,095.2	2,293.9	198.7
Income and grants	(1,137.2)	(1,282.7)	(145.5)
<b>Budget requirement</b>	<b>958.0</b>	<b>1,011.2</b>	<b>53.2</b>
<b>This is paid for by:</b>			
Collection fund surplus	(9.6)	(5.4)	4.2
Business Rates	(165.6)	(185.5)	(19.9)
Revenue Support Grant	(19.3)	(21.3)	(2.0)
<b>Council tax requirement</b>	<b>(763.5)</b>	<b>(799.0)</b>	<b>(35.5)</b>
<b>Total funding</b>	<b>(958.0)</b>	<b>(1,011.2)</b>	<b>(53.2)</b>



This information is issued by:  
Essex County Council  
Corporate Services

Contact us:  
[financial.analysts@essex.gov.uk](mailto:financial.analysts@essex.gov.uk)  
[www.essex.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.essex.gov.uk/counciltax)  
0345 743 0430

Essex County Council  
Council Tax  
Freepost CL3636  
Chelmsford CM1 1LX

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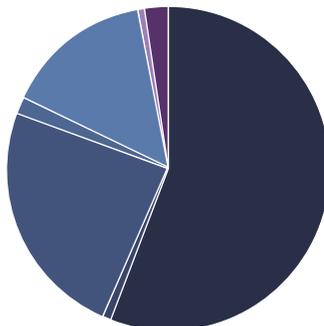
The information contained in this document can be translated, and/or made available in alternative formats, on request.

Published February 2023

# Expenditure Budgets 2022 - 2024 (£000s)

## ESSEX POLICE

	2022-23	2023-24
Police officer pay & allowance	215,313	226,792
PCSO pay & allowances	3,615	3,687
Police staff pay & allowances	92,185	97,237
Other employee expenses	6,642	6,629
Premises, transport, supplies & services	57,912	60,478
PFCC's office	1,809	1,786
Commissioning grants	9,224	9,585
<b>Gross Police &amp; Crime Expenditure</b>	<b>386,700</b>	<b>406,194</b>
<i>Income</i>	<i>(35,006)</i>	<i>(40,074)</i>
<i>Contribution from reserves</i>	<i>506</i>	<i>(2,433)</i>
<b>Net cost of service</b>	<b>352,200</b>	<b>363,687</b>



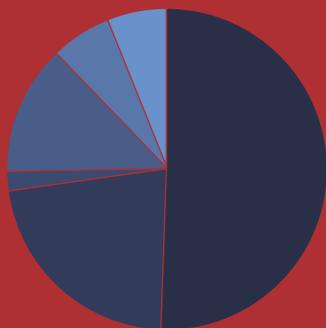
# CREATING A SAFE AND SECURE ESSEX

## ESSEX POLICE AND ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE PRECEPTS 2023/2024



Completing the expansion of Essex Police to 3,755 officers, making it the biggest and strongest in its 182-year history

## ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE



	2022-23	2023-24
Firefighter pay	43,600	46,570
Control & support staff	18,336	20,227
Enabling resources	1,905	1,924
Premises & equipment	10,209	11,834
Capital financing charges	5,897	5,597
Other costs	5,606	5,478
<b>Gross Fire &amp; Rescue Expenditure</b>	<b>85,553</b>	<b>91,630</b>
<i>Operational grants &amp; income</i>	<i>(1,414)</i>	<i>(1,602)</i>
<b>Net cost of service</b>	<b>84,139</b>	<b>90,028</b>



Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

Driving forward an improvement programme including protection and prevention services and high-quality firefighter training

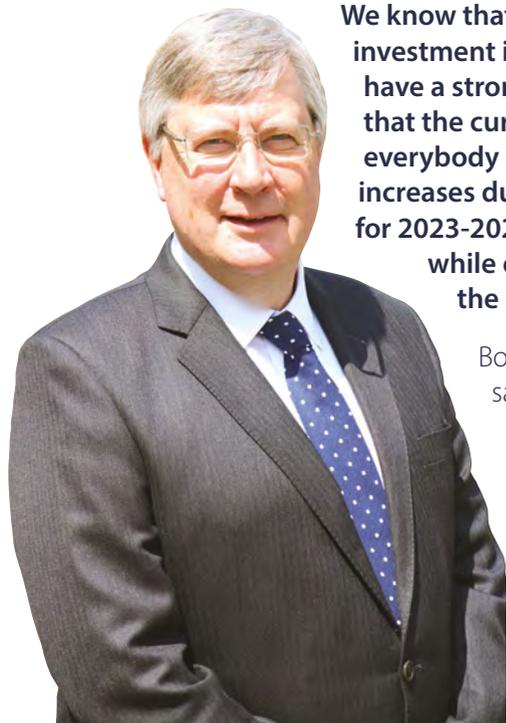


Kelvedon Park, London Road, Rivenhall, Witham, Essex, CM8 3HB

www.essex.pfcc.police.uk  
pfcc@essex.police.uk

@PFCCessex  
@EssexPFCC

01245 291600



**We know that people want to see less crime, more investment in Essex Police as well as continuing to have a strong fire and rescue service. We also know that the current economic climate is tough for everybody and both services are facing significant increases due to inflation. The budget I have set for 2023-2024 continues investment in the services while ensuring a precept increase well below the rate of inflation.**

Both services have also identified ways to save money and be more efficient without reducing the number of officers, firefighters, staff or their overall capability.

The budget will enable Essex Police to complete its ambitious expansion programme, taking the total number of officers in Essex to 3,755, the biggest and strongest in its 182-year history.

The five-year investment programme in Essex Police is already making a difference with incidents of burglary down by 49 per cent, anti-social behaviour down by 55 per cent and theft by a smaller three per cent since 2016. But there is still much more to do, especially to reduce violent crime.

This budget will also allow Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to continue its investment in preventing harm, protecting people and training firefighters. The increase will also mean that all firefighters and professional support staff can receive a pay rise that begins to reflect the professionalism and services they provide. It also starts to address some of the cost-of-living pressures being experienced, especially in the Southeast of England.

This investment requires a Band D Council Taxpayer to pay an extra **£14.94** per year for policing and an extra **£4.95** a year for fire and rescue services – a combined increase of **£1.66** per month.

You can read more about how the investment will help make our communities safer by preventing crime, supporting victims and protecting the vulnerable at [www.essex.pfcc.police.uk](http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk)

**Roger Hirst – Your Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner**



## ESSEX POLICE

**£363.7m**  
BUDGET

**£207.3m**  
FROM CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT TAX

**£156.4m**  
FROM LOCAL  
TAXATION

Overall, crime has seen a small reduction compared to the pre-covid peak. We know there is still much more to do. It is vital we continue to focus on preventing crime, investing in our new police officers, including equipping them with the right skills and technology to tackle crime effectively. This increase in investment will help the Service to:

- Maintain its record strength and size by retaining and recruiting high quality motivated officers, staff and volunteers.
- Invest in officer skills, knowledge and training so they can reach their full capability, preventing more crime and responding more effectively to incidents.
- Provide a higher level of service to the public by better understanding the issues affecting communities, resolving more issues earlier and continuing to improve the service to victims of crime.



## ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

**£90m**  
BUDGET

**£35.2m**  
FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
TAX & BUSINESS RATES

**£54.8m**  
FROM LOCAL TAXATION  
& INTERNAL RESERVES

Our Fire and Rescue Service has made strong progress in recent years, improving the training provided to firefighters, investing in protection services and preventing harm. This increase in investment will help the Service:

- To continue to reduce the risk to the public and property across Essex through its protection and prevention services.
- To drive forward its improvement programme and ensuring that all firefighters receive the training and development they need to serve their communities.
- Go towards firefighters and professional support staff receiving a pay rise that begins to reflect on the professionalism and services they provide. It also starts to address some of the cost of-living pressures being experienced, especially in the Southeast of England.