

**FOI 431/15**

**REQUEST**

Freedom of Information request - For What Purpose(s) Does Tendring District Council collect Council Tax?

**RESPONSE**

The Council Tax Liability is calculated according to the valuation Band assigned to each chargeable dwelling in the Billing Authority's area by the Listing Officer from the Valuation Office Agency.

Within the Tendring District, services are provided by Essex County Council, Essex Police Authority, Essex Fire Authority, Tendring District Council and where applicable Town/Parish Councils. All of these bodies have the power to raise income through the Council Tax system. Rather than each body sending separate bills for the services they provide, they all notify Tendring District Council of the amount they need to raise (this is known as a precept) and one bill is sent out by the Revenues and Benefits Section that collects both the Billing Authority's charge and the charges from the other bodies.

Essex County Council provides services to the whole of Essex; this includes services such as Education and Social Services. These services are not provided by Tendring District Council or Town/Parish Councils. The Council Tax charge from Essex County Council for each Council Tax band is the same for all Council Tax Payers in that band throughout Essex. This is also the case for the Police and Fire Authority's charges.

Town and Parish Councils provide a range of services within their own area. The Town/Parish Councils Council Tax charge for each Council Tax band is the same for all Council Tax Payers in that band in the Town/Parish Council area.

Tendring District Council provides a range of services throughout the Tendring District. These are different services to those provided by Essex County Council and include services such as Refuse Collection, Street cleaning, Planning, Open Spaces and Recreation grounds.

In addition to monies collected in Council Tax there two other main sources of income which are Revenue Support Grant and revenue retained from a portion of the Non-Domestic rates for the area.

For more details on how the charge is calculated and what the money is spent on, please click on the link below:

[http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Council\\_Tax/Ctax%20Info%202015-2016.pdf](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Council_Tax/Ctax%20Info%202015-2016.pdf)