

YOUR COUNCIL TAX 2022/23



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Introduction

Paul Marshall

Leader of West Sussex
County Council

We have agreed a responsible and resilient budget to take us forward as we continue to live in uncertain times.

We recognise the ongoing pressure on council resources due to growing demand and the impact of the pandemic response in recent years.

The budget for the financial year ahead aligns with [Our Council Plan](#), the corporate strategy setting out the key priorities for the council through to 2025.

We are committed to keeping people safe from vulnerable situations; building a sustainable and prosperous economy; helping people and communities fulfil their potential; and making the best use of resources available. All of which are underpinned by a cross-cutting theme of tackling climate change.

The budget underpins the sound financial management required to maintain and improve the services the council provides. Included in this year's budget is additional day-to-day funding for adults and children's social care, extra investment in highways, and funds to address the challenges of climate change.

This year the rise in council tax will be 1.99% – plus an additional 1% for adult social care – making a total increase of 2.99%.

This puts the County Council element of an average band D council tax bill at £1,555.74, or just over £4.26 per day. This is an increase of 87 pence per week compared to last year's bill. We have also allocated funds for additional discretionary relief, administered by District and Borough councils, for working age residents claiming Council Tax reduction relief who can benefit from having their Council Tax bill reduced by up to £150.

Working alongside our partners we continue to be committed to making sure the right services are in place for the good of our county and that support is available for residents in need.

Thank you

Our budget

SERVICES	2021/22	2022/23
	Total Net £m	Total Net £m
Adults' Services	209.6	215.9
Children and Young People	130.8	139.3
Community Support, Fire and Rescue	40.7	45.1
Environment and Climate Change	60.8	62.1
Finance and Property*	23.6	25.1
Highways and Transport	36.6	41.4
Leader	2.6	2.9
Learning and Skills	22.7	29.0
Public Health and Wellbeing**	-	-
Support Services and Economic Development	40.3	41.5
Spending on services	567.7	602.3

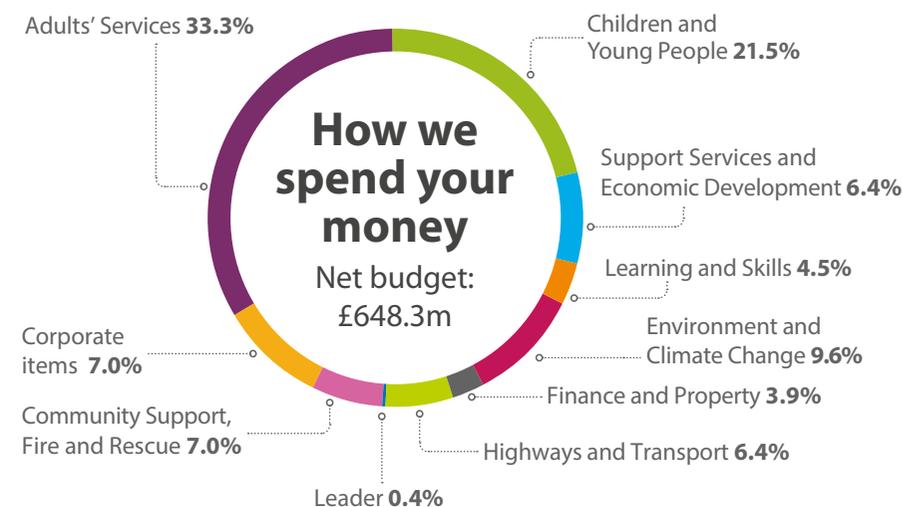
*This includes levies for Flood Defences (£0.347m) Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (£0.340m), Chichester Harbour Conservancy (£0.210m) and Littlehampton Harbour Board (£0.190m)

** The Public Health and Wellbeing portfolio is fully funded by grants and other income. The gross budget for 2022/23 is £21.2m.

CORPORATE ITEMS	2021/22	2022/23
	Total Net £m	Total Net £m
Capital financing	31.4	36.5
Contingency	8.6	9.2
Interest receipts	-3.0	-3.0
Contribution to reserves and balances	20.1	3.3
Budget requirement	624.8	648.3

THE MONEY COMES FROM:	2021/22	2022/23
	Total Net £m	Total Net £m
Business Rates Retention Scheme	-79.3	-87.2
Collection Fund Surplus (-)/Deficit	6.7	4.8
New Homes Bonus Grant	-2.3	-2.0
Social Care Support Grant	-18.2	-25.8
COVID-19 Expenditure Pressures Grant	-15.6	-
Local Council Tax Support Grant	-6.6	-
Services Grant	-	-5.5
Council tax requirement	-115.3	-115.7

COUNCIL TAX ILLUSTRATION	2021/22	2022/23
Tax base (Band D equivalent)	337,276	342,375
Band D Council tax	£1,510.56	£1,555.74



How spending has changed

In total we expect to spend a gross amount of £1,716.1m on all services compared with £1,628.5m in 2021/22. Towards this we expect to receive £195.2m in income and charges for services and £872.6m in government grants, of which £725.2m relates to the Dedicated Schools Grant which is ring-fenced for schools. Allowing for this, the net budget is £648.3m (3.8% more when compared to last year).

HOW SPENDING HAS CHANGED	Total Net £m
2021/22 budget total	624.8
Inflation – non-schools services	25.2
Other commitments/service improvements	26.1
Movement in reserves	-16.8
Efficiency and other savings	-11.0
2022/23 budget total	648.3

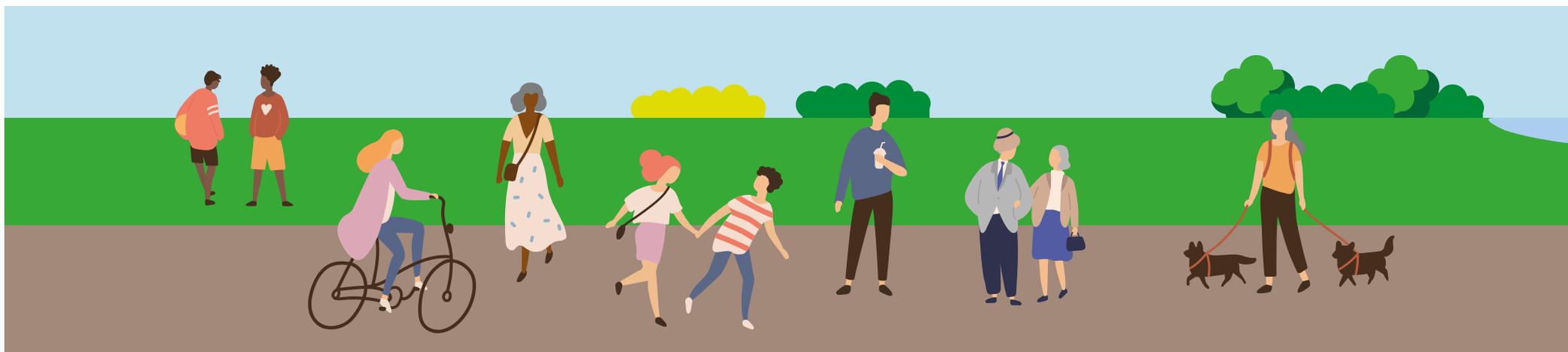
An increase for 2022/23 of 2.99%

The County Council's element of your council tax will increase by 2.99% in 2022/23, which for an average Band D household is equivalent to an additional £0.87p per week.

The increase is made up of a rise of 1.99% for the county's core element of the council tax, plus 1.0% specifically for adult social care as per the offer from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The total increase of 2.99% is within the maximum permissible before a local referendum is required.

In accordance with the Council Tax (Demand Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, the Adult Social Care Precept is detailed separately on the council tax bill and shows the amount charged since the precept was introduced in 2016/17. Details of the calculation are available at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/finance-and-budgets



Help for households experiencing financial pressures paying Council Tax

Funding of up to £3 million has been allocated by West Sussex County Council for the second year running to provide support for households experiencing financial pressures in paying Council Tax in the year ahead.

The funds are for working age residents claiming Council Tax reduction relief, who can benefit from having their Council Tax bill reduced by up to £150.

Administered by Districts and Boroughs, the funding means that we can continue distributing additional discretionary relief for a further year.

This support is in addition to the government's recently announced package of support known as the 'Energy Bills Rebate' which is to help households with rising energy bills.

Charges per Council Tax Band

The 2022/23 County Council charges per band are shown below. There will also be charges from your district or borough council, Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner and your town or parish council (if you have one). Please see your bill for your final council tax figures.

Band	Property value (as of April 1991)	County Council charge 2022/23
A	Up to £40,000	£1,037.16
B	£40,000 to £52,000	£1,210.02
C	£52,000 to £68,000	£1,382.88
D	£68,000 to £88,000	£1,555.74
E	£88,000 to £120,000	£1,901.46
F	£120,000 to £160,000	£2,247.18
G	£160,000 to £320,000	£2,592.90
H	Over £320,000	£3,111.48

The council tax you pay is based on the value of your house in 1991. If you have any questions about your banding please contact the Valuation Office Agency at www.gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band or phone 03000 501501.

If you have any questions about the County Council budget please write to:
Director of Finance and Support Services
West Sussex County Council
County Hall, Chichester, PO19 1RG.
Email: counciltax@westsussex.gov.uk or phone 01243 777100.

Further details on the County's 2022/23 budget are available at:
www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/finance-and-budgets