



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.

Adult Social Care



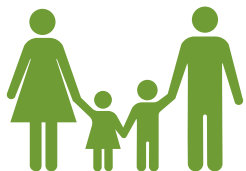
£2,028,830
per day

Schools



£1,478,413
per day

Children's Services



£447,264
per day

Early Years & Child Care



£301,105
per day

Environment & Waste



£262,108
per day

Infrastructure



£202,149
per day

Public Health



£189,750
per day

Home to School Transport



£98,504
per day

Concessionary Fares



£44,075
per day

Library Services



£40,165
per day

Economic Development



£18,975
per day

Coroner's Services



£13,232
per day

Country Parks



£9,533
per day

Registrar Services



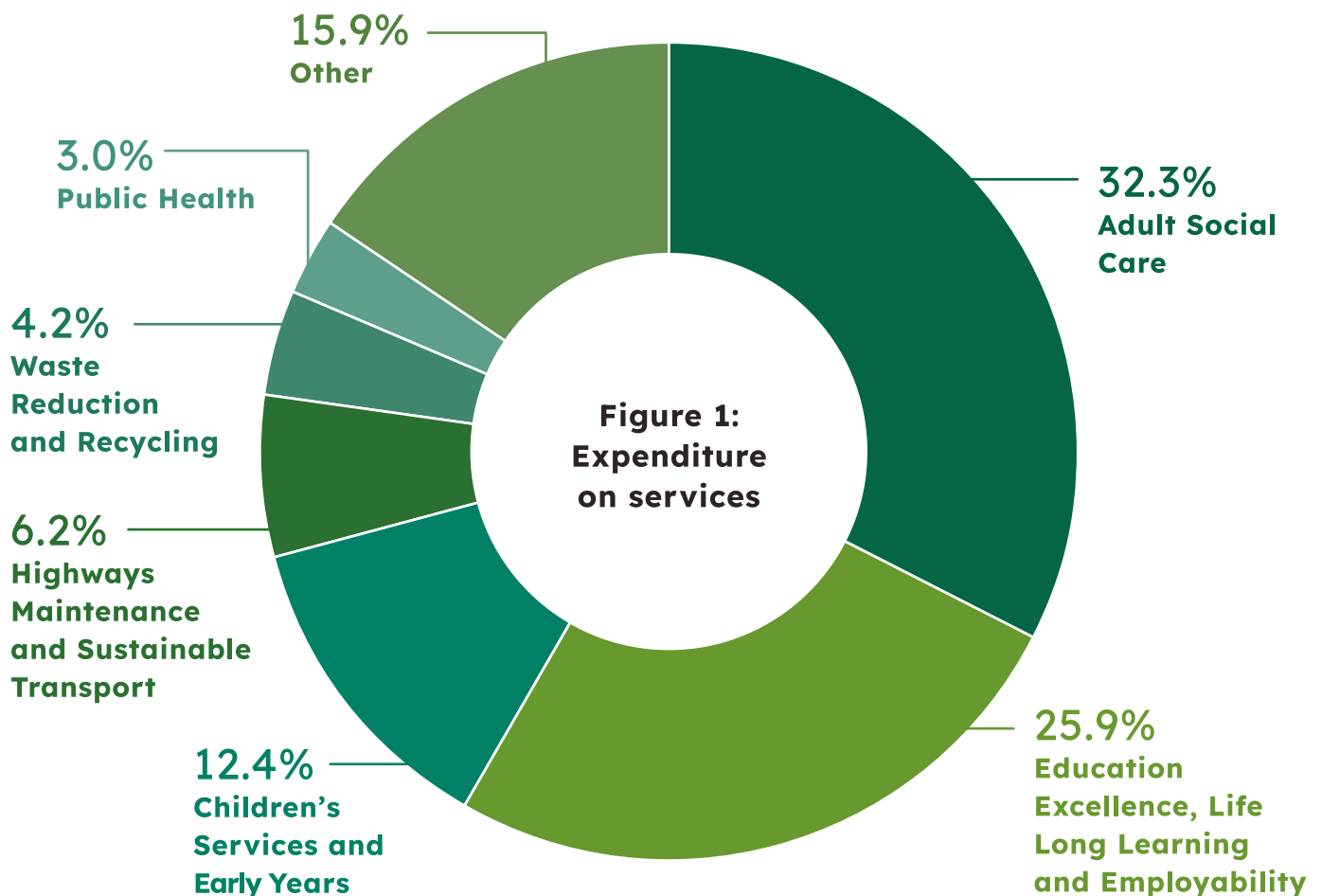
£8,606
per day

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
Total	2,293.9



**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.

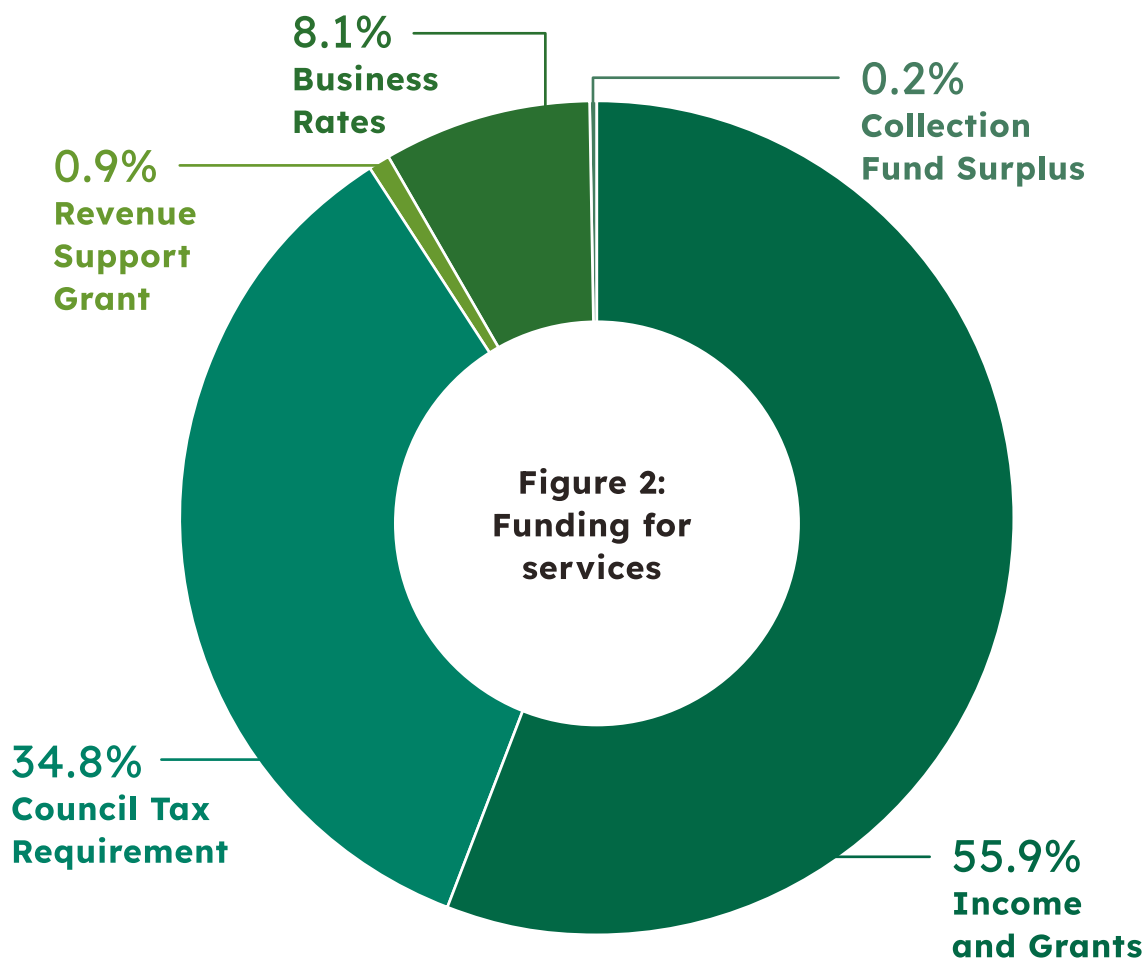
This will result in an increase in council tax for a band D property of 94p per household per week, taking the Band D charge to **£1,450.17**.

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)
Budget requirement	958.0	1,011.2	53.2
This is paid for by:			
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)
Council tax requirement	(763.5)	(799.0)	(35.5)
Total funding	(958.0)	(1,011.2)	(53.2)



This information is issued by:
Essex County Council
Corporate Services

Contact us:
financial.analysts@essex.gov.uk
www.essex.gov.uk/counciltax
0345 743 0430

Essex County Council
Council Tax
Freepost CL3636
Chelmsford CM1 1LX

 **Essex_CC**
 **facebook.com/essexcountycouncil**

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

Published February 2023