

COUNCIL TAX INFORMATION 2024/25



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

Adult Social Care



£2,218,389
per day

(2023/24 **£2,028,830**)

Schools



£1,551,296
per day

(2023/24 **£1,478,413**)

Children's Services



£521,012
per day

(2023/24 **£447,264**)

Early Years & Child Care



£455,600
per day

(2023/24 **£301,105**)

Environment & Waste



£253,538
per day

(2023/24 **£250,156**)

Public Health



£196,574
per day

(2023/24 **£189,750**)

Home to School Transport



£139,485
per day

(2023/24 **£98,504**)

Infrastructure



£107,951
per day

(2023/24 **£107,329**)

Concessionary Fares



£44,623
per day

(2023/24 **£44,075**)

Library Services



£43,504
per day

(2023/24 **£40,165**)

Economic Development



£18,276
per day

(2023/24 **£17,562**)

Coroner's Services



£16,636
per day

(2023/24 **£13,232**)

Country Parks



£10,296
per day

(2023/24 **£9,533**)

Registrar Services



£9,347
per day

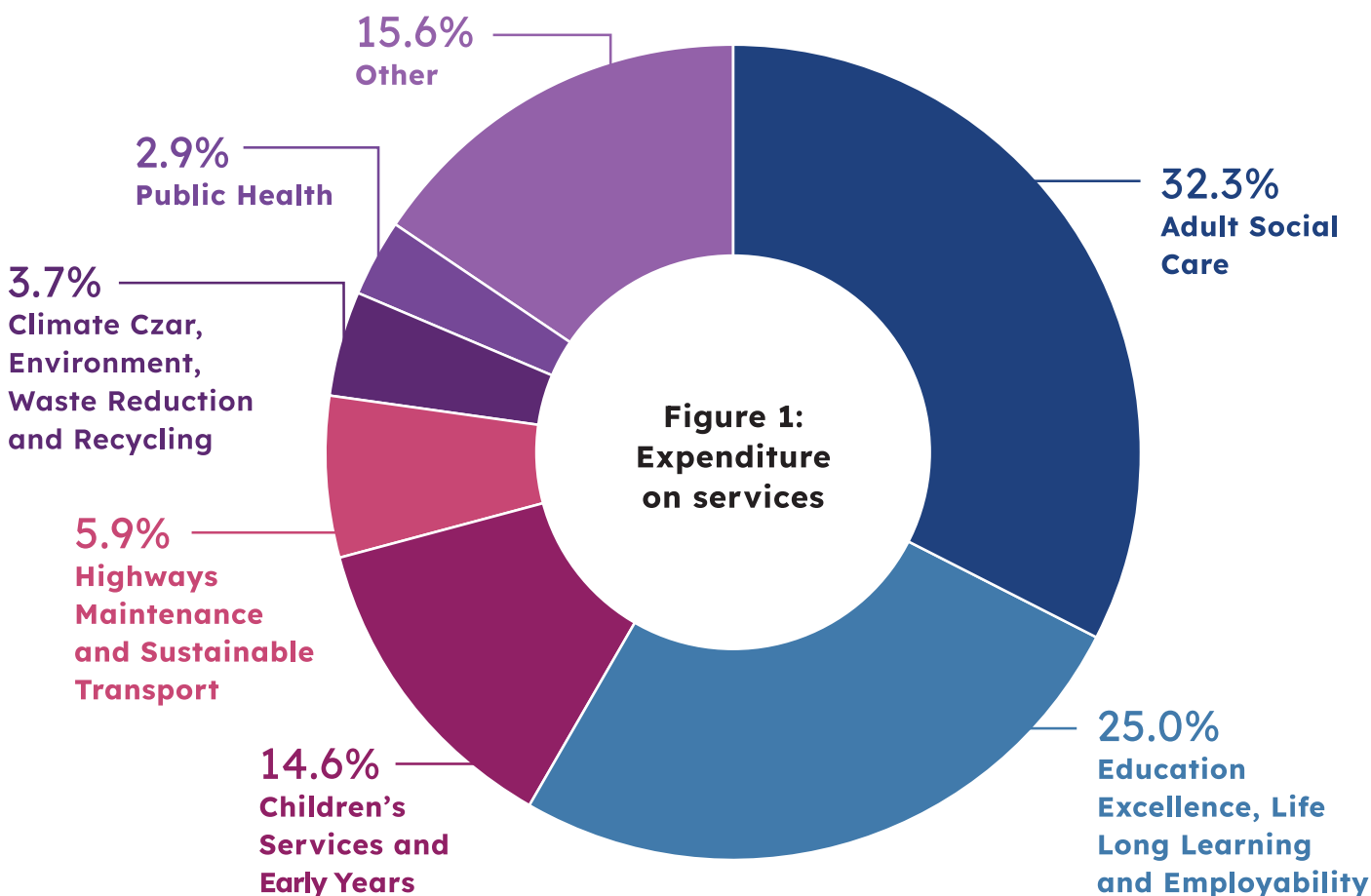
(2023/24 **£8,606**)

Expenditure on services

The Council has committed to spending:

- £810 million on services supporting vulnerable adults
- £626 million on Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability
- £367 million on services supporting Children’s Services and Early Years

Expenditure on Services	£m
Health, Adult Social Care and ICS Integration	809.7
Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability	625.7
Children’s Services and Early Years	367.1
Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	149.0
Climate Czar, Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling	94.0
Public Health	71.7
Other, which includes services such as Libraries, Coroners, Registrars and Country Parks	390.3
Total	2,507.6



SUPPORTING PEOPLE TODAY, BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR TOMORROW

We are entering the new financial year against a backdrop of some of the most challenging times that local government has ever faced.

New pressures caused by the need to support the recovery from Covid, the war in Ukraine, high energy costs, and unprecedented inflation levels have all come on top of existing challenges to reform our services and respond to huge increases in demand from those who need our help most.

It would be easy under these circumstances to think that simply balancing our budget is good enough. But we will never leave hope and aspiration for tomorrow. That is not the Essex way.

Firstly, we care. We are on the side of Essex residents – young and old, rich and poor, we are here to support those who need us.

Secondly, we are as proud of Essex as you are. This is a wonderful county and this Council will continue to promote Essex as a location for inward investment, tourism and the arts.

Finally, financial competence. The foundation for everything we do is running the Council efficiently. We have saved more than a billion pounds over the past 15 years.

But we are also investing for the long term: From a new railway station at Beaulieu Park, the first on the Great Eastern Main Line for 100 years, to the planting of 125,000 trees in the county over the coming year, our budget and Annual Plan contains more than 100 commitments that we will deliver over the next year.

Not only supporting people today, but laying the foundations for a stronger tomorrow. That is the Essex way.



**Councillor
Kevin Bentley**
Leader, Essex County Council

Listening to you

During November 2023, we carried out a budget consultation and you told us that:

- National Health Service/ Healthcare was the most important issues facing Essex today, followed by Crime/ Community Safety and pressures on social care provision
- Priorities for immediate action include Developing Essex infrastructure; Supporting those who care for the sick or vulnerable children; Securing high standards in education.

Investing

On your list of priorities was supporting those who care for the sick or vulnerable people. We are investing an additional £86m combined in Adults and Children's social care in 2024/25, 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 2,700 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 £320 million for 2024/25. This includes investments such as Beaulieu

station and Chelmsford North-East bypass, and the A127 / A130 Fairglen Interchange.

We will continue the aspiration to achieve net zero through developing and investing in multiple schemes and innovative solutions, as part of our £250m Climate action plan.

Saving

Recent years have seen significant increases in our costs driven by demand and high inflation, outstripping growth in local authority grants. In 2024/25 alone we are anticipating new pressures of £100m across the Council, while government funding is increasing by only £43m. Therefore, we have had to cut our cloth accordingly, so over the past four years, we have saved £175 million.

In 2024/25, we will deliver a further £32 million of savings by continuation of existing programmes within Adult Social Care, making more efficient use of our buildings and make better use of technology and digitisation across the Council.

**OVER THE PAST
FOUR YEARS,
WE HAVE
SAVED £175
MILLION**



SPENDING AND CHARGES EXPLAINED

There is always a balance between investing in and protecting services and asking people to pay a little more.

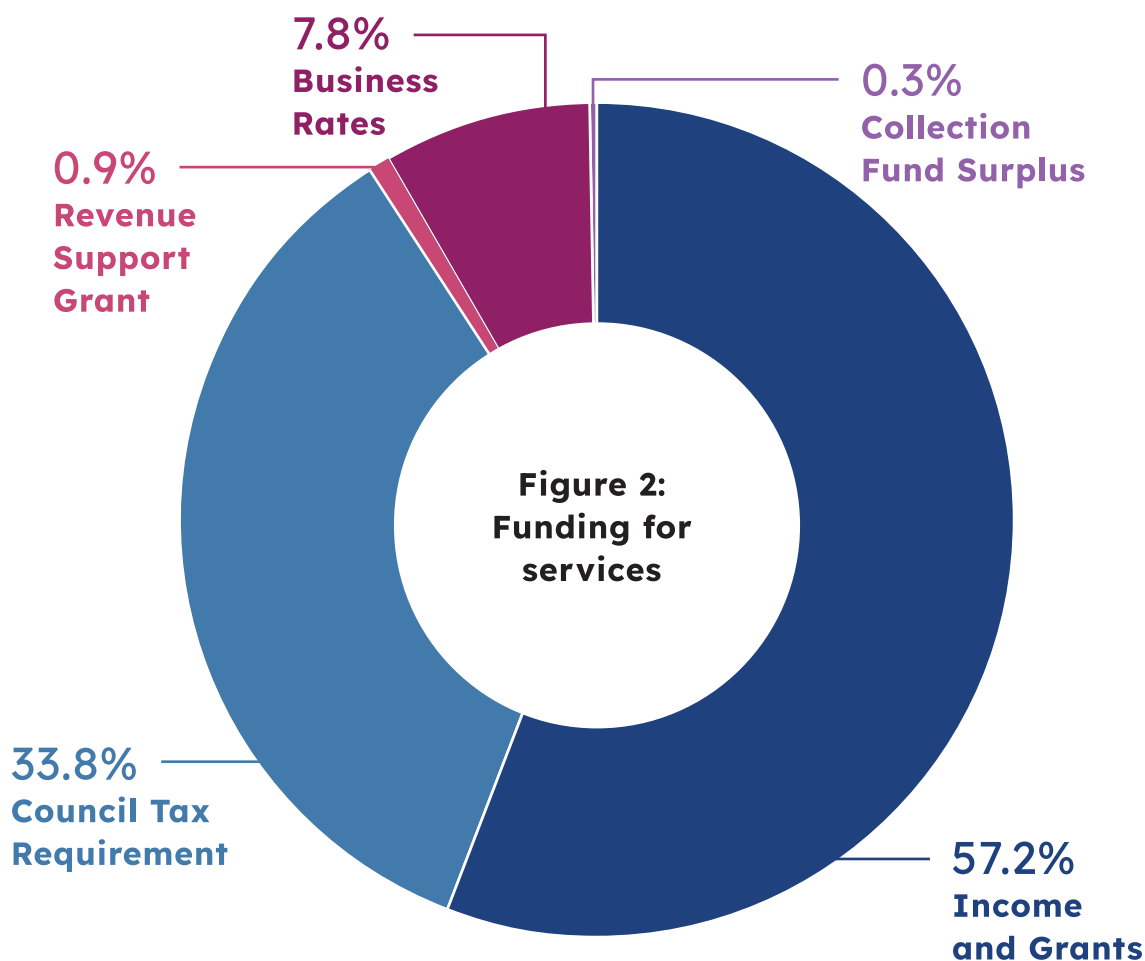
This year we are increasing council tax by a total of 4.99%. This is made up of a 2.99% general council tax precept and a 2% adult social care precept, as set out by Government for 2024/25. This will result in an increase in council tax for a band D property of £1.39 per household per week, taking the Band D charge to **£1,522.53**.

The following table shows the Council tax charge by band.

Band	Council tax charge £000
A	1,015.02
B	1,184.19
C	1,353.36
D	1,522.53
E	1,860.87
F	2,199.21
G	2,537.55
H	3,045.06

The 2024/25 budget sets out the financial resources that the Council has available to deliver the Annual Plan.

Financial Overview	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	Change £m
Total expenditure	2,293.9	2,507.6	213.7
Income and grants	(1,282.7)	(1,434.4)	(151.7)
Budget requirement	1,011.2	1,073.2	62.0
This is paid for by:			
Collection fund (surplus)/deficit	(5.4)	(7.2)	(1.8)
Business Rates	(185.5)	(195.0)	(9.5)
Revenue Support Grant	(21.3)	(22.7)	(1.4)
Council tax requirement	(799.0)	(848.3)	(49.3)
Total funding	(1,011.2)	(1,073.2)	(62.0)



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

www.essex.gov.uk

 [essexcountycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/essexcountycouncil)

 [essex_cc](https://www.instagram.com/essex_cc)

 [Essex County Council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/essex-county-council)

 [essex_cc](https://twitter.com/essex_cc)

 [Essex County Council](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8w1Yt1p1p1p1p1p1p1p1p1)

Stay up to date with the Your Essex e-newsletter.
For a monthly snapshot of news, events and
activities across the county, sign up at:

www.essex.gov.uk/youressex

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