

The County Council share of Council Tax increased by 3.95%

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has 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 is the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its council tax for the financial years from the financial year beginning in 2016 without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting expenditure on adult social care. Subject to the annual approval of the House of Commons, the Secretary of State intends to offer the option of charging this "precept" at an appropriate level in each financial year up to and including the financial year 2019/20.

This is the second year of the adult social care offer and the County Council, as an adult social care authority, has taken up this offer and increased its element of the council tax by 3.95%. This comprises 2% specifically for adult social care and 1.95% for the County's other functions.

The additional income raised through the 2% for adult social care will be used to fund the pressures faced within this area. These total £11.9m in 2017/18 and include £6.8m for rising demand for care, £3.5m for the National Living Wage and £1.6m for inflationary increases.

In accordance with the Council Tax (Demand Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017, the accumulated Adult Social Care Precept is shown separately on the council tax bill. Based upon a council tax Band D this has been calculated as overleaf.

Calculation of Band D increase	2016/17	2017/18
• Band D prior year	£1,161.99	£1,207.89
• General Expenditure @ 1.95%	£22.66	£23.54
• Adult Social Care @ 2.00%	£23.24	£24.16
Total Council Tax	£1,207.89	£1,255.59

Adult Social Care Precept as shown on Tax Bill

• General Expenditure prior year	£1,161.99	£1,184.65
• Annual increase	£22.66	£23.54
Total General Expenditure	£1,184.65	£1,208.19
• Adult Social Care prior year	£0.00	£23.24
• Annual increase	£23.24	£24.16
Total Adult Social Care	£23.24	£47.40

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

Further details on the County's 2017/18 budget are available at www.westsussex.gov.uk

Charges per Council Tax Band

Band	Property value (as of April 1991)	County Council charge 2017/18
A	Up to £40,000	£837.06
B	£40,000 to £52,000	£976.57
C	£52,000 to £68,000	£1,116.08
D	£68,000 to £88,000	£1,255.59
E	£88,000 to £120,000	£1,534.61
F	£120,000 to £160,000	£1,813.63
G	£160,000 to £320,000	£2,092.65
H	Over £320,000	£2,511.18

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 Westmoreland House, Strand Parade, Goring by Sea, BN12 6EA or phone 03000 501501.

www.westsussex.gov.uk

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YOUR COUNCIL TAX 2017/18

Your money and how we spend it





Our top priority when setting our budget is to provide you with good value for money services which meet your needs now and in the future.

Like other councils we're facing a difficult financial landscape. Funding

from government is going down and demand for services is going up. Our residents rely on us every day to provide vital services so it's crucial we make wise decisions about the way we use your money.

It's a big challenge but it's critical we get it right. That's why we continue to shape our services and look for new ways of working to keep council tax as low as possible. This year to ensure we can continue to deliver our services our share of council tax will increase by 1.95% plus an additional 2% to fund adult social care, providing a total of 3.95% – an extra 92 pence per week for the average Band D household.

We know the funding for adult social care unfortunately isn't going to be enough and we are campaigning hard for government to look at this issue on a national level. I can promise you that we will leave no stone unturned in our ongoing drive to find efficiencies and savings. This year alone we have found £16.8m of savings across a range of services and we will always look for further opportunities.

We will continue to deliver services for you 24/7 and will be there for you in times of emergency. Our libraries and Children and Family Centres remain open, we repair our roads and we have started an initiative to improve pavements – to name just a few of our many services.

I'm also proud to say that over the next five years, thanks to our careful budget management, we will invest £587m on key priority areas such as schools, roads and the Fire and Rescue Service.

As ever, thank you for your support. We couldn't do the vital work we do without you.

Louise Goldsmith
Leader, West Sussex County Council

Planned spending in 2017/18

Our budget

SERVICES	2016/17 Total £m	2017/18 Total £m
• Adult Social Care and Health	179.9	188.1
• Children – Start of Life	88.3	95.0
• Community Wellbeing (Public Health)	3.9	1.8
• Corporate Relations (inc. HR & IT)	44.5	44.4
• Education and Skills	16.8	13.1
• Finance inc. Economic Development*	20.8	22.2
• Highways and Transport	41.2	37.9
• Waste, Fire and Other Services	98.7	94.7
Spending on services	494.1	497.2

CORPORATE ITEMS

• Capital financing	48.9	30.8
• Contingency	3.2	3.2
• Interest receipts	-1.9	-1.6
• Contribution to reserves and balances	-9.3	0.2
• HM Revenue and Customs	0.0	0.5
Budget requirement	535.0	530.3

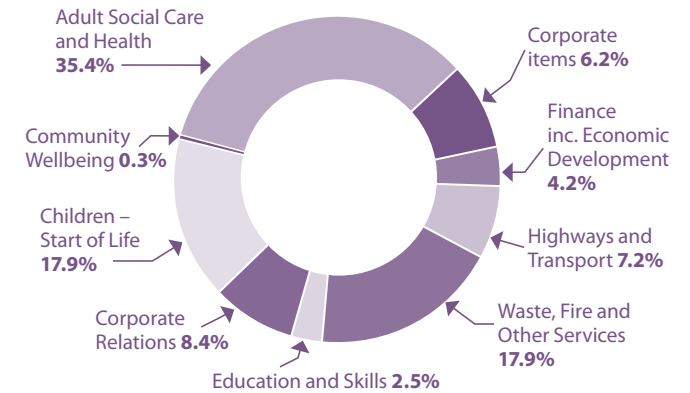
The money comes from:

• Business Rates	-74.5	-75.9
• Revenue Support Grant	-53.1	-27.7
• Business Rate Cap Grant	-1.9	-2.3
• Services Support/School Imp Grant	-0.5	-0.4
• Collection Fund surplus	-3.7	-2.3
• Education Services Grant	-7.4	-2.2
• New Homes Bonus Grant	-5.4	-5.0
• Transitional Grant	-6.2	-6.3
• Adult Social Care Grant	0.0	-3.3
Council Tax requirement	382.3	404.9

• Tax base (Band D equivalent)	316,474	322,446
Band D Council Tax	£1,207.⁸⁹	£1,255.⁵⁹

* This includes levies for flood defence (£0.299m), Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (£0.331m), Chichester Harbour Conservancy (£0.189m) and Littlehampton Harbour Board (£0.102m).

How we spend your money



How spending has changed

In total we expect to spend a gross amount of £1,363.1m on all services compared with £1,347.2m in 2016/17. Towards this we expect to receive £659.7m in specific grants from Government and £173.1m from income and charges for services. Allowing for this, the net budget is £530.3m (0.8% less than last year on a like-with-like basis). The Council Tax requirement has changed from £382.3m to £404.9m as a result of a 3.95% rise, the increasing number of households, unavoidable spending pressures and reduced Government funding.

	Total £m
2016/17 budget	535.0
• Change in central government funding arrangements	-0.5
Adjusted 2016/17 budget	534.5
• Inflation – non-schools services	4.1
• Adult social care increased need	11.9
• Capital financing adjustments	-17.9
• Other commitments/service improvements	4.9
• Transfers from reserves	9.6
• Efficiency and other savings	-16.8
2017/18 budget total	530.3