



Council Tax Information

2018-19

Welcome page

This document shows how much of your money is allocated to Eastbourne Borough Council. It shows what your money is spent on and what services are provided to you locally. It also records year-on-year changes in spending and taxes. In addition, this booklet includes information about Council Tax discounts, reductions and exemptions.

You can find information on the allocation of Council Tax and spending by East Sussex County Council at

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/finance/futurespend/summary

‘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 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.’

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/

East Sussex Fire and Rescue at

www.esfrs.org/about-us/publication-of-information/financial-information/

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner at

www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/about/transparency/what-we-spend-how-we-spend-it/

Council Tax Charges for 2018/19

BAND	9's of D	EBC Tax	ESCC Tax	SPA Tax	ESFA	TOTAL TAX	SPD	Single person will pay
@	5	£133.15	£773.95	£92.17	£50.56	£1,049.83	£262.46	£787.37
A	6	£159.78	£928.74	£110.61	£60.67	£1,259.80	£314.95	£944.85
B	7	£186.41	£1,083.53	£129.04	£70.78	£1,469.76	£367.44	£1,102.32
C	8	£213.04	£1,238.32	£147.48	£80.89	£1,679.73	£419.93	£1,259.80
D	9	£239.67	£1,393.11	£165.91	£91.00	£1,889.69	£472.42	£1,417.27
E	11	£292.93	£1,702.69	£202.78	£111.22	£2,309.62	£577.41	£1,732.21
F	13	£346.19	£2,012.27	£239.65	£131.44	£2,729.55	£682.39	£2,047.16
G	15	£399.45	£2,321.85	£276.52	£151.67	£3,149.49	£787.37	£2,362.12
H	18	£479.34	£2,786.22	£331.82	£182.00	£3,779.38	£944.85	£2,834.53

The table above shows the tax required by the four authorities for each band of property in Eastbourne for the year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

The amount of Council Tax you pay is based on the value of your property. The market value of your property was set on 1 April 1991.

Property Valuation Bands	
A	Up to and including £40,000
B	£40,001 £52,000
C	£52,001 £68,000
D	£68,001 £88,000
E	£88,001 £120,000
F	£120,001 £160,000
G	£160,001 £320,000
H	More than £320,000

Your Council Tax bill shows the band that applies to your property.

How your Council Tax is calculated

Planned spending in 2018/2019

	2017/2018 £'000	2018/2019 £'000	Change %
Corporate Services	7,130	7,062	(0.95%)
Service Delivery	65,527	64,398	(1.72%)
Strategy, Planning and Regeneration*	2,000	4,519	125.95%
Tourism and Enterprise	10,195	9,577	(6.06%)
Housing Revenue Account	12,798	12,848	0.39%
Financing and Investment	2,478	2,518	1.61%
Gross Expenditure	100,128	100,922	0.79%
Grants and other income	(84,822)	(86,592)	2.09%
Reversal of depreciation and other capital charges	(4,077)	(4,026)	(1.25%)
Transfers to/(from) reserves, contingencies and other movements	1,208	1,006	(16.72%)
Total Budget Requirement	12,437	11,310	(9.06%)
General Government Grant	(1,294)	(640)	
Retained Business Rates	(3,112)	(2,257)	
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	(130)	(179)	
Council Tax Requirement	7,901	8,234	4.21%
Tax Base (Band D equivalent properties)	33,923.7	34,354.4	
Band D Council Tax	£ 232.92	£ 239.67	2.90%

How spending has changed

	£'000
Budget Requirement 2017-2018	12,437
Change in resources	(90)
Cost pressures	1,173
Efficiency savings	(2,210)
Budget Requirement 2018-2019	11,310

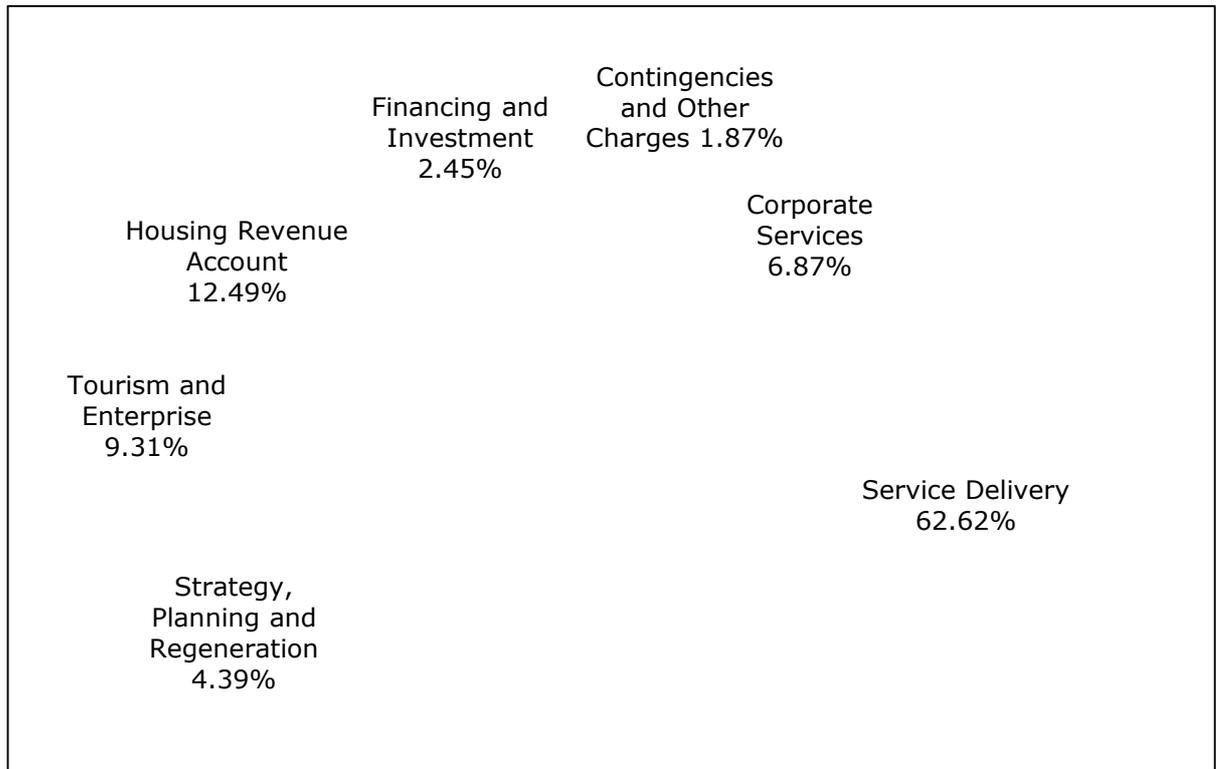
* Change due to restructure under Joint Transformation Programme

Cost for a Typical Band D Household for 2018-19

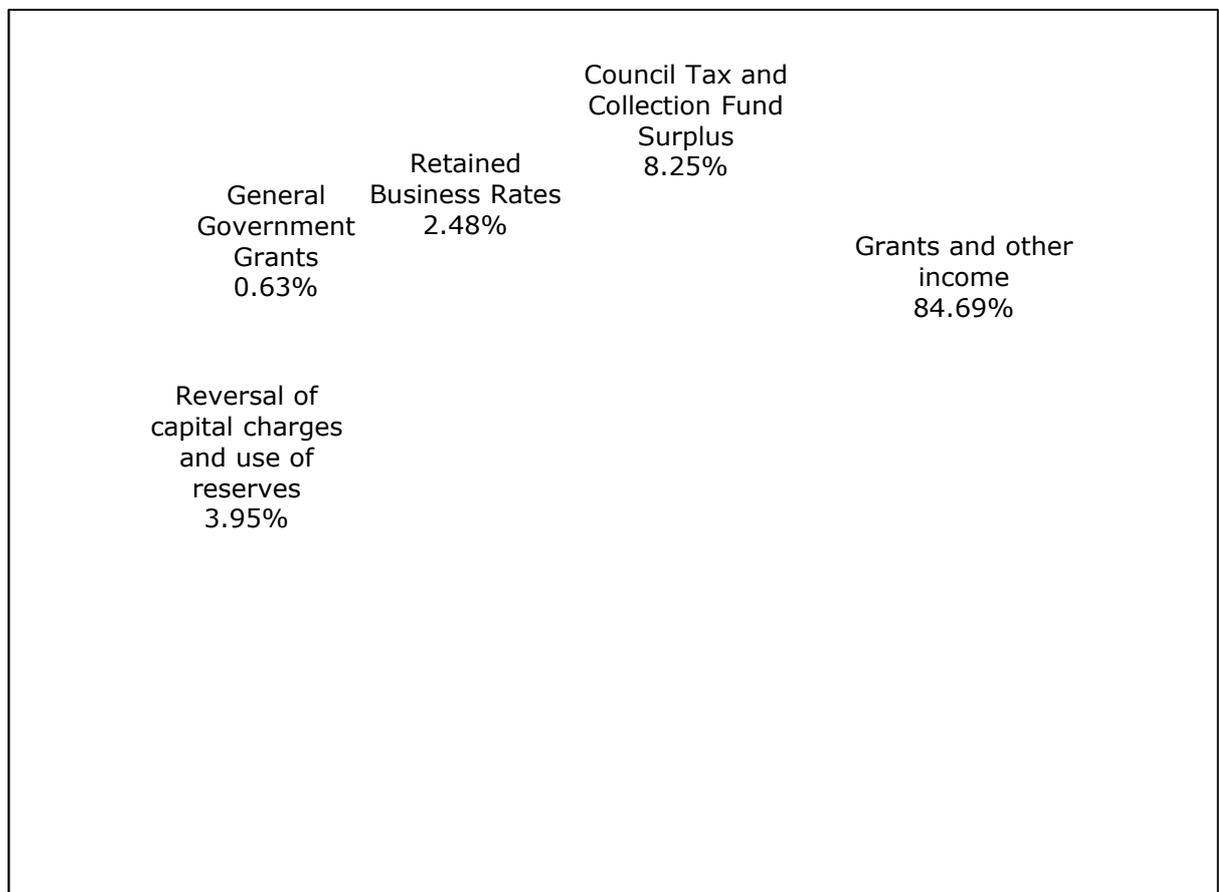
To calculate your Council Tax we add together the money needed by East Sussex County Council, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, The Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex and Eastbourne Borough Council. We then divide this amount by our tax base of 34,354.4, which represents the estimated number of Band D equivalent properties within Eastbourne, to determine the Council Tax for Band D property.

£165.91	East Sussex County Council
£239.67	East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
£91.00	Eastbourne Borough Council
£1,393.11	The Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex

Where the money goes



Where the money comes from



Eastbourne Borough Council Priority Themes and Aims for 2020

Prosperous Economy

- A great destination for tourism, arts, heritage and culture
- Supporting employment and skills
- Providing opportunities for businesses to grow and invest
- Investing in housing and economic development
- Supporting investment in infrastructure



Quality Environment

- A clean and attractive town
- Less waste and a low carbon town
- A range of transport opportunities
- High quality built environment
- Excellent parks and open spaces



Thriving Communities

- Keeping crime and anti-social behaviour levels low
- Meeting housing needs
- Improved health and wellbeing
- Resilient and engaged communities
- Putting the customer first



Sustainable Performance

- Making the best of our assets
- Managing people and performance
- Delivering in partnership
- Making the best use of technology
- Delivering a balanced budget



Our 2026 Partnership vision for Eastbourne

By 2026 Eastbourne will be a premier seaside destination within an enhanced green setting. To meet everyone's needs Eastbourne will be a safe, thriving, healthy and vibrant community with excellent housing, education and employment choices, actively responding to the effects of climate change.

Council Tax Explanatory Notes

Who must pay Council Tax?

Adults aged 18 and over who live in a property will usually pay the Council Tax bill. People who are married, civil partners or living together as partners are jointly liable. Also, people who jointly own or rent a property are equally liable. If you live in your home alone you can normally claim a discount.

Council Tax Discounts

Discounts can usually be claimed when:

- You are living on your own in a property and it is your main home - 25% single occupancy discount

The following people are disregarded when calculating discounts:

- Full-time students, (and certain non UK spouses/dependants), student nurses, apprentices, and youth training trainees and foreign language assistants.
- People who are severely mentally impaired and are entitled to a qualifying benefit.
- 18 and 19 year olds who are at or who have just left school or college.
- Care workers working for low pay, usually for charities.
- People caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner, or child under 18 years old (and who are entitled to a qualifying benefit).
- Members of visiting forces and certain international institutions.
- Members of religious communities (monks and nuns).
- People who are in prison or detention (except those in prison for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine).
- Diplomats and their non-British spouses.

Council Tax Exemptions

Council Tax is not payable on some properties. Your bill will show if an exemption has been applied to your account. The different classes of exemption are:

Class B Unoccupied property owned and previously occupied by a charity.

Class D Unoccupied property where the liable person is in prison or detention.

Class E Unoccupied property where the liable person permanently resides in a rest home, nursing home or hospital.

Class F Unoccupied property where the liable person is deceased and probate has not been granted, or for up to six months after probate has been granted

Class G Unoccupied property where occupation is prohibited by law.

Class H Unoccupied property waiting to be occupied by a minister of religion, where he or she would carry out the duties of his or her office.

Class I Unoccupied property where the liable person is receiving care elsewhere (not a hospital or care home).

Class J Unoccupied property where the liable person is giving care to a person elsewhere.

Class K Unoccupied property where the person who is liable to pay the Council Tax is a student and living elsewhere to study.

Class L Unoccupied property where a mortgagee is in possession.

Class M Student halls of residence.

Class N Property occupied solely by full time students undertaking a qualifying course or study.

Class O Armed forces accommodation.

Class P Visiting forces accommodation.

Class Q Unoccupied property where the liable person is a trustee in bankruptcy.

Class R Property consisting of a pitch or a mooring which is not occupied by a caravan or, as the case may be, a boat.

Class S Property occupied solely by people less than 18 years of age.

Class T Unoccupied property which forms part of another property but cannot be let separately (e.g. a granny annexe).

Class U Property occupied solely by persons who are severely mentally impaired and entitled to a qualifying benefit.

Class V Property where the liable person is a diplomat.

Class W Property occupied by an elderly or disabled dependant relative, which is part of another property (e.g. a granny annexe).

Please note that if you are the landlord of a student property you will not be entitled to an exemption for the summer period. However if the property is both empty and unfurnished you may qualify for a 100% discount for a period of up to 1 calendar month after which a full charge will apply.

Disabled Band Reduction

A property may be eligible for a Disabled Band Reduction if a disabled resident has an extra room to meet the needs of their disability or if a wheelchair needs to be used indoors.

Council Tax Property Discounts

Council Tax is discounted on some properties. Your bill will show if a discount has been applied. Examples are:

Unoccupied and Unfurnished Properties

A 100% discount can be awarded for up to one calendar month from the date the property becomes unoccupied and unfurnished after which full Council Tax will be charged. In addition, a 50% discount may be awarded for a maximum period of up to 12 months if a property requires or is undergoing major repair work or extensive structural alteration to render it habitable. A full Council Tax charge applies when the discount has ended.

These discounts are property related and a change in liable party will not result in any new period of discount entitlement if the discount has previously been applied.

Second/Holiday Homes

Eastbourne Borough Council does not award a discount for second/holiday homes.

You may be entitled to a 50% discount if by the contract of your employment you are required to live in a property provided by your employer and you pay a full Council Tax charge elsewhere e.g. a publican who has to live above the premises or a school caretaker who is required to live in accommodation provided by the school.

Annexes

You may be eligible for a 50% discount if you use your annexe as part of your main property or if a relative of the person who is liable for Council Tax on the main property is living in it.

Long Term Empty Properties

Eastbourne Borough Council will increase the Council Tax charge to 150% for unfurnished properties that have been empty for 2 or more years (Please note that annexes and those in the armed forces will not be affected by this increase).

Council Tax Reduction Scheme

In general, to be entitled to receive a Council Tax Reduction you will need to be in receipt of a low income whether from full/part-time employment or from other state benefits (such as Income Support) and have less than £16,000 in savings. Your income and savings and those of any partner will be counted when assessing entitlement. If you have another adult living with you, this might affect the amount of reduction you get.

Important Information

The information in these explanatory notes is for guidance only. If you think you may be eligible for a discount or exemption please visit our website or contact us for further information or to make an application. Contact points are at the bottom of this page. Please note that an inspection of a property may be necessary before an exemption or discount can be considered.

If you have been awarded a discount, exemption or reduction on your Council Tax bill, you must by law, inform the Council within **21 days** of any change of circumstances which may affect your entitlement e.g. a child turning 18, a student ceasing to attend college or a property becoming occupied.

Payment by Direct Debit

Most people pay their Council Tax by monthly Direct Debit. It is safe, convenient and straightforward. Customers who pay by Direct Debit have the choice of four different payment dates, unlike other payment methods – 1st, 7th, 15th or 25th of the month. Direct Debit is the most cost effective way to pay, which means we can provide better services and facilities for our residents.

If you want to pay by Direct Debit please complete the mandate enclosed with your bill or download an instruction from our website
www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/payments/

Payment by Monthly Instalments

Council Tax is usually paid over 10 monthly statutory instalments; however Eastbourne Borough Council offers payment over a maximum of 12 monthly instalments. If you wish to take advantage of this please contact us. Please note the number of instalments reduces for bills issued during the course of the year.

Unable to Pay Your Council Tax

If you are having difficulty paying your Council Tax, or you receive a recovery notice e.g. a Final Notice or Court Summons, then please contact us as soon as possible for advice on 01323 410000. To seek impartial advice and guidance from the Citizens Advice Bureau you can contact them at www.citizensadvice.org.uk or on 03444 111444.

How to Appeal Against Decisions

You have the right to appeal to the Valuation Office Agency if you believe your property is not in the correct Council Tax band (see below for contact details). You have the right to appeal to the council if you believe you are not liable to pay Council Tax. Please note that you must continue to pay your Council Tax on time whilst an appeal is being considered. If you are successful, you will be given a refund of overpaid tax.

Contact Points

Eastbourne Borough Council

Customer First
1 Grove Road
Eastbourne
BN21 4TW
Website: www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Email: customerfirst@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Telephone: 01323 410000

Valuation Office Agency

St Anne's House
2 St Anne's Road
Eastbourne
BN21 3LG
Tel: 03000 501 501
Email: ctsouth@voa.gsi.gov.uk
Website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/valuation-office-agency

Information on Council Spending

You may find detailed information on Council spending plans by visiting www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/council-tax/where-your-council-tax-goes/

Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2018/19

The Local council Tax Reduction Scheme is a means-tested scheme to help people on a low income pay their council tax. The rules for pensioners are set by central government and the council set the rules for people of working age.

From 1st April 2016 the Council decided that the scheme will include a requirement that all working age people have to pay at least 20% of their council tax and that those who have been self-employed for more than 12 months will have their income from self-employment based on either their actual income or 35 times the hourly National Living Wage, or National Minimum Wage if they are under 25, whichever is the higher.

The scheme rules can be found on the Council's website.

Exceptional Hardship Scheme

The Council has an Exceptional Hardship Scheme available to those who qualify for a local reduction, but are suffering exceptional hardship. The application form is available on the Council's website or from the Council offices at 1 Grove Road.

BUSINESS RATES
FRAUD

SOCIAL HOUSING
FRAUD

RIGHT TO BUY
FRAUD

COUNCIL TAX
FRAUD

PROCUREMENT
FRAUD

GRANT
FRAUD

LETTING US KNOW ABOUT
LOCAL AUTHORITY FRAUD
SAVES YOU MONEY



CALL **0800 731 7039** TO REPORT A FRAUD
AGAINST YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY OR VISIT
WWW.FOCUSONFRAUD.CO.UK