

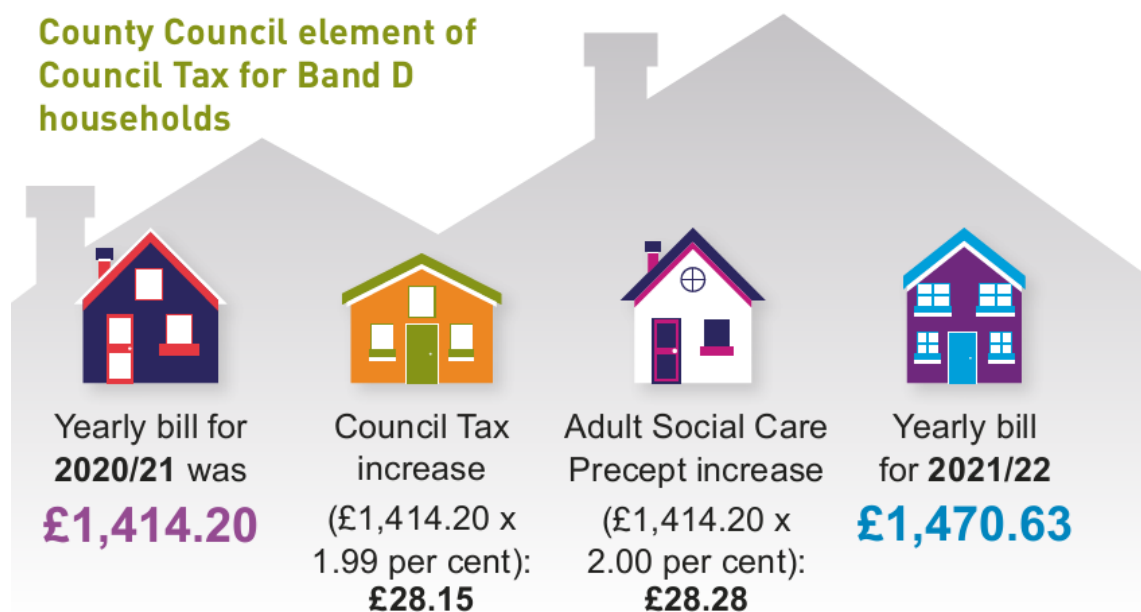
Hertfordshire County Council - Council Tax and Budget Information 2021/22

Councillors have agreed the council's budget for 2021/22, which includes an increase of 2% for the adult social care precept and an additional 1.99% for general council tax. This works out at an extra £1.08 a week for average Band D households.

The money raised will help us invest in support for our growing and ageing population and the ever-increasing demand for our services, particularly for children's and adult's social care. This includes:

- **Supporting the vulnerable**, including funding additional numbers of people needing support, support to the voluntary sector, investment in safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable children through investment in prevention.
- **Meeting the challenges of a growing county**, including investment in rolling out 20mph speed limits and active travel schemes and creating a £2m investment fund to support driving forward Growth and Infrastructure work in the county.
- **Protect the environment**, including £10m of capital investment in sustainable projects to drive forward delivery of the Sustainable Hertfordshire Strategy.

County Council element of Council Tax for Band D households



Council tax for each property valuation band:

These are the amounts collected by each District Council on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council for each valuation band. The total amount of Council Tax you pay can be found on your bill.

Band	2020/21 Council Tax	General Expenditure 1.99% Increase	Adult Social Care Precept 2.00% Increase	2021/22 Council Tax
A	942.80	£18.75	£18.87	£980.42
B	1,099.93	£21.91	£21.98	£1,143.82
C	1,257.07	£25.01	£25.14	£1,307.22
D	1,414.20	£28.15	£28.28	£1,470.63
E	1,728.47	£34.39	£34.58	£1,797.44
F	2,042.73	£40.67	£40.84	£2,124.24
G	2,357.00	£46.90	£47.15	£2,451.05
H	2,828.40	£56.30	£56.56	£2,941.26

Where we spend your money

Your council tax funds a range of local services, including:

- Caring and supporting children, young people and families
- Caring for the elderly, and people with disabilities and mental health issues
- Public Health and supporting people with drug or alcohol problems
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Road maintenance and safety
- Co-ordinating bus services and providing home to school transport for children
- Recycling and waste disposal
- Responding to major planning applications
- Economic development
- Providing libraries, archives and local studies material
- Protecting consumers against poor quality goods and services and upholding fair trading laws
- Community safety (crime / reducing anti-social behaviour) and emergency planning.

Medium term financial position

While there is a balanced budget for 2021/22, the Council is also facing many financial challenges. These include continued uncertainty of future government funding, along with increasing demands for services for children, adults and the elderly. As such the medium-term outlook is extremely challenging. The Council will need to deliver savings rising from £16.5 million in 2021/21 to £70 million in 2024/25. These savings are in addition to those

found already, which now amounts to £351 million per year (or nearly £2 billion since 2010).

Our budget

The table below shows the budgeted spend for each service area and the income used to fund this, and how it has changed since last year.

2020/21 £m		2021/22 £m
2,064.6	Gross Budget	2,088.3
(1,062.9)	Less: Ring-fenced Grants (including Schools)	(1,067.8)
(118.1)	Sales, Fees & Charges	(116.8)
(25.1)	Partner Contributions	(26.5)
858.6	Net Budget	877.2
(132.6)	Business Rates Retention Scheme	(133.2)
(47.1)	Ring-fenced Funding	(49.2)
(32.1)	Non-ringfenced Grants	(31.6)
(6.0)	Collection Fund	(0.7)
640.8	Council Tax Requirement	662.4

How spending has changed

In total we expect to spend a gross amount of £2,088.3m on all services compared with £2,064.6m in 2020/21. Towards this we expect to receive £116.8m in sales, fees and charges for services and £1,067.8m in government grants, of which £1,022.0m relates to the Dedicated Schools Grant which is ring-fenced for schools. Allowing for this, the net budget will be £877.2m (2.2% more than last year).

The Council tax requirement has changed from £640.8m to £662.4m reflecting the 3.99% increase in the amount charged. An increase in the number of residents claiming Council Tax Support has reduced the total amount collectible across the county.

The net budget in the table above is allocated to service areas as follows:

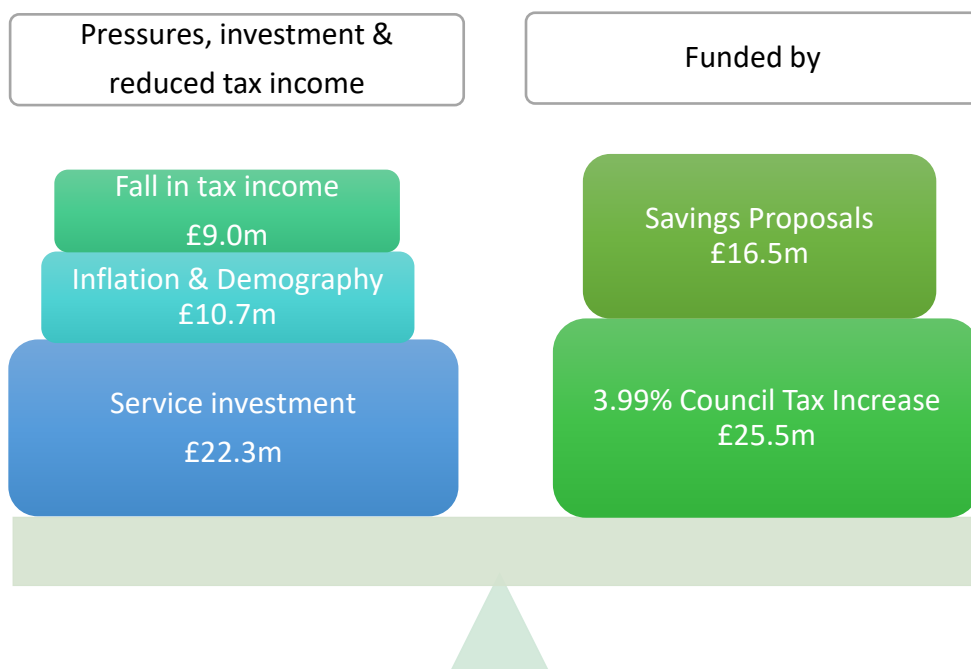
2020/21 £m		2021/22 £m
365.7	Adult Care Services	373.3
209.2	Children's Services*	209.0
121.7	Roads and Waste	125.0
47.1	Public Health	49.3
44.2	Fire and Community Protection	43.5
48.8	Financing & support for front line services*	55.0
14.5	Libraries and other community services	14.8
7.4	Legal & Statutory Services	7.3
858.6	Revenue Budget	877.2

*The increase in Financing & support for front line services includes additional funding for COVID related costs. This is held centrally, but is likely to be spent within services, including Children's services.

The budget includes contributions the council has to make to two organisations - the **Lee Valley Regional Park Authority** (£1.08m) and the **Environment Agency** for flood defence (£0.96m for the Thames Region and £0.07m for the Anglian Region).

Balancing the budget

The diagram below outlines how we have balanced the budget for 2021/22.



For more information on our service areas visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/whatwedo

Investing in Hertfordshire

The Council remains determined that Hertfordshire continues to be a county where people have the opportunity to live healthy, fulfilling lives in thriving, prosperous communities. This Integrated Plan includes significant investment in the following areas:

- Extending care worker pay increases to include those working in residential, nursing and supported living establishments across disability and older people's services
- Support to the Voluntary Sector, including an enhanced package next year to support COVID recovery
- Investment in safeguarding in adult social care
- Providing permanent funding for the Domestic Violence Service
- £10m as part of our Climate Change response, to improve drainage in response to highways flooding brought about by increasing and changing rainfall patterns
- £7m for the roll out of 20 mph speed limits, in line with the Speed Management strategy approved by Cabinet in December 2020, as well as £3m of investment in active travel schemes
- £12m to drive forward delivery of the Sustainable Hertfordshire strategy
- £53m of investment in new Special Schools and specialist resource provision to enable delivery of the SEND strategy approved by Cabinet in December 2020
- Investment in prevention, supporting diversion work that aims to avoid children becoming looked after
- To support the recovery from COVID, additional funding of £1.5m will be invested into Health Inequalities, Healthy Places and Mental Health
- £11m over 4 years to enable the council to bring forward proposals to help tackle some longer term issues of inequality
- Creating a £2m investment fund to support driving forward Growth and Infrastructure work in the county
- To deliver against the 2019-23 Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) so that appropriate Fire Prevention, Protection and Response resources are provided
- Investment in technology to ensure the organisation can modernise and take advantage of new ways of working

Enquiries

Enquiries about payments, rebates or benefits should be made to your **district or borough council**:

District / Borough	Telephone	Email
Broxbourne Borough Council	01992 785577	counciltax@broxbourne.gov.uk
Dacorum Borough Council	01442 228000	council.tax@dacorum.gov.uk
East Hertfordshire District Council	01279 655261	revenues@hertspartnership-ala.gov.uk
Hertsmere Borough Council	0208 207 2277	revenues@hertsmere.gov.uk
North Hertfordshire District Council	01462 474000	service@north-herts.gov.uk
St Albans District Council	01727 866100	counciltax@stalbans.gov.uk
Stevenage Borough Council	01438 242875	revenues@hertspartnership-ala.gov.uk
Three Rivers District Council	01923 776611	counciltax@threerivers.gov.uk
Watford Borough Council	01923 278466	counciltax@watford.gov.uk
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council	01707 357000	c.tax@welhat.gov.uk

If you have an enquiry about **Hertfordshire County Council's** budget or if you would like the information in this leaflet in large print, on tape or in another language, please either:

Visit our website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/counciltax

Email: budget@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Call: 0300 123 4040

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Statement:

The Secretary of State 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 was the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge an additional "precept" on its council tax without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting its expenditure on adult social care from the financial year 2016-17. It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20. If the Secretary of State chooses to renew this offer in respect of a particular financial year, this is subject to the approval of the House of Commons.