



Agenda

Meeting: **Cabinet**
Date: **28 February 2024**
Time: **5.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All members of the Cabinet**

All Councillors for information

The cabinet will consider the matters listed below on the date and at the time and place shown above.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>.

Please note there will be 37 seats available for members of the public, which will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting. The remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.

5. **Folkestone and Hythe District Council Budget 2024/25 (Pages 3 - 12)**

This report presents the Folkestone and Hythe District Council Budget 2024/25.

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION 2024/25

Following consideration of its budget, the Council is required under Statute to make a formal resolution in respect of the amount of Council Tax to be levied in Folkestone and Hythe District Council for the financial year commencing 1 April 2024.

The figures below have been calculated in accordance with regulations made under Sections 31B (3) and 34 (4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) ("the Act").

1. To note that the Chief Finance Officer calculated the Council Tax Base 2024/25 for the Council as 40,466.09 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.
2. That the following amounts now be calculated for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a. £96,295,358 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act
 - b. £81,325,188 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act
 - c. £14,970,171.64 – being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year.
 - d. £ 369.94 – being the amount at 3(c) above divided by the tax base of 40,466.09 calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.
 - e. £3,636,430 – being the aggregate of all special items (including parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
 - f. £280.08 - being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the tax base of 40,466.09 calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates, i.e. Old Romney and Snargate.
 - g. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act as amended.

2024/25	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Folkestone	256.50	299.25	342.00	384.75	470.25	555.75	641.25	769.50
Sandgate	244.57	285.34	326.10	366.86	448.38	529.91	611.43	733.72
Hythe	228.52	266.61	304.69	342.78	418.95	495.13	571.30	685.56
Lydd	241.23	281.44	321.64	361.85	442.26	522.67	603.08	723.70
New Romney	275.27	321.15	367.03	412.91	504.67	596.43	688.18	825.82
Acrise	188.13	219.48	250.84	282.19	344.90	407.61	470.32	564.38
Elham	256.80	299.60	342.40	385.20	470.80	556.40	642.00	770.40
Elmsted	194.51	226.93	259.35	291.77	356.61	421.45	486.28	583.54
Hawkinge	257.47	300.39	343.30	386.21	472.03	557.86	643.68	772.42
Lyminge	274.77	320.56	366.36	412.15	503.74	595.33	686.92	824.30
Lympne	222.72	259.84	296.96	334.08	408.32	482.56	556.80	668.16
Monks Horton	193.29	225.50	257.72	289.93	354.36	418.79	483.22	579.86
Newington	226.75	264.55	302.34	340.13	415.71	491.30	566.88	680.26
Paddlesworth	193.81	226.11	258.41	290.71	355.31	419.91	484.52	581.42
Postling	211.95	247.27	282.60	317.92	388.57	459.22	529.87	635.84
Saltwood	209.73	244.68	279.64	314.59	384.50	454.41	524.32	629.18
Sellindge	242.51	282.93	323.35	363.77	444.61	525.45	606.28	727.54
Stanford	221.69	258.63	295.58	332.53	406.43	480.32	554.22	665.06
Stelling Minnis	205.57	239.84	274.10	308.36	376.88	445.41	513.93	616.72
Stowting	200.40	233.80	267.20	300.60	367.40	434.20	501.00	601.20
Swingfield	228.07	266.09	304.10	342.11	418.13	494.16	570.18	684.22
Brenzett	215.28	251.16	287.04	322.92	394.68	466.44	538.20	645.84
Brookland	234.32	273.37	312.43	351.48	429.59	507.69	585.80	702.96
Burmarsh	221.33	258.21	295.10	331.99	405.77	479.54	553.32	663.98
Dymchurch	228.50	266.58	304.67	342.75	418.92	495.08	571.25	685.50
Ivychurch	225.56	263.15	300.75	338.34	413.53	488.71	563.90	676.68
Newchurch	220.39	257.12	293.85	330.58	404.04	477.50	550.97	661.16
Old Romney	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
St Mary in the Marsh	214.02	249.69	285.36	321.03	392.37	463.71	535.05	642.06
Snargate	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

3 To note that for the year 2024/25 Kent County Council, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and the Kent Fire & Rescue Service have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Major
Preceptors

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Kent County Council	1,073.88	1,252.86	1,431.84	1,610.82	1,968.78	2,326.74	2,684.70	3,221.64
Kent Police Crime Commissioner	170.77	199.23	227.69	256.15	313.07	369.99	426.92	512.30

Kent Fire
and
Rescue

59.94 69.93 79.92 89.91 109.89 129.87 149.85 179.82

4. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2024/25 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

2024/25	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parish	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Folkestone	1,561.09	1,821.27	2,081.45	2,341.63	2,861.99	3,382.35	3,902.72	4,683.26
Sandgate	1,549.16	1,807.36	2,065.55	2,323.74	2,840.12	3,356.51	3,872.90	4,647.48
Hythe	1,533.11	1,788.63	2,044.14	2,299.66	2,810.69	3,321.73	3,832.77	4,599.32
Lydd	1,545.82	1,803.46	2,061.09	2,318.73	2,834.00	3,349.27	3,864.55	4,637.46
New Romney	1,579.86	1,843.17	2,106.48	2,369.79	2,896.41	3,423.03	3,949.65	4,739.58
Acrise	1,492.72	1,741.50	1,990.29	2,239.07	2,736.64	3,234.21	3,731.79	4,478.14
Elham	1,561.39	1,821.62	2,081.85	2,342.08	2,862.54	3,383.00	3,903.47	4,684.16
Elmsted	1,499.10	1,748.95	1,998.80	2,248.65	2,748.35	3,248.05	3,747.75	4,497.30
Hawkinge	1,562.06	1,822.41	2,082.75	2,343.09	2,863.77	3,384.46	3,905.15	4,686.18
Lyminge	1,579.36	1,842.58	2,105.81	2,369.03	2,895.48	3,421.93	3,948.39	4,738.06
Lympne	1,527.31	1,781.86	2,036.41	2,290.96	2,800.06	3,309.16	3,818.27	4,581.92
Monks Horton	1,497.88	1,747.52	1,997.17	2,246.81	2,746.10	3,245.39	3,744.69	4,493.62
Newington	1,531.34	1,786.57	2,041.79	2,297.01	2,807.45	3,317.90	3,828.35	4,594.02
Paddlesworth	1,498.40	1,748.13	1,997.86	2,247.59	2,747.05	3,246.51	3,745.99	4,495.18
Postling	1,516.54	1,769.29	2,022.05	2,274.80	2,780.31	3,285.82	3,791.34	4,549.60
Saltwood	1,514.32	1,766.70	2,019.09	2,271.47	2,776.24	3,281.01	3,785.79	4,542.94
Sellindge	1,547.10	1,804.95	2,062.80	2,320.65	2,836.35	3,352.05	3,867.75	4,641.30
Stanford	1,526.28	1,780.65	2,035.03	2,289.41	2,798.17	3,306.92	3,815.69	4,578.82
Stelling Minnis	1,510.16	1,761.86	2,013.55	2,265.24	2,768.62	3,272.01	3,775.40	4,530.48
Stowting	1,504.99	1,755.82	2,006.65	2,257.48	2,759.14	3,260.80	3,762.47	4,514.96
Swingfield	1,532.66	1,788.11	2,043.55	2,298.99	2,809.87	3,320.76	3,831.65	4,597.98
Brenzett	1,519.87	1,773.18	2,026.49	2,279.80	2,786.42	3,293.04	3,799.67	4,559.60
Brookland	1,538.91	1,795.39	2,051.88	2,308.36	2,821.33	3,334.29	3,847.27	4,616.72
Burmarsh	1,525.92	1,780.23	2,034.55	2,288.87	2,797.51	3,306.14	3,814.79	4,577.74
Dymchurch	1,533.09	1,788.60	2,044.12	2,299.63	2,810.66	3,321.68	3,832.72	4,599.26
Ivychurch	1,530.15	1,785.17	2,040.20	2,295.22	2,805.27	3,315.31	3,825.37	4,590.44
Newchurch	1,524.98	1,779.14	2,033.30	2,287.46	2,795.78	3,304.10	3,812.44	4,574.92
Old Romney	1,491.31	1,739.86	1,988.41	2,236.96	2,734.06	3,231.16	3,728.27	4,473.92
St Mary in the Marsh	1,518.61	1,771.71	2,024.81	2,277.91	2,784.11	3,290.31	3,796.52	4,555.82
Snargate	1,491.31	1,739.86	1,988.41	2,236.96	2,734.06	3,231.16	3,728.27	4,473.92

5. To determine that the District Council's basic amount of council tax for 2024/25 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
6. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that their relevant basic amount of council tax for 2024/25 is excessive and therefore the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Act.

**CALCULATION OF DISTRICT COUNCIL'S COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT IN
ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 31A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
ACT 1992**

EXPENDITURE (including additions to Reserves and Contingencies)	£	£
1. Gross Revenue Expenditure (excl. Special Items)	92,417,888	
2. Special Items		
a) Special Expenses	642,580	
b) Parish Precepts	2,993,850	
3. Addition to Reserves		
a. Corporate Initiatives	241,040	
 TOTAL EXPENDITURE Recommendation 2(a)		 96,295,358
		<hr/>
INCOME (including use of Reserves)		
1. Gross Revenue Income	(79,749,177)	
2. Use of Reserves		
a) Vehicles, Equipment and Technology	(200,000)	
b) Community Led Housing	(60,000)	
c) Homelessness Prevention Reserve	(240,000)	
d) Climate Change Reserve	(146,000)	
e) Housing Revenue Account	(930,011)	
 TOTAL INCOME Recommendation 2(b)		 (81,325,188)
		<hr/>
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT Recommendation 2(c)		 14,970,170
		<hr/>

**CALCULATION OF BASIC AMOUNTS OF COUNCIL TAX
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 31B AND 34
OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**

1. BASIC AMOUNT OF TAX

a) Council Tax Requirement Recommendation 2(c)	£14,970,171.64
b) Divided by Tax Base	40,466.09
c) Basic amount of Tax Recommendation 2(d)	£369.94

2. BASIC AMOUNT OF TAX FOR THOSE PARTS OF AREA TO WHICH NO SPECIAL ITEMS RELATE

a) Basic amount of tax Recommendation 3(d)	£369.94
b) Special Expenses	£642,580
c) Parish Precepts	£2,993,850.39
d) Special Items Recommendation 2(e)	£3,636,430
e) Divided by Tax Base	40,466.09 (£89.86)
f) Basic Amount of Tax for Areas with no Special Items Recommendation 2(f)	£280.08

3. BASIC AMOUNT OF TAX FOR THOSE PARTS OF AREA TO WHICH SPECIAL ITEMS RELATE

a) Basic Amount of Tax for Areas with no Special Items Recommendation 3(f)	£280.08
b) Special Items for each individual area of the District	£X
c) Divided by Tax Base for each individual area of the District	Y = £Z
d) Basic Amount of Tax for Areas with Special Items Recommendation 2(g)	£280.08 + £Z

CALCULATING COUNCIL TAX IN RESPECT OF DISTRICT AND PARISH REQUIREMENTS

The Council must calculate a 'basic amount' of tax for all Band D properties in each part of the district, taking into account not only the net expenditure of the District Council but also the precepts of the town and parish councils and the net expenditure of the Folkestone Parks and Pleasure Grounds Charity, which are charged to their local areas.

This net expenditure is known as the council tax requirement and is determined after taking into account retained non-domestic rates, revenue support grant and the Council's share of the Collection Fund surplus. The calculation is set out below.

The result of the calculation is divided by the Tax Base to give the tax rate. The Tax Base for 2024/25 of 40,466.09 Band D equivalent properties was approved by the Interim Director Governance and Finance Services on 6 February 2024 via delegated authority through the constitution and is recommended to Full Council as part of this report. The basic amount of tax (average District tax) is as follows:

	£
Expenditure - see Appendix 2	96,295,358
Income - see Appendix 2	(81,325,188)
Council Tax Requirement- demand on the Collection Fund	14,970,170
Divided by Tax Base	÷ 40,466.09
Basic amount of Council Tax - average District council tax	£369.94

The average District council tax for Band D properties, including town and parish precepts, will be £369.14. This is an increase of £12.50 (3.50%) over 2023/24.

For the purposes of measuring Folkestone & Hythe's council tax increase against the Government's referendum criteria, the amount in respect of town and parish precepts is excluded – as detailed in the table below.

Band D Tax Rates	2024/25	2023/24	Increase /
	£	£	(Decrease) %
Council Tax (including town and parish precepts)	369.94	357.44	3.50%
Less: equivalent of Town and Parish Precepts	-73.98	-70.07	-5.58%
Council Tax (excluding Town and Parish Precepts)	295.96	287.37	2.99%

The average Council Tax to finance Folkestone & Hythe’s net expenditure plans in 2024/25 including Special Expenses, is proposed to increase by £8.59 (2.99%) to £295.96.

The Council Tax applicable to dwellings in valuation bands other than Band D has been calculated in accordance with the proportions set out in the Act. The result of these calculations is set out in recommendation 3(h).

SETTING THE TOTAL AMOUNTS OF COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH PART OF THE DISTRICT

The final step in setting the council tax is for the Council to aggregate the District council tax with the precepts of Kent County Council, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent & Fire Rescue Service. The Fire & Rescue precept, KCC County and Police precept have been confirmed at the time of preparing this report.

Kent County Council, the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner and Kent Fire & Rescue Service plan to issue precepts of £65,183,580; £10,365,388; and £3,638,306 respectively. The County Council’s precept includes £9,428,598 for the Adult Social Care precept which will be itemised separately on council tax bills.

The average total tax at Band D is summarised in the table below, confirming an overall increase of **£104.70** representing an increase of 4.71%.

AUTHORITY	2024/25	2023/24	Increase	Increase
	£	£	£	%
Folkestone & Hythe DC (including Special Expenses)	295.96	287.37	8.59	2.99%
Town and Parish Councils	73.98	70.07	3.91	5.58%
Total District Council	369.94	357.44	12.50	3.50%
Kent County Council	1,610.82	1,534.23	76.59	4.99%
Kent Police Commissioner	256.15	243.15	13.00	5.35%
Kent Fire and Rescue Service	89.91	87.30	2.61	2.99%
Overall Total	2,326.82	2,222.12	104.70	4.71%

FOLKESTONE & HYTHE BAND D EQUIVALENT COUNCIL TAX 2024/25

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) requires the Council to determine its council tax requirement for 2024/25.

The legal determinations in respect of the budget and council tax setting are set out in the General Fund Budget and Council Tax 2024/25 Report that is being considered at the 28 February 2028 meeting of Full Council.

The amount to be raised by this authority from council tax payers comprises the council tax - demand on collection fund of £14,970,171.64.

This is divided by the tax base (40,466.09 Band D equivalent properties) to calculate the average district council tax, including town and parish precepts. The council tax base was approved by the Interim Director of Corporate Services and Governance and S151 Officer on 5 February 2024 via delegated authority through the constitution and is recommended to Full Council as part of the General Fund Budget and Council Tax 2023 Report that is being considered on 28 February 2024.

$$£ 14,970,171.64 \div 40,466.09 = £369.94$$

The average District council tax for Band D properties, including an amount for town and parish councils, will be £369.94. This is an increase of £12.50 (3.50%) over 2023/24. This sum will vary by parish and only represents an average, there is no referendum limit placed on town or parish councils by central government.

The impact of town and parish precepts is excluded when comparing the increase against what the Government regards as an excessive increase.

Band D Tax Rates			
	2024/25	2023/24	Increase/ Decrease
	£	£	%
Average Council Tax (including Town and Parish Precepts)	369.94	357.44	3.50
Average Council Tax (excluding Town and Parish Precepts)	295.96	287.37	2.99

The average council tax to finance Folkestone & Hythe's net spending plans in 2024/25, including special expenses, is proposed to be increased by £8.59 (2.99%) to £295.96. The Council need to ensure that it remains within this limit, including any Special Expenses. The Council is therefore not at risk of having to hold a referendum because the increase falls below the Government threshold.

Excluding the special expenses, Folkestone & Hythe's council tax rate is £280.08; an increase of £8.01 (2.94%) from the 2023/24 rate.

SPECIAL EXPENSES – FOLKESTONE PARKS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS CHARITY

The average 2024/25 council tax for Folkestone & Hythe District Council of £295.96 includes an amount that the Council has identified is in respect of special expenses i.e. the Folkestone Parks and Pleasure Grounds Charity.

When council tax bills are issued, the council tax (and % change in tax) for special expenses is disclosed separately from the council tax (and % change in tax) for Folkestone & Hythe District Council excluding special expenses.

Subject to Full Council's consideration and final approval of the budget and council tax, the following amounts will be disclosed separately on the council tax bill for a Band D property:

Based on a Band D average	Council Tax 2024/25 (Band D) £	Increase (Band D) £	Increase + /Decrease ()	Council Tax payers that receive this information
Folkestone & Hythe District Council element of Council Tax - excluding Special Expenses	280.08	8.01	+2.94%	All Folkestone & Hythe District council tax payers
Special Expenses - Folkestone Parks and Pleasure Ground Charity	37.54	1.07	+2.93%	Folkestone and Sandgate council tax payers only

COUNCIL TAX CALCULATIONS AT BAND D FOR EACH AREA IN THE DISTRICT

Area	Precepts £	+Folkestone Parks Charity £	=Special Items £	Divided by Taxbase	=Council Tax for special items £	=Council Tax for General items £	=District Council Tax * £	+KCC, Police & Fire precepts £	= Total Council Tax £
Folkestone	1,000,590	559,626	1,560,216	14,906.09	104.67	280.08	384.75	1,956.88	2,341.63
Sandgate	108,788	82,954	191,742	2,209.56	86.78	280.08	366.86	1,956.88	2,323.74
Hythe	397,944		397,944	6,346.76	62.70	280.08	342.78	1,956.88	2,299.66
Lydd	178,900		178,900	2,187.85	81.77	280.08	361.85	1,956.88	2,318.73
New Romney	396,952		396,952	2,988.46	132.83	280.08	412.91	1,956.88	2,369.79
Acriste	200		200	94.91	2.11	280.08	282.19	1,956.88	2,239.07
Elham	77,200		77,200	734.39	105.12	280.08	385.20	1,956.88	2,342.08
Elmsted	2,250		2,250	192.49	11.69	280.08	291.77	1,956.88	2,248.65
Hawkinge	327,054		327,054	3,081.56	106.13	280.08	386.21	1,956.88	2,343.09
Lyminge	152,349		152,349	1,153.56	132.07	280.08	412.15	1,956.88	2,369.03
Lympne	35,000		35,000	648.17	54.00	280.08	334.08	1,956.88	2,290.96
Monks Horton	597		597	60.61	9.85	280.08	289.93	1,956.88	2,246.81
Newington	8,864		8,864	147.61	60.05	280.08	340.13	1,956.88	2,297.01
Paddlesworth	200		200	18.82	10.63	280.08	290.71	1,956.88	2,247.59
Postling	4,236		4,236	111.96	37.84	280.08	317.92	1,956.88	2,274.80
Saltwood	13,635		13,635	395.07	34.51	280.08	314.59	1,956.88	2,271.47
Sellindge	73,500		73,500	878.25	83.69	280.08	363.77	1,956.88	2,320.65
Stanford	10,000		10,000	190.66	52.45	280.08	332.53	1,956.88	2,289.41
Stelling Minnis	8,159		8,159	288.48	28.28	280.08	308.36	1,956.88	2,265.24
Stowting	2,500		2,500	121.83	20.52	280.08	300.60	1,956.88	2,257.48
Swingfield	30,210		30,210	487.01	62.03	280.08	342.11	1,956.88	2,298.99
Brenzett	6,500		6,500	151.73	42.84	280.08	322.92	1,956.88	2,279.80
Brookland	12,870		12,870	180.26	71.40	280.08	351.48	1,956.88	2,308.36
Burmarsh	5,827		5,827	112.26	51.91	280.08	331.99	1,956.88	2,288.87
Dymchurch	83,000		83,000	1,324.33	62.67	280.08	342.75	1,956.88	2,299.63
Ivychurch	5,410		5,410	92.86	58.26	280.08	338.34	1,956.88	2,295.22
Newchurch	6,115		6,115	121.08	50.50	280.08	330.58	1,956.88	2,287.46
Old Romney	-		-	84.75	-	280.08	280.08	1,956.88	2,236.96
St Mary in the Marsh	45,000		45,000	1,098.78	40.95	280.08	321.03	1,956.88	2,277.91
Snargate	-		-	55.96	-	280.08	280.08	1,956.88	2,236.96
	2,993,850	642,580	3,636,430	40,466.09					

*Recommendation 3(f) and 3 (g)