Your Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates 2016/17 explained

What does your council spend money on?

Council net expenditure 2016/17

This excludes spending on Council housing, which is wholly funded from rents. For more detailed information on service budgets, visit www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>Change from last year</th>
<th>Change from last year %</th>
<th>Band D Council Tax equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children and Families</td>
<td>431.6</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Social Care</td>
<td>202.2</td>
<td>(4.6)</td>
<td>(2.2%)</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services for Communities</td>
<td>199.8</td>
<td>(2.2)</td>
<td>(1.1%)</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>(1.1)</td>
<td>(9.3%)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Governance</td>
<td>66.1</td>
<td>(9.8)</td>
<td>(12.9%)</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>(2.8)</td>
<td>(5.4%)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment for Capital Charges</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>(8.0)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>954.0</td>
<td>(23.7)</td>
<td>(2.4%)</td>
<td>1,169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Service Analysis has been restated for the previous year to reflect the on-going Transformation of Services. There will be significant Service restructuring during the financial year.

The Health and Social Care expenditure above includes funds which will transfer to the Integrated Joint Board in 2016/17. This transfer will be supplemented by Health Board funding and additional Scottish Government support.

The prior year figure for ‘other services’ has been restated to include Council Tax Reduction Scheme funding.

How much will you pay?

The 2016/17 Council Tax will remain at 2015/16 levels. This is equivalent to £1,169 for a band D property.

How much you pay depends on which band your house is in. Each band is calculated as a proportion of band D. The proportions are decided by central government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Council Tax band limits (property value)</th>
<th>Council Tax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>below £27,000</td>
<td>£779.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>£27,001-£35,000</td>
<td>£909.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>£35,001-£45,000</td>
<td>£1,039.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>£45,001-£58,000</td>
<td>£1,169.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>£58,001-£80,000</td>
<td>£1,428.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>£80,001-£106,000</td>
<td>£1,688.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>£106,001-£212,000</td>
<td>£1,948.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>above £212,000</td>
<td>£2,338.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: water and sewerage charges are not included in the Council Tax rates because these services are provided by Scottish Water.

How does this compare to elsewhere?

The average Scottish band D Council Tax for 2015/16 was £1,149.

Where does the Council’s income come from?

The Council’s budget for 2016/17 is £954.0 million. Council Tax funds 25.0% (£238.6 million) of this with 35.7% coming from Government Grants and 39.3% from Non-Domestic Rates.

Comparison with Government provision for planned spending

The expenditure figure for the Council used by the Scottish Government in Aggregate External Finance (Government Support) calculations is £849.0m, which provides for a spend of £3,516 per dwelling. The Council’s budget provides for a spend of £3,590 per dwelling.

Non-Domestic (Business) Rates for 2016/17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016/17 pence per £</th>
<th>2015/16 pence per £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Business Rate</td>
<td>48.4</td>
<td>48.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties with Rateable Value over £35,000</td>
<td>51.0</td>
<td>49.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty Property Relief</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The national Business Rate is set by the Scottish Government.

These are provisional figures at the time of printing.
**The Small Business Bonus**

From 1 April 2008 the Scottish Government introduced the Small Business Bonus Scheme. Business properties in Scotland with a combined rateable value of £18,000 or less may receive relief up to 31 March 2017. Following revaluation on 1 April 2010 the thresholds are set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thresholds by rateable value (rv) (£)</th>
<th>2016/17 Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% relief</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% relief</td>
<td>£12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% relief</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper limit for combined (rv)*</td>
<td>£35,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Businesses with multiple properties whose combined rateable value is £35,000 or less will be eligible for relief of 25% for each property with a rateable value of £18,000 or less.

For more information go to [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates)
or visit the Business Rates website at [www.scotland.gov.uk/businessrates](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/businessrates)

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**How to pay and further information**

**Save time. Do it online.**

To pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit, apply online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourcounciltax](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourcounciltax)

To pay your Non-Domestic Rates by Direct Debit, apply online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates)

Go paperless, view your account online, register at [https://myaccount.edinburgh.gov.uk](https://myaccount.edinburgh.gov.uk)

**Contact us**

If you have questions about your bill you can find information at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourcounciltax](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourcounciltax), [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates) or

Phone: 0131 469 5000 (Council Tax and Benefits)  
Phone: 0131 469 5746 (Non-Domestic Rates)  

**Write to:** The City of Edinburgh Council, Income and Benefits, PO Box 12331, Edinburgh EH7 9DN  
**Visit us:** 249 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JY

**Benefits**

If you are on a low income or claiming state benefit, you may be entitled to financial support with your rent and Council Tax. To apply or report a change of circumstances, visit [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/benefits)

**Other council services**

**Visit:** [www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)  
See under E for Edinburgh in the BT telephone book.

**Trading Standards advice**

For consumer advice please call Citizens Advice Direct on 03454 040506 or visit [www.citizensadvicedirect.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvicedirect.org.uk)  
For free business advice please email trading.standards@edinburgh.gov.uk or call 0131 529 3030  
For a trusted trader visit [www.trustedtrader.scot](http://www.trustedtrader.scot) or call Edinburgh Trusted Trader on 0131 513 9921.  
For more information visit [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

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**Council staff** (full-time equivalents)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Full-time equivalents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2015</td>
<td>15,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2015</td>
<td>15,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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www.edinburgh.gov.uk

or tweet us @edinhelp

Our contact details

If you have questions about your bill:

For council tax and benefits
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourcounciltax
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/benefits
0131 469 5000

For business rates
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/yourbusinessrates
0131 469 5746

Write to: The City of Edinburgh Council, Income and Benefits, PO Box 12331, Edinburgh EH7 9DN

Visit us: 249 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget2016

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*Capital’s member survey 2015
**Terms and conditions apply

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enquiries@capitalcreditunion.com

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority – Firm reference number 213575. We are covered by the Financial Services

Edinburgh’s budget 2016-20
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget2016
Delivering services for the people of Edinburgh

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to delivering vital services for the people of Edinburgh - including running secondary, primary and nursery schools, helping children in need or at risk, providing the social work service, collecting household waste, maintaining our roads and pavements, making sure we have a successful city economy and investing in our museums, galleries and cultural venues and events.

Edinburgh’s population is growing which means an increasing demand for Council services. If we don’t make significant changes to the way we deliver services, by 2020 our costs will be almost £1.1 billion but the money we receive in Government funding and from your council tax is expected to be just £940 million.

We need to reduce our spending by £148 million over the next four years, while still delivering key services for the city.

By fostering a child through the Council you could save us £25,000 per year as well as helping improve the future of our most vulnerable young people, and build yourself a rewarding career.

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/fostering

In September 2015, the Council put forward a range of proposals to help make those savings and we asked you, the residents of Edinburgh, for your views. We listened to you and made changes to the proposals as a result of your feedback. The City of Edinburgh Council agreed a one year budget for 2016/17 at its meeting on 21 January 2016. You can read full details of the decisions and watch a recording of the meeting on our website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/webcast

As a result of your feedback, the Council agreed a number of steps including:
• maintaining the size of the in-house home care service and community centre teams
• keeping street crossing patrols at lunchtimes and the night noise team
• rejecting the proposals for day care services for adults with learning disabilities, support staff in special schools, and family and pupil support
• investing over £15 million in roads, pavements and cycle ways, and allocating 9% of the transport budget to cycling
• limiting the Council housing rent increase to 2% in 2016/17.

We will also continue to invest in the services we know matter most to the people of Edinburgh.

Setting the 2016/17 budget

In setting the 2016/17 budget, the Council has taken into account a reduction in local government funding by around 7% in real terms in 2016/17.

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget2016

Improving our online services

We know the majority of people in Edinburgh have access to the internet and increasingly people prefer online transactions in their day to day lives. We’re developing the range of services we offer via our website and encouraging people to “Save time. Do it online.”

By giving you the choice to pay bills, report issues and request services online we’re providing faster and more accessible services, and at the same time, using the money we save to spend more on key services. We still offer phone and face-to-face services for those who prefer to contact us this way.

Local services

By working more closely with the NHS, Police Scotland, fire services and Edinburgh’s neighbourhood partnerships, we will be able to deliver joined up services locally. This means we will be able to better respond to your needs.

How you can get involved

Over the coming months, we’ll continue to look at how we deliver services, so let us know your views by visiting www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget2016. You will also be able to read an overview of how we spend our budget.

In December 2015 you recycled 1,500 tonnes of waste in your green bins saving around £114,000.

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/recycle
What you pay for your water and waste water services in 2016/17

Always working so the cycle never stops

Scottish Water
Trusted to serve Scotland
We are always working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to keep the water cycle running smoothly and your charges low.

Each year we invest every penny we collect through customer charges to run and improve your water and waste water services.

We maintain and are improving 249 water treatment works and 29,986 miles of water pipes to deliver clear, fresh drinking water when you turn on the taps in your home.

We also maintain and are improving 1,826 waste water treatment works and 32,007 miles of sewers to help protect the natural environment in your area.

On average, we carry out 1 quality test every 2 minutes on the tap water we supply, to make sure that you enjoy your supply of Scottish drinking water.

†This is based on 2014 figures, the most up to date figures available at time of going to print.

You get all this for less than £1 a day for the average household.*

*The average household is between Council Tax Band B and Band C and has a combined bill of less than £1 a day. Individual Water Supply and Waste Water Collection charges are less than £1 a day for all households (except for the individual Waste Water Collection charges for Band G households and the individual Water Supply and Waste Water Collection charges for Band H households).
Promising to give you value for money

We are always working hard so the cycle never stops. We continue to successfully deliver a quality service to you, our customers. The quality of your Scottish drinking water has never been better, and we work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to deliver these essential services to you and provide you with the best value for money.

To help us make sure that we can continue to provide you with at least the same high levels of service that you currently receive, in 2016/17 the Combined Services charge for the average household will rise by just over £5 from the amount last year. At £351, the average Scottish Water bill will still stay lower than the average bill in England and Wales.

Keeping you informed

You can keep up to date about our work or service updates, such as having no water supply, in your area:

Visit: www.scottishwater.co.uk/updates

Text (SMS): If you would like to receive free texts (SMS)** please text the word ‘Update’ with your postcode to 82228 (Example text: Update EH10 6XH).

**For more info and T&Cs visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/textterms

Our services – your rights

You, our customers, are at the heart of everything we do.

We always aim to deliver on our promises and do what we say, when we say we will do it. It is important that we aim to provide you with a great customer experience and we are always looking at how we can improve the service and the value that we provide.

We want you to be aware of our promises and your rights under our service standards. To find out more, visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/yourrights
Doing the right thing, for your home and for Scotland

There are lots of simple but effective things we can all do to help save your drains and keep the water cycle running smoothly. These will help protect your home, your local community and the rivers, burns, coastal waters and beaches in your area:

• Put all wipes and other bathroom waste in the bin, not down the toilet;
• Recycle or put all cooled fat, oil and grease in the bin, not down the sink*; and
• Use water wisely, turn off the tap while you brush your teeth.

*Please check with your local Council/waste contractor for info on how to recycle or dispose of used fat, oil and grease in your area.

To find out more, visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/cycle

Who regulates the water industry in Scotland?

The Water Industry Commission for Scotland is the economic regulator of the water industry in Scotland, approving the levels we charge you. The Commission can be contacted at www.watercommission.co.uk

Citizens Advice Scotland (CAS) represents the interests of consumers within Scotland’s water industry. CAS can be contacted on 03454 04 05 06 or at www.cas.org.uk

The Drinking Water Quality Regulator (DWQR) monitors and regulates the quality of the water we deliver to you. The DWQR can be contacted at www.dwqr.org.uk

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) sets standards for and monitors waste water and other discharges into local streams, rivers and the sea. SEPA can be contacted at www.sepa.org.uk
Household charges 2016/17

Your charges are based on the Council Tax Band for your home. For 2016/17 the Combined Services charge for the average household will rise by 1.6% from what you paid last year. The table below tells you what your charges are from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Tax Band</th>
<th>Water Supply</th>
<th>Waste Water Collection</th>
<th>Combined Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band A</td>
<td>£130.80</td>
<td>£151.80</td>
<td>£282.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band B</td>
<td>£152.60</td>
<td>£177.10</td>
<td>£329.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band C</td>
<td>£174.40</td>
<td>£202.40</td>
<td>£376.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band D</td>
<td>£196.20</td>
<td>£227.70</td>
<td>£423.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band E</td>
<td>£239.80</td>
<td>£278.30</td>
<td>£518.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band F</td>
<td>£283.40</td>
<td>£328.90</td>
<td>£612.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band G</td>
<td>£327.00</td>
<td>£379.50</td>
<td>£706.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band H</td>
<td>£392.40</td>
<td>£455.40</td>
<td>£847.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These charges apply to every household which has a connection to the public water supply, the public waste water network, or both.

Your water and waste water charges will be shown on your Council Tax bill, **even if you receive Council Tax Reduction.** Some Council Tax exemptions and discounts will also apply to these charges, such as single occupancy or if you are a student.

If your property has been altered to meet the needs of a disabled person, you may be entitled to a Disabled Banding Reduction on the charges you pay for your property.

Your local Council bills and collects these charges on our behalf and you can find details of how to pay on your Council Tax bill. Please contact your local Council for more information and help with payment options.

**Important: If you receive Council Tax Reduction**
you must still pay a water and waste water charge for the services that you have at your home. However you will receive a reduction of up to 25% on the charges shown in the table above.
Keeping up to date and getting in touch

We are always working so the cycle never stops – find out more about Scottish Water, our charges, our customer charter and keep up to date with what we are doing in your area:

Visit

www.scottishwater.co.uk

Follow us

facebook.com/scottishwater
@scottish_water

Email

customer.services@scottishwater.co.uk

Call

Customer Helpline free 24/7

0800 0778778

Alternative formats of this leaflet can be made available free of charge. For information on Braille, large print, audio and a variety of languages, please call our Customer Helpline.

If you have a disability, medical condition or other reason where you may need additional assistance from Scottish Water then please contact us and we can add your name, address and requirements to our confidential Additional Support Register.

We record all calls for quality and training purposes.