

Your services

– Your Council Tax 2009/10



Kent & Medway
Fire & Rescue Authority



Your Council Tax 2009/10

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Dover District Council

White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ

Tel: 01304 821199 Website: www.dover.gov.uk

Don't let debt become a problem, for help and advice call the National Debtline freephone: **0808 808 4000**

or get information from their website: www.nationaldebtline.co.uk

WHAT IS COUNCIL TAX?

The Council Tax is the local taxpayer's contribution towards the cost of services provided. The District Council collects Council Tax on behalf of Kent County Council, the Kent Police Authority, the Kent & Medway Towns Fire Authority and Town and Parish Councils, as well as the charge for its own services.

For every £100 paid in Council Tax, about £72 will be passed on to the Kent County Council for major services such as Education, Highways and Social Services, about £9 to the Kent Police Authority, £5 to the Kent & Medway Towns Fire Authority and an average of £3 to the Town and Parish Councils. The remaining £11 will be retained by Dover District Council to fund the services that it provides.

HOW MUCH PER PROPERTY?

The basic amount of Council Tax that you are liable to pay will depend on the valuation placed on your property.*

The table shows the Council Tax payable in each case based on the bands shown:

Band	Range of Property Values*	Proportion of Tax
A	Up to £40,000	6/9
B	£40,001 - £52,000	7/9
C	£52,001 - £68,000	8/9
D	£68,001 - £88,000	9/9
E	£88,001 - £120,000	11/9
F	£120,001 - £160,000	13/9
G	£160,001 - £320,000	15/9
H	Over £320,000	18/9

*Individual valuations are determined at 1991 price levels by the District Valuer and Valuation Officer, Palting House, Trinity Road, Folkestone, Kent. Tel: 01303 852900

HOW IS THE COUNCIL TAX CALCULATED?

The Council Tax is calculated using a tax base derived from the values of domestic properties throughout the District. The figure is arrived at by converting the value of all properties to a Band D equivalent. For example, a property in Band H is the equivalent of two properties in Band D. Unavoidable losses on collection and discounts for single occupants are taken into account.

Dover's tax base for 2009/10 is 39,810.15 Band D equivalent properties (39,795.66 in 2008/09). The Council tax for all bands, across the district, are set out on the following pages.

Dover District Council Tax applicable in bands and areas 2009/10

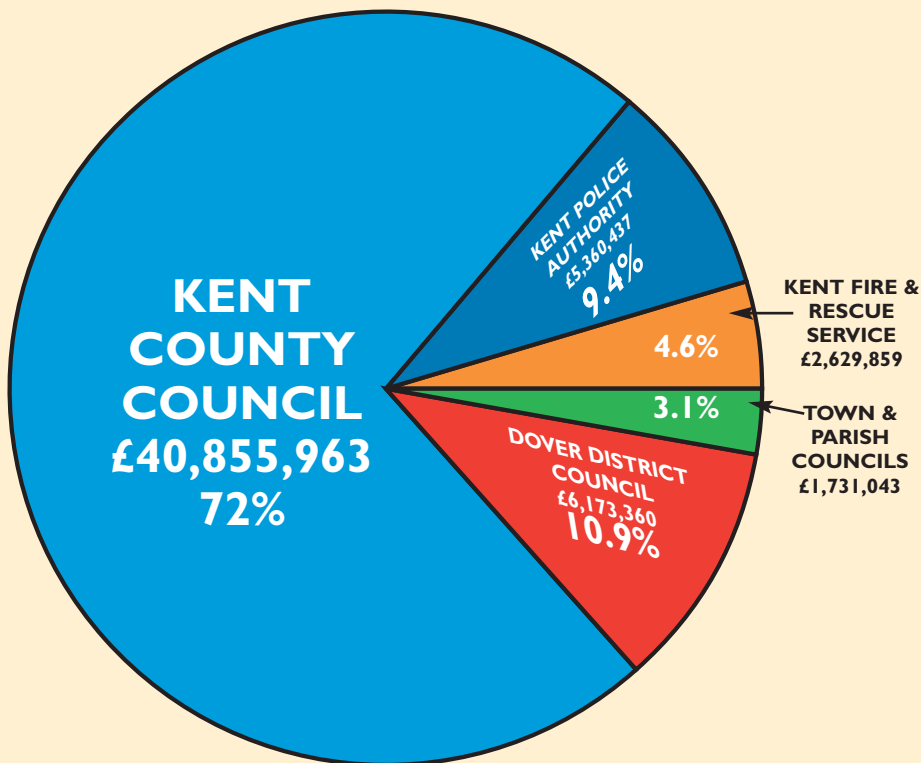
Precept		Town and Parish Councils Local Council Tax at Band D 2009/10	Town and Parish Councils	Band A	Band B
2008/09	2009/10				
8,000	8,000	25.53	Alkham	938.39	1,094.79
58,800	60,240	49.67	Ash	954.48	1,113.56
33,385	35,888	32.97	Aylesham	943.35	1,100.57
13,000	13,500	19.68	Capel-Le-Ferne	934.49	1,090.24
269,320	275,885	38.22	Deal Town Council	946.85	1,104.66
8,250	8,665	50.26	Denton-with-Wootton	954.88	1,114.02
625,650	625,650	66.54	Dover Town Council	965.73	1,126.68
43,581	44,888	51.35	Eastry	955.60	1,114.87
41,000	41,000	46.48	Eythorne	952.36	1,111.08
4,120	4,250	24.93	Goodnestone	937.99	1,094.32
6,600	7,600	26.22	Great Mongeham	938.85	1,095.32
13,836	13,836	32.56	Guston	943.08	1,100.25
6,500	6,750	36.05	Hougham-without	945.40	1,102.97
11,500	13,000	53.72	Langdon	957.18	1,116.71
8,000	8,000	31.43	Lydden	942.32	1,099.38
7,000	7,000	22.50	Nonington	936.37	1,092.43
9,697	9,697	32.67	Northbourne	943.15	1,100.34
8,000	10,000	35.04	Preston	944.73	1,102.18
22,000	33,000	31.75	Ringwould-with-Kingsdown	942.54	1,099.62
3,500	3,500	21.66	Ripple	935.81	1,091.78
59,740	62,000	40.56	River	948.41	1,106.48
55,895	40,000	30.75	St Margarets-at-Cliffe	941.87	1,098.85
90,000	100,000	48.76	Sandwich Town Council	953.88	1,112.85
18,621	18,621	24.23	Shepherdswell-with-Coldred	937.52	1,093.78
11,750	18,000	41.21	Sholden	948.84	1,106.98
6,000	6,000	25.63	Staple	938.46	1,094.86
2,550	2,550	22.05	Stourmouth	936.07	1,092.08
7,270	7,780	24.50	Sutton-by-Dover	937.70	1,093.99
20,520	21,500	33.05	Temple Ewell	943.40	1,100.64
6,000	6,000	38.03	Tilmanstone	946.72	1,104.51
80,000	95,000	27.92	Walmer	939.98	1,096.65
63,450	63,450	36.25	Whitfield	945.54	1,103.12
29,280	36,605	52.42	Wingham	956.32	1,115.70
10,000	11,000	26.00	Woodnesborough	938.70	1,095.15
13,381	12,188	26.41	Worth	938.98	1,095.47

Dover District Council Tax applicable in bands and areas 2009/10

The full Council Tax, inclusive of District Council, Town and Parish Councils,
County Council, Police and Fire requirements

Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
1,251.18	1,407.58	1,720.37	2,033.17	2,345.97	2,815.16
1,272.64	1,431.72	1,749.88	2,068.04	2,386.20	2,863.44
1,257.80	1,415.02	1,729.47	2,043.91	2,358.37	2,830.04
1,245.98	1,401.73	1,713.22	2,024.72	2,336.22	2,803.46
1,262.46	1,420.27	1,735.88	2,051.50	2,367.12	2,840.54
1,273.17	1,432.31	1,750.60	2,068.89	2,387.19	2,864.62
1,287.64	1,448.59	1,770.50	2,092.40	2,414.32	2,897.18
1,274.13	1,433.40	1,751.93	2,070.46	2,389.00	2,866.80
1,269.81	1,428.53	1,745.98	2,063.43	2,380.89	2,857.06
1,250.65	1,406.98	1,719.64	2,032.30	2,344.97	2,813.96
1,251.80	1,408.27	1,721.22	2,034.16	2,347.12	2,816.54
1,257.43	1,414.61	1,728.97	2,043.32	2,357.69	2,829.22
1,260.53	1,418.10	1,733.23	2,048.36	2,363.50	2,836.20
1,276.24	1,435.77	1,754.83	2,073.89	2,392.95	2,871.54
1,256.43	1,413.48	1,727.58	2,041.69	2,355.80	2,826.96
1,248.49	1,404.55	1,716.67	2,028.79	2,340.92	2,809.10
1,257.53	1,414.72	1,729.10	2,043.48	2,357.87	2,829.44
1,259.64	1,417.09	1,732.00	2,046.90	2,361.82	2,834.18
1,256.71	1,413.80	1,727.98	2,042.15	2,356.34	2,827.60
1,247.74	1,403.71	1,715.64	2,027.58	2,339.52	2,807.42
1,264.54	1,422.61	1,738.74	2,054.88	2,371.02	2,845.22
1,255.82	1,412.80	1,726.75	2,040.71	2,354.67	2,825.60
1,271.83	1,430.81	1,748.77	2,066.72	2,384.69	2,861.62
1,250.03	1,406.28	1,718.78	2,031.29	2,343.80	2,812.56
1,265.12	1,423.26	1,739.54	2,055.82	2,372.10	2,846.52
1,251.27	1,407.68	1,720.50	2,033.31	2,346.14	2,815.36
1,248.09	1,404.10	1,716.12	2,028.14	2,340.17	2,808.20
1,250.27	1,406.55	1,719.11	2,031.68	2,344.25	2,813.10
1,257.87	1,415.10	1,729.56	2,044.03	2,358.50	2,830.20
1,262.29	1,420.08	1,735.65	2,051.22	2,366.80	2,840.16
1,253.31	1,409.97	1,723.29	2,036.62	2,349.95	2,819.94
1,260.71	1,418.30	1,733.48	2,048.65	2,363.84	2,836.60
1,275.09	1,434.47	1,753.24	2,072.01	2,390.79	2,868.94
1,251.60	1,408.05	1,720.95	2,033.85	2,346.75	2,816.10
1,251.97	1,408.46	1,721.45	2,034.44	2,347.44	2,816.92

WE COLLECT:



TOTAL £56,750,661

AVERAGE COUNCIL TAX - BAND D						
	KENT COUNTY COUNCIL	DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL	KENT POLICE AUTHORITY	KENT FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE	TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS (AVERAGE)	TOTAL
2009/10	£1,026.27	£155.07	£134.65	£66.06	£43.48	£1,425.53
2008/09	£1,001.79	£147.77	£128.25	£63.81	£42.12	£1,383.74

Dover District Council Tax 2009/10

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

Overall, the District Council spends £149.91 per resident to provide you with its services.

CALCULATION OF DISTRICT COUNCIL FUNDING

£'000

District Council Budget Funding Requirement	18,262
Less: Amount passed to Town and Parish Councils	(1,731)
Less: Forecast Deficit	(23)
Dover District Council Net Budget	16,508
Financed by:	
Government Grant	10,164
Council Tax	6,173
Area Based Grant	171
Collection Fund Surplus	0
Total Financing	16,508

LOANS AND BORROWING

The Council's outstanding long term borrowing will remain at £7.0 million.

There were 420 full-time equivalent employees at December 2008.

RESERVES

Internal general reserves are expected to be in the region of £4.86m at 31 March 2009, of which £1.99m is general reserves, £1.78m are earmarked reserves and £1.09m is held in the Special Projects reserve. The Special Projects reserve, which has been accumulated in recent years from good housekeeping, will gradually be released to finance one-off projects in 2009/10 and future years.

FORECAST EFFICIENCY SAVINGS

Councils are required to have regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their actions. An efficiency saving occurs when the cost of an activity falls, but its effectiveness is not reduced. By the end of March 2009, efficiency savings achieved since April 2008 are forecast to be as follows:

Authority	Forecast efficiency savings by March 2009	Forecast efficiency savings by March 2009 as % of 2007-08 Baseline Expenditure	Impact of forecast efficiency savings by March 2009 for Band D	Average impact of forecast savings by March 2009 for authorities of the same type
Kent County Council	£30,732,000	4.0%	£58	£53
Dover District Council	£517,000	2.0%	£13	£21
Kent Fire & Rescue Service	£935,000	1.3%	£2	£2

These efficiency savings equal **£73** for the average Band D dwelling.

For more information about the Council's major projects and how it uses your money, see pages 25-27.

HOW TO PAY

Pay by Direct Debit

If you are not currently paying by Direct Debit, apply today. Sign up now.

Direct Debit's the easy way to pay:

- You can choose from 6 payment dates (1st, 5th, 12th, 19th, 24th or 28th), so you can pick the one that matches your requirements
- It saves you time and effort – no travelling to the bank or Post Office
- No queuing to pay
- No cheques to write or letters to post
- It is simpler than paying by any other method
- Control rests with you and your bank/building society manager
- It saves the Council money and therefore you, as a taxpayer
- If you pay bank charges, Direct Debits are cheaper than other transactions
- You have a money back guarantee (see the enclosed Direct Debit form for further details)

Interested?

Please contact: [DDC@your service: 01304 872199](mailto:DDC@your.service)

They can set you up straight away with no need to fill in any forms. However, you can still complete a form if you prefer to do so – there is one included in this mailing or you can ask for one to be sent to you any time by ringing the above number or by picking one up from any of our area offices.

SIGN ME UP - Help us to help the environment.

Dover District Council can now communicate with you electronically.

Where possible, we will send you e-mails rather than write to you with benefit notifications, council tax bills and other documents.

Some documents cannot, by law, be sent to you electronically, but a lot can.

Save time, paper and money by signing up to our electronic register.

Email: signmeup@dover.gov.uk

Budget and council tax 2009-10

Last year in KCC's three-year financial plan we prepared for a much tougher financial climate, although the speed and likely severity of the economic slowdown is far harsher than we and others anticipated.

We recognise that, this year, Kent businesses, charitable and voluntary organisations, public sector partners, residents and tax payers are under much more financial strain. In December 2008, we launched 'Backing Kent Business'; a ten-point plan to support Kent business, as far as possible, through this recession. In setting our council tax level for 2009-10, we believe we are balancing the often competing needs of the people of Kent.

The growth in demand for KCC services will continue as personal finances come under strain. The cost of services is under pressure; our income is under pressure; and our ability to finance our capital programme is affected because assets that we planned to sell are now worth much less, or are not realisable in the short term.

Despite these significant difficulties it is vitally important that KCC provides the quality services people need. It is also important to continue to spend our resources locally; commissioning services and creating jobs widely but wisely in Kent, to keep our economy working and to prepare for better times.

We are continuing to modernise and improve public access to our services. We are also investing in information technology to further reduce costs.



It is also essential that we keep council tax levels as low as possible to offer some financial relief to hard pressed taxpayers and residents.

KCC will do this, in part, by making savings and raising additional income totalling £42.9 million across the council's services.

For more information about KCC's financial publications visit:
www.kent.gov.uk/financialpublications

If you are on a low income with less than £16,000 in savings (this limit does not apply if you receive Pension Guarantee Credit) you may be able to get some help with your Council Tax. To find out whether you would qualify contact the Kent Benefits Partnership on 0845 345 0310 or your district council.

If you are a small business with premises with a rateable value of less than £15,000, you may be entitled to some relief from your business rates. Contact your district council for details.

Our performance

KCC currently holds four stars, the highest possible rating under the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Performance Assessment of councils, as well as the highest level (four) for the organisation's 'Use of Resources' and delivery of value-for-money services.

For more information on performance visit:
www.kent.gov.uk/cpa email: performance@kent.gov.uk
write to Kent County Council, Room 1.63 Sessions House,
Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.



Where your money goes

The council tax you pay to KCC partly funds quality services that make a positive difference to people’s lives, for example.

- 570 schools and other services supporting 250,000 children, and young people, and their families.
- 101 libraries lent nearly 6.6 million books last year, while 3,419 people improved their numeracy and literacy with Skills Plus, and our apprenticeship and vocational training schemes helped young people find rewarding work.
- 13,000 young people travel by bus with The Kent Freedom Pass, with more from June 2009, helping to reduce traffic and pollution.
- 30,000 people are able to live in their own homes with the personalised care we provide. We support 6,500 people in permanent residential care.
- We maintain 22 country parks and picnic sites, 5,000 miles of roads and 4,200 miles of paths and public rights of way. We promote road safety and health and our 101 community wardens are working with our partners to keep Kent safe.

KCC Services 2009-10	Total spending £m	Net spending * £m	Net spending per day £'000
Children, Families and Education	1,430.6	284.2	778
Adult Social Services	474.1	350.8	960
Environment, Highways and Waste	199.2	185.3	508
Regeneration and economy	11.3	8.7	24
Communities	118.2	67.4	185
Corporate activities	64.2	-10.0	-27
Area-based grant	n/a	- 64.7	- 177
Budget 2009-10	2,297.6	821.7	2,251

* Net spending is funded from business rates/general government grant and council tax

Our goals

KCC's long-term plan (Vision for Kent) and four-year plan (Towards 2010) set out how we will achieve the following:

- Increased prosperity for Kent through business growth and job creation;
- Transformation in education;
- Reduced congestion;
- Improved health and quality of life;
- Quality homes in a well-managed environment;
- A safer Kent;
- Continued improvements in services while keeping council tax down.

Pressures on service budgets in 2009-10

- Children's Services - there will be demographic, legislative and inflationary pressures on Early Years, Social Services, implementing Care Matters, fostering and adoption services, totalling £6.9m.
- Providing more low-cost public transport for 11-16 year olds by extending the piloted Freedom Pass scheme countywide will cost £3.8m;
- Social Care - coping with increasing numbers of the very elderly and people with a disability, while maintaining the existing assessment criteria and providing preventative support to more people, will add £8.7m and inflation a further £7.2m;
- Waste disposal - the increasing costs of disposal plus landfill tax amounts to £4.7m;
- Highways - £3.7m will help maintain and improve the condition of Kent's roads and pavements;
- Finance - funding our capital programme will cost an additional £7.7m including further highway maintenance.

Kent County Council

The council tax you pay for KCC services has increased by 2.44%
- or an extra 47p a week for a Band D household.

Please note: your total bill will be more than the figure shown in the chart below, as it also includes council tax charged by other authorities.

Kent County Council council tax charge		
Tax Band	2008-09 £	2009-10 £
A	667.86	684.18
B	779.17	798.21
C	890.48	912.24
D	1,001.79	1,026.27
E	1,224.41	1,254.33
F	1,447.03	1,482.39
G	1,669.65	1,710.45
H	2,003.58	2,052.54

The average property in Kent is in Band C

You might like to know that:

- the savings and additional income planned this year total £42.9 million. This is equivalent to £80 a year for a Band D property;
- it is too early to know if there will be any loss arising from depositing some of our cash funds in Icelandic banks. No cost is included in this year's council tax, in line with Government advice.

Our spending and funding

	2008-09 Budget £m	2009-10 Budget £m
Budget 2008-09	795.9	795.9
Changes in service responsibilities and specific grant funding		5.5
Revised budget		801.4
Pay award and price inflation		22.1
Government/legislation pressures		10.4
Demand-led pressures and delivering <i>Towards 2010 targets</i>		17.6
Schools budget increase		2.3
Service strategies and improvements		22.2
Dedicated schools grant increase		-7.7
Sub-total of pressures		66.9
Savings		-38.7
Income generation		-4.2
Increase in the area-based grant		-3.7
Budget total	795.9	821.7
Business rates/general grant	-259.3	-267.2
Collection fund surplus(-) / deficit	0.2	-0.2
Council tax	536.8	554.3
Tax base (Band D equivalent properties)	535,858	540,115
KCC Band D council tax charge	£1,001.79	£1,026.27 + 2.44%

Total expenditure

Budget	2008-09	2009-10
	£m	£m
Total expenditure *	2,232.7	2,297.6
Grants for specific services and other income	-1,436.8	-1,475.9
Budget	795.9	821.7

* Includes estimated levies from Environment Agency for flood defence (£359,000) and from joint sea fisheries (£264,000).

If you have a question about paying your council tax bill or claiming council tax benefit, please contact your local council using the details in their part of this leaflet.

Questions about KCC's budget:

phone: 08458 247 247 (24 hours a day, seven days a week);

email: council.tax@kent.gov.uk; or

write to: Kent County Council, Room 3.08 Sessions House, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

Information about KCC's council tax is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

Please call the KCC contact centre on 08458 247 247.



Helping keep Kent

Round the clock, 365 days a year, Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority helps protect 1.6 million residents in 700,000 homes across the county.

Last year we:

- Dealt with over 37,000 emergency 999 calls – answering over 99% of them within 20 seconds
- Responded to nearly 20,000 fires and other incidents
- Reached over 90% of fires in less than ten minutes
- Dealt with around 1,200 road traffic collisions
- Carried out 12,000 free home safety visits, fitting over 18,000 smoke alarms
- Educated over 96,000 children and young people on fire and road safety

All those services will be provided to you this year for just £1.27 a week (Band D property).

Value for money

Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority is the top rated fire and rescue authority in the country.

We work hard to deliver our services in the most efficient way possible.

Kent and Medway is one of only three Fire and Rescue Authorities classed as *Excellent* by the Audit Commission. The Commission has also for the second year running rated the Authority as *Improving Strongly*, and it gave us the top rating for our use of resources including value for money.



and Medway safe

Planning for the future

We have been very successful in reducing the number of fires in homes and businesses. But to keep you safe, we must plan for the future demands of our changing community.

The number of older people in the county is set to increase, an extra 65,000 homes are planned by 2016, and more storms and flooding are forecast.

This is why we are investing in staff training and new equipment.

Compressed air foam will put out fires quicker and reduce the amount of water used. High volume pumps and search and rescue equipment help us deal with major emergencies, and save lives. New water safety equipment and

training is also being introduced to deal with floods and other water rescues.

For more information look at our Service Performance Plan or our Medium Term Financial Plan for 2009-12, available on our website www.kent.fire-uk.org or write to us at the address below.

If you have any comments or questions about the information provided by Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority please write to:

Chief Executive and Chief Fire Officer, Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority Headquarters, Straw Mill Hill, Tovil, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XB



Where your money goes

2008/09		2009/10
£'000	Revenue budget	£'000
56,289	Employees	58,344
1,473	Firefighters' pensions	1,339
4,038	Premises	4,137
3,135	Vehicles and travel	3,244
4,882	Equipment and supplies	5,104
1,591	Fees and services	2,119
823	Other costs	829
2,400	Contributions to capital	2,048
1,105	Debt financing costs	1,194
75,736	Gross revenue expenditure	78,358
-5,460	Service Income	-5,386
-2,041	Transfers to/from reserves	-2,557
68,235	Net budget requirement	70,415
	Financed by:	
28,608	Gov. grant/business rates	29,033
-16	Collection fund surplus (deficit)	15
39,643	Council tax	41,367
68,235		70,415

Why spending has changed

	£'000
Revenue budget 2008/09	68,235
Pay, prices and commitments	2,072
Service developments & pressures	1,733
Savings	-2,069
Movements in grant and reserve funded expenditure	444
Revenue budget 2009/10	70,415



Your Council Tax 2009/10

Our budget for 2009/10

Each year, additional funding is required in the Authority's budget to meet the cost of inflation increases and the cost of nationally set pay awards. In overall terms, the net budget for 2009/10 is just over 3% more than in 2008/09.

of this to invest in improved staff training, new operational equipment and improvements to premises.

The Authority also has a capital budget for investment in projects with long term benefits.

The Authority needs to invest in service improvements. To do this without making significant increases to Council Tax, the Authority must identify efficiencies and other savings that can be made without increasing the risk to public safety.

The Authority plans to make savings of £2m in 2009/10 (equivalent to 3% of the budget for the previous year) and plans to use over £1.7m

	2009/10
	£'000
Capital budget	
Premises projects	1,708
Investment in IS/IT	448
Vehicles & equipment	2,598
Regional control centre project	187
Community safety schemes	642
Total capital expenditure	5,583
Funded by:	
Borrowing	1,750
Revenue contributions	2,048
Capital grants	1,684
Capital receipts	101
Total capital funding	5,583

Our share of your Council Tax

Your Council Tax bill is made up of charges from Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority as well as other local authorities in your area. These are the amounts that relate to the Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority for 2009/10.

Our share of the Council Tax for a Band D property is £66.06, which is just 3.5% more than the equivalent charge of £63.81 for 2008/09.

Band	Council Tax
A	£44.04
B	£51.38
C	£58.72
D	£66.06
E	£80.74
F	£95.42
G	£110.10
H	£132.12

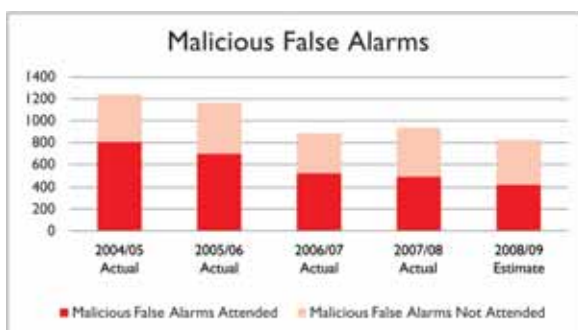
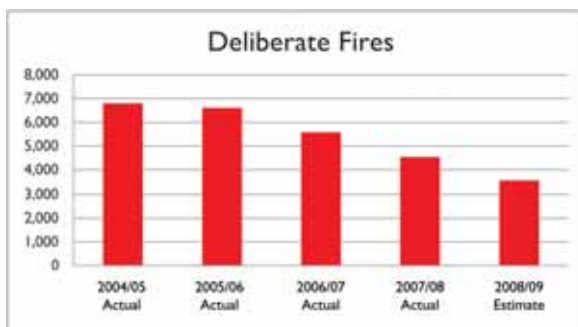


What is improving

We work with partners like the police to achieve targets such as reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads and reducing CO₂ emissions.

Achievements have included:

- **Deliberate fires down** by over 47% over the last five years
- **Reducing false alarms** - malicious false alarms down by over 33% over the last five years, helping improve our response to real incidents
- **Reducing road accidents** - the number of accidents we attend has gone down by nearly 7% over the last five years



Key Indicators	2006/07 Actual	2007/08 Actual	2008/09* Estimate
Total fires (per 10,000 people)	53.7	45.5	38.2
Accidental fires in the home (per 10,000 people)	11.1	12.1	10.8
Deliberate fires (per 10,000 people)	34.3	28.1	21.9
Road accidents attended (per 10,000 people)	7.9	7.5	7.4

* Based on data at December 2008



Kent Police Authority

Kent Police Authority is an independent body that oversees your policing. We have set the policing budget for 2009/10 at £277million. This means for the typical Band D household your police council tax will increase by £6.40 a year (4.99%).

“Last year the Authority invested in neighbourhood task teams to further reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

We have listened to the Chief Constable as to the resources he needs to keep Kent and Medway an even safer place to live and work. Our recent consultation has shown that you would like more task teams and anti-social behaviour remains a top priority.

The only way we can afford to increase the number of task teams from one per policing area to one per district is to make a small rise to the police council tax. This was not an easy decision for the Authority. We are aware of how bleak the economic outlook is and Police Authority members have considered a number of options.



By increasing the council tax by 12p per week for a typical Band D household we can create even safer neighbourhoods and improve the quality of life for all of us. Even with this increase, the Force will have to make £1.5m of savings each year. It's always incredibly hard making the decision to increase taxes but we have consulted widely and we all feel that a small rise is justifiable. Task teams: they're what we want, we know they work and now we will have an extra 48 officers making a difference to our neighbourhoods.”

Ann Barnes **Ann Barnes, Chair of the Kent Police Authority**



What your money will buy

Eight new task teams will be introduced later on in the year – more than doubling the number already in place. The teams, made up of one sergeant and five police constables, will be placed in hotspot areas to tackle ongoing quality of life crimes.



The decision to invest in more neighbourhood task teams follows research that showed existing task teams had reduced vehicle crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

Local people can also have their say as to where they think the task teams should be placed by going along to a Partners and Community Together (PACT) meeting.

You set the priorities, we take the action

Is there a problem where you live? Nuisance vehicles, graffiti, litter? Then tell the police and other agencies about it at a Partners and Community Together meeting and make sure action is taken against your priorities. Your neighbourhood officers will be available to provide information, give you support and listen to your views.

Find out where your local PACT meeting is or who your neighbourhood officer is by visiting the Kent Police website www.kent.police.uk - either enter your postcode on the search facility or follow the links on the maps.





Police Finances

How we are funded	£'000	£/resident
Budget requirement funded by:		
Government police grant	112,780	69.00
Government revenue support grant	14,882	9.10
Business rates grant surplus	64,479	39.45
08/09 council tax collection surplus	30	0.02
Balance to be met by council taxpayers	84,319	51.58
Total	276,490	169.15

Why spending has changed	£'000
Revenue budget for 2008/09	266,900
Pay and price changes	9,661
Service developments and unavoidable cost increases	9,000
Savings	-9,071
Total budget requirement for 2009/10	276,490

Budget breakdown	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Police pay	163,309	160,582
Police pensions	33,859	32,682
Support staff	86,045	83,123
Other expenditure	50,832	48,346
Gross revenue budget	334,045	324,733
Income from other sources	-57,555	-57,833
Total	276,490	266,900



How much will I have to pay?	
Band A	£89.77
Band B	£104.73
Band C	£119.69
Band D	£134.65
Band E	£164.57
Band F	£194.49
Band G	£224.42
Band H	£269.30

The Police Authority pages in this booklet are available in other formats and a range of languages.

You can contact Kent Police Authority by emailing:

kpaenquiries@kent.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: **01622 677055**

Alternatively write to:

Kent Police Authority

Gail House

Lower Stone Street

Maidstone

Kent ME15 6NB

www.kentpa.kent.police.uk

Useful numbers

In an emergency dial: **999**

For all non-emergencies: **01622 690690**

Kent Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**

National domestic violence: **0808 2000 247**

Kent Homophobic incident reporting line: **0800 328 9162**

Kent Racial incident reporting line: **0800 138 1624**

Report a non-urgent crime online:

<https://reportacrime.kent.police.uk/>

Deaf and speech impaired: report a crime by texting police to **60066**

CAPITAL AND OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS

Dover District Council's programme of transformational regeneration is continuing, and will affect every resident and visitor. Dover District Council and its partners will regenerate our district in a sustainable way that gives our residents a world-class future.



Continuing developments include the arrival of the high speed rail link in December 2009, the next stage of work at Dover Priory, the extended world-class port, and the £8m Sea Change project with improvements to Dover Castle and the Dover waterfront, which includes better linkage to the town centre. With the improvements to Deal Pier now complete, Bleriot Celebrations in July 2009 and the Open Golf in Sandwich in 2011, together with the Aylesham Redevelopment Plans, the District is set for future prosperity. B&Q are set to open in April on the White Cliffs Business Park and Morrisons are due to open on the site vacated by B&Q in the town. The Sea Sports Centre also opens later in the year.

Plans for the District's regeneration are set to continue despite the difficult economic times.

The Council plans to spend approximately £8.5 million on its capital programme in 2009/10 and is investing in a number of schemes and services including:

- Housing schemes totalling £7.1 million, including:
 - Disabled facilities grant
 - Renovation grants
 - Private Sector loans and grants
 - Decent homes standard projects for its own stock
- Major regeneration projects totalling £1.3 million, including Aylesham and Dover Town Investment Zone.

CHANGE IN BUDGET REQUIREMENT

	£'000	2007/08 Actual Net Expenditure £'000	2008/09 Forecast Net Expenditure £'000
Dover District Council Budget Requirement 2008/09	17,769	1,121	1,149
Less Town and Parish Councils precepts	(1,676)	10,264	11,139
		967	480
		1,873	1,782
		309	455
		2,074	1,928
		16,608	16,933
2008/09 Requirement excluding Town and Parish Precepts	16,093		
Less Growth and savings in services costs above inflation	(63)	1,486	1,676
		49	50
		515	405
Less One-offs	(229)	1,656	263
		(1,714)	(1,272)
		(21)	(23)
Add Decreased Income	366	18,579	18,032
Add Inflation and other charges	616	(1,682)	514
Add Increase in Financing Costs	650		
Less Changes in Reserve Funding	(902)	16,897	18,546
Total Dover District Council Budget Requirement 2009/10	16,531	(5,559)	(5,881)
		(1,486)	(1,676)
Add Town and Parish Council Precepts	1,731	(46)	(50)
		0	(80)
		(1,431)	(1,236)
Total Requirement	18,262	(8,526)	(8,877)
		(151)	746
		(2,546)	(2,697)
		(2,697)	(1,951)

Dover District Council Tax 2009/10

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT*

	Gross Expenditure	2009/10 Gross Income	Net Expenditure
	£'000	£'000	£'000
On its services the Council spent:			
Central Services	1,643	(651)	992
Cultural, Environmental and Planning Services	14,316	(3,357)	10,959
Highways, Roads and Transport Services	3,290	(2,790)	500
Housing Services	59,406	(58,033)	1,373
Other Services	144	(94)	50
Corporate & Democratic Core	2,122	(173)	1,949
NET COST OF SERVICES	80,921	(65,098)	15,823
Amounts due to Precepting Authorities:			
- Town and Parish Councils			1,731
- River Stour Drainage Board			53
Interest payable and similar charges			405
Amounts payable to Housing Capital receipts pool			450
Interest and investment income			(623)
Exceptional item			0
NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE			17,839
Net additional amount required by statute and non-statutory proper practices to be debited or credited to the General Fund Balance for the year			423
BUDGET FUNDING REQUIREMENT			18,262
Income from Collection Fund:			
- Council Tax Income for DDC Purposes			(6,173)
- Council Tax Income passed to Town & Parish Councils			(1,731)
- Collection Fund Surplus			0
Area Based Grant			(171)
Government grants (not attributable to specific services)			(1,906)
Distribution from non-domestic rates pool			(8,258)
(SURPLUS) / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			23
General Fund Balance at Start of Year			(1,951)
Leaving year end balance of			(1,928)

*This is adjusted to incorporate the movement on the General Fund Balance due to changes in disclosure requirements

COUNCIL TAX DEMAND NOTICE EXPLANATORY NOTES 2009/10 FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION

Please note that the information in these notes is for guidance only and is not a definition of the law.

1. Council Tax valuation bands

Most dwellings will be subject to Council Tax, whether it is a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home, houseboat, and whether it is owned or rented.

Each dwelling has been allocated to one of eight bands according to its open market capital value at 1 April 1991. A list of the bands and ranges is detailed overleaf.

Your Council Tax bill states which band applies to your dwelling.

2. Appeals to the Valuation Officer of the Inland Revenue

There are only limited occasions when taxpayers can challenge their banding, these include:

- after demolition
- conversions of houses to flats
- physical changes in the locality affecting value and within six months of:
- a band change to your property made by the Valuation Officer
- a band change to a similar property to yours made by the Court
- becoming a new taxpayer (property values are based on property values as at 01.04.91 – recent purchase prices are therefore not necessarily the best evidence)

If a banding is challenged the taxpayer must still continue to pay the current bill until any appeal is settled. More detailed information is available from the Valuation Officer at Palting House, Trinity Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2TP, by telephone on 01303 852900, or on their website at www.voa.gov.uk

3. People with disabilities

If you or someone who lives with you is substantially and permanently disabled and has special needs arising from that disability, you may be entitled to a reduction in your Council Tax. The reduction will only apply if extra space is needed because the disabled person must use their wheelchair indoors, or a room, an extra bathroom or kitchen is needed for that person. The extra space, room, bathroom or kitchen must be essential or of major importance to the disabled person's well-being because of the nature and extent of that person's disability. There must also be a link between the person's disability and the use of the room. If you have already successfully applied for this relief, it will be shown on your bill.

4. Discounts

The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are two adults living in a dwelling. If only one adult lives in a dwelling (as their main home), the Council Tax bill will be reduced by a quarter (25%). If a dwelling is no-one's main home, but furnished, both Class A and Class B discounts reduce the bill by 10%. For empty dwellings under Class C the full charge is payable.

Dover District Council Tax 2009/10

People in the following groups do not count towards the number of adults resident in a dwelling:

- full-time students, student nurses, apprentices and Youth Training trainees
- patients who are permanently resident in hospital
- people who are being permanently looked after in care homes
- people who are severely mentally impaired
- people staying in certain hostels or night shelters
- 18 and 19 year olds who are at or have just left school
- careworkers working for low pay, usually for charities
- people caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner or child under 18
- members of visiting forces and certain international institutions
- members of religious communities (monks and nuns)
- people in prison (except those in prison for non-payment of Council Tax or a fine)
- diplomats and their non-British spouses
- persons in respect of whom child benefit is payable
- non-British spouses of students.

If you think you may be entitled to a discount and it is not already shown on your account, you should phone 'DDC @ your service' on (01304) 872199 for further details or check the information on our website at www.dover.gov.uk/counciltax which also contains application forms.

If your bill shows that a discount has been given, you must tell the Council of any change of circumstances that affects your entitlement, within 21 days of the change. If you fail to do so, you may have to pay a penalty.

5. Exempt dwellings

Some dwellings are exempt including VACANT properties which:

- are unfurnished (exempt for up to six months). Because this exemption applies to the property, a new period of exemption may not be given on a change of ownership/tenancy. For example, if you buy a house that has been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for six months and therefore exempt from Council Tax during that time and it will remain unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a time because you want to re-decorate, you cannot claim a further exemption. However, if the property had only been exempt for three months before you bought it, you would be entitled to up to three months exemption, provided the property remained unoccupied and substantially unfurnished
- are owned by a charity (exempt for up to six months)
- are unfurnished and require or are undergoing structural alteration or major repair (exempt for up to six months after substantial completion or a maximum of twelve months whichever is earlier)
- are left empty by someone who has gone to prison, or who has moved to receive personal care in a hospital or a home or elsewhere
- are left empty by someone who has moved in order to provide personal care to another person
- are left empty by students
- are waiting for probate or letters of administration to be granted (and for up to six months after) unless the property passes to the beneficiary or is sold
- have been repossessed

- are the responsibility of a bankrupt's trustees
- are empty because their occupation is forbidden by law
- are waiting to be occupied by a minister of religion
- are pitches or moorings not occupied by caravans or boats
- are unoccupied annexes to an occupied building

and OCCUPIED properties which:

- are occupied only by full-time students that meet set criteria
- are occupied solely by a person or persons under 18
- are occupied solely by severely mentally impaired people
- are occupied solely by a student and non-British spouse only
- are occupied solely by a diplomat or member of an international organisation
- are occupied annexes that are the residence of a dependant relative.

Forces barracks and married quarters are also exempt. Their occupants will contribute to the cost of local services through a special arrangement.

If you think your dwelling may be exempt and this is not already shown on your account, you should phone 'DDC @ your service' on (01304) 872199 for further details or check the information on our website at www.dover.gov.uk/counciltax which also contains application forms.

If your bill shows that an exemption has been given, you must tell the Council of any change of circumstances that affects your entitlement, within 21 days of the change. If you fail to do so, you may have to pay a penalty.

6. Website

The Council Tax website (www.dover.gov.uk/counciltax) shows how the charge is calculated, with a breakdown of all band charges for all parishes. It gives information on reliefs, discounts and exemptions and contains application forms, which can be completed on screen, printed out, signed and posted to the Revenues Section.

You can also submit an online request to have your Council Tax bills sent to you by e-mail.

A link is provided to the Valuation Office website (www.voa.gov.uk) where you can obtain further information on valuation of properties for Council Tax and appeals against banding values.

7. Benefit

Council Tax Benefit ensures that people in receipt of income support or jobseeker's allowance (income based) will normally pay no Council Tax, and that other people on low incomes will have their bills reduced. For further details contact 'DDC @ your service' on (01304) 872199.

Dover District Council Tax 2009-10

8. Appeals to a valuation tribunal

You may appeal if you consider that you are not liable to pay Council Tax, for example, because you are not the resident or owner, or because your property is exempt, or that the Council has made a mistake in calculating your bill. If you want to appeal on any of these grounds you must write to Dover District Council telling us why you want to appeal, so that we can look at your case first. If you are not happy with our decision, you can then appeal to the valuation tribunal.

You must continue to pay your Council Tax even if you have made an appeal or you are waiting for a Council Tax Benefit claim to be processed. If your appeal or benefit claim is successful, any overpayment of tax will be refunded to you.

9. Percentage change in charge from previous year

For all Council Tax bills from 2002/2003 the billing authority is required to show on the bill the level of change in charge in percentage terms compared with the previous year. If you wish to question any level of change please contact the relevant authority.

For further details about discounts and exemptions see the Council Tax web pages at www.dover.gov.uk/counciltax

For Council Tax Benefit or appeals information, including the role of the valuation tribunals, please contact **DDC@your service 01304 872199**, or write to Revenues, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ

COUNCIL TAX & BUSINESS RATES TYPICAL COSTS

Amount of costs:

If a summons is issued against you:	£50.00
If a liability order is granted at Court:	£50.00
If your debt is passed to the bailiff: (average)	£134.00

If we apply to the Court for your committal to prison:

Means enquiry:	£50.00
Warrant of arrest with bail:	£85.00
Warrant of arrest without bail:	£105.00

Additional costs to pay: £474.00

Don't let this happen to you.

As soon as you know you will not be able to keep your payments up to date, phone our Dover District Council '@ your service' team on **(01304) 872199**.

If you do not pay on time, we will take necessary action. Help to manage your finances better – pay by Direct Debit.

**CAN
YOU
AFFORD
NOT TO
PAY?**

Your Council Tax 2009/10

Which authority provides local services?

The table below highlights the key services provided by authorities.

				Town or parish council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Families, including Education • Adult Social Services • Highways and Public Transport • Libraries • Youth Services • Waste Disposal • Trading Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and housing • Refuse collection and recycling • Environmental services and licensing • Council Tax collection & Housing Benefits • Leisure services • Street cleaning and parking • Planning services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding Kent Police to account • Setting the budget for Kent Police, including council tax • Setting Kent Police challenging targets to drive performance higher • Appoint the Chief Constable • Consult with local people to find out what they want from policing • Continuously monitoring force performance against targets • Oversees police complaints and discipline procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to fires and other emergencies • Rescuing people from road traffic collisions • Promoting road safety • Educating people about fire safety • Completing free home safety visits • Ensuring businesses are protected from fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining local assets including allotments, common lands, burial grounds, play areas, tennis courts, litter bins, seats and ponds. • Town and parish councils are consulted on all planning applications affecting their areas.



Are you or your family being affected by debt, redundancy, or reduced working hours?
HELP IS AT HAND - Contact the Dover District Health and Well-being team for help and support.
Tel: 01304 872338
Email: healthandwellbeing@dover.gov.uk

