



STATE OF THE DISTRICT 2017

FINANCE

FINANCE

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

Overall, local government spending is paid for by three main sources:

- Central Government
- Business rates
- Council tax

Councils are facing a tough and complex set of pressures – cuts in funding, rising demand for services and economic growth challenge.

1. REVENUE SUPPORT GRANT

- Revenue Support Grant (RSG) is a central government grant given to local authorities which can be used to finance revenue expenditure on any service. The amount of RSG to be provided to councils is established through the local government finance settlement.
- RSG received by Dover District Council has been reduced by 30.5% in 2016/17, and is forecast to be (virtually) nil by 2019/20. The reduction in RSG accounts for the bulk of the on-going budget pressures for the council.

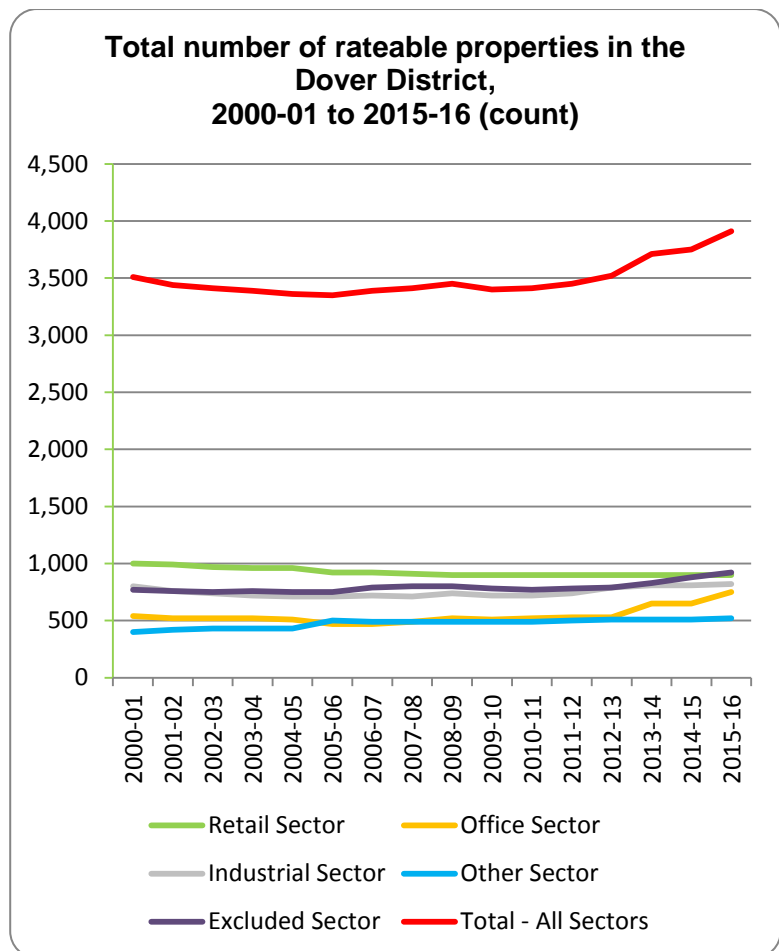
2. BUSINESS RATES

- Business rates - the commonly used term for non-domestic rates - are a property tax paid by occupants of non-domestic premises, including most commercial properties such as shops, offices, pubs, warehouses and factories.
- Apart from properties that are exempt from business rates, such as agricultural land, parks and places of worship, each non-domestic property has a rateable value, which is set by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), an executive agency of HM Revenue and Customs.
- The basic rates bill of a business property (or 'hereditament') is calculated by multiplying its rateable value by the 'multiplier'. The multiplier is expressed in pence per pound of rateable value and is set by the Government.
- Rateable values are normally assessed on the basis of the annual rental value of a property. They are normally reassessed every five years to ensure changes in property market rent values are taken into account.
- The most recent revaluation of non-domestic properties in England, Scotland and Wales took effect on 1 April 2017, and reflects the rental market as at 1 April 2015 (this revaluation was postponed for two years). It is coming into force alongside a number of other changes in rating practice. The combined effect of which may cause some ratepayers' bills to change significantly:
 - The thresholds for small business rate relief are being extended in England. The 2017 changes increase the thresholds for small business rate relief.
 - The Government is introducing, for England only, a new system for appealing against rateable values, called 'Check, Challenge, Appeal'. This system went live on 1 April 2017.
 - In future, valuation officers will be obliged to give separate valuations to properties that are physically separate.
- The revaluation could have an impact on income level for the council. This is because the government introduced a Business Rates Retention Scheme (BRRS) from April 2013. Under the BRRS, each English local authority's core funding is directly linked to its business rate revenue.
- Changes in properties' values will feed through into changed business rate bills, and, therefore, to the total amount of revenue received by each local authority. Some councils will receive more rate revenue than previously and some will receive less, as a result of the revaluation. Early indications suggest the Dover district will see an increase in rateable value – however, this is mainly due to a significant increase for the Channel Tunnel. Previously, Channel Tunnel have won appeals against their 2005 and 2010 valuations, and they have also re-appealed recently, but the appeal has not yet been heard or settled.

- In the Dover district, recent growth from business development has been eroded by appeals from businesses against the rateable value set by the VOA. Following the revaluation, we are anticipating an increase in the number of appeals from businesses - this adds further downward pressure on the council's budget. It will be expected the VOA will take some time to resolve the business appeals received following the revaluation process, and this adds uncertainty to the levels of business rate income achievable.
- Various reliefs are available from full business rates liability, both mandatory and at the discretion of billing authorities. These include small business rate relief, mandatory relief for charities and Enterprise Zones.
- The government has given local authorities a set amount of money to help local businesses experiencing large increases in their business rates bills following the 2017 revaluation. This money will be phased over the five year revaluation period from 2017-18 to 2021-22, with the amount of money reducing each year. We have put together a scheme to help those in our area with their business rates bills, taking into account the money we have been given. Those ratepayers that receive help under this scheme could have the increase in their business rates bills reduced by up to 70%¹.
- Business rates income in the Dover district is heavily concentrated at its largest sites, with 37% of its business rates income from the top 5 sites: Channel Tunnel, Discovery Park, Dover Harbour Board, Tesco's, Whitfield and Thanet Offshore Wind Farm-Cable Link².

a) Rateable Properties

- In 2015/16, the VOA estimated there were 3,910 business properties on the non-domestic rates register in the Dover district. This is up 460 properties (+13.3%) over the past five years.
- These properties can be subdivided into:
 - Retail sector 900 (23.0%)
 - Office sector 750 (19.2%)
 - Industrial sector 820 (21.0%)
 - Other sector 520 (13.3%)
 - Excluded sector 920 (23.5%)
- The largest grouping in the Dover district is now the "Excluded Sector", which has increased by 140 (+17.9%) over the past five years.
- *Certain properties are exempt from business rates. They may not be payable on agricultural land and buildings, including fish farms; buildings used for training or welfare of disabled people; buildings registered for public religious worship or church halls. There are strict legal requirements for these exemptions – please see the VOA website for further information.*

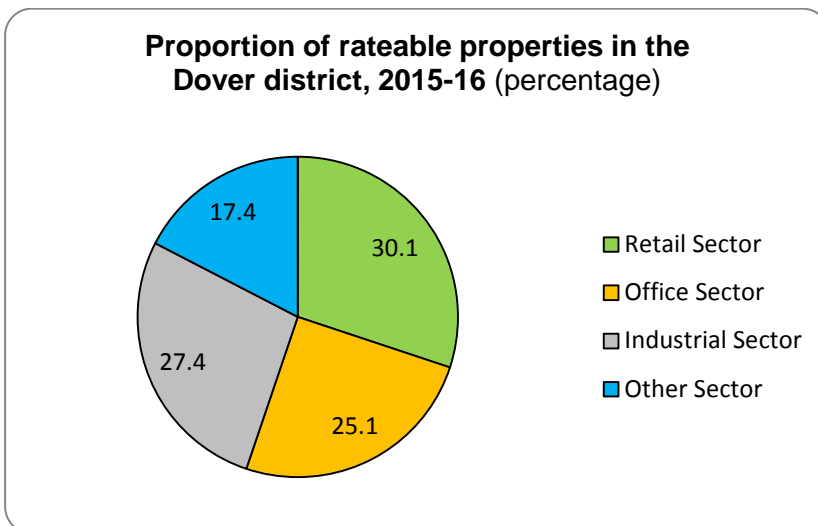


- Over the past five years, the number of businesses in the 'retail sector' has remained the same in the district. The number of businesses in the 'office sector' has increased by 220 (+41.5%), the number of businesses in the 'industrial sector' has increased by 80 (+10.8%) and number of businesses in the 'other sector' has increased by 20 (+4%).

¹ Source: dover.gov.uk/Business/Business-Rates/Relief/Local-discretionary-discount.aspx

² Source: [Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17](#)

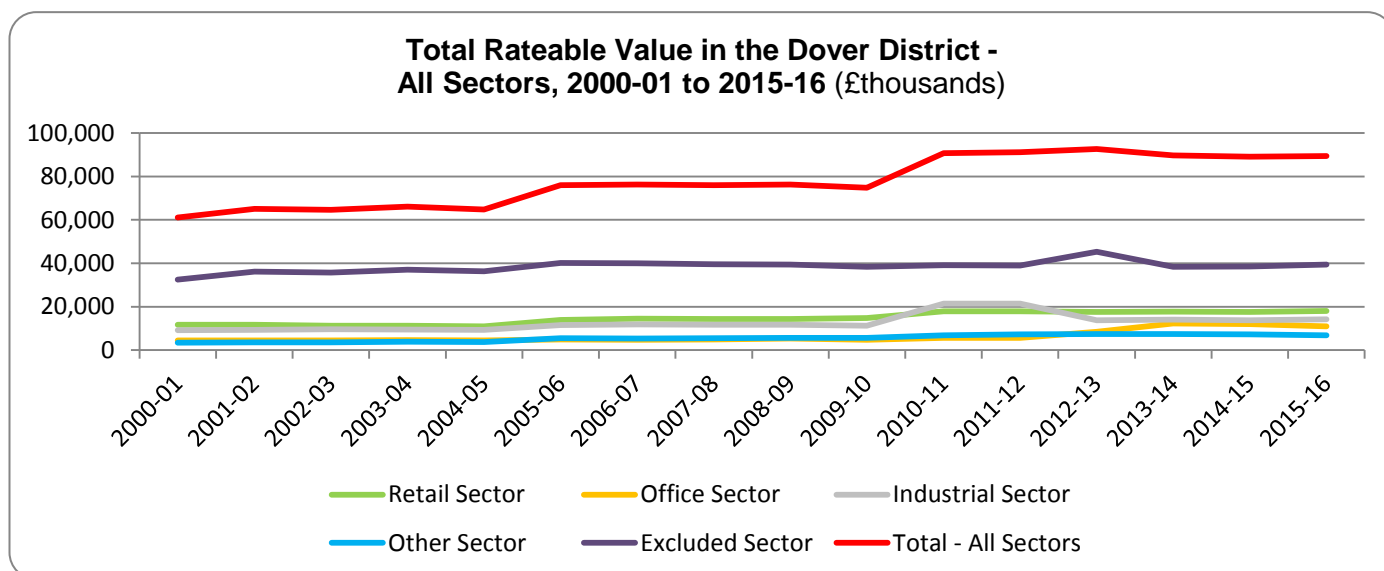
- At a county level, in 2015/16, the number of business properties ranged from 5,610 in Canterbury to 2,270 in Gravesham.
- Thanet has the largest number of retail sector hereditaments in Kent (1,570) and Tonbridge and Malling the lowest (650).
- Maidstone has the largest number of office sector hereditaments in Kent (1,130) and Gravesham the lowest (300).
- Swale has the largest number of industrial sector hereditaments in Kent (1,290) and Gravesham the lowest (460).
- Canterbury has the largest number of other sector hereditaments in Kent (680) and Dartford the lowest (300).



- In 2015-16, after removing the “Excluded sector” from the figures, there are 2,990 hereditaments (rateable properties) in the district.
- The pie chart opposite shows the breakdown of the included sectors, with the retail sector (30.1%) being the highest proportion of businesses paying non-domestic rates.

b) Rateable Value

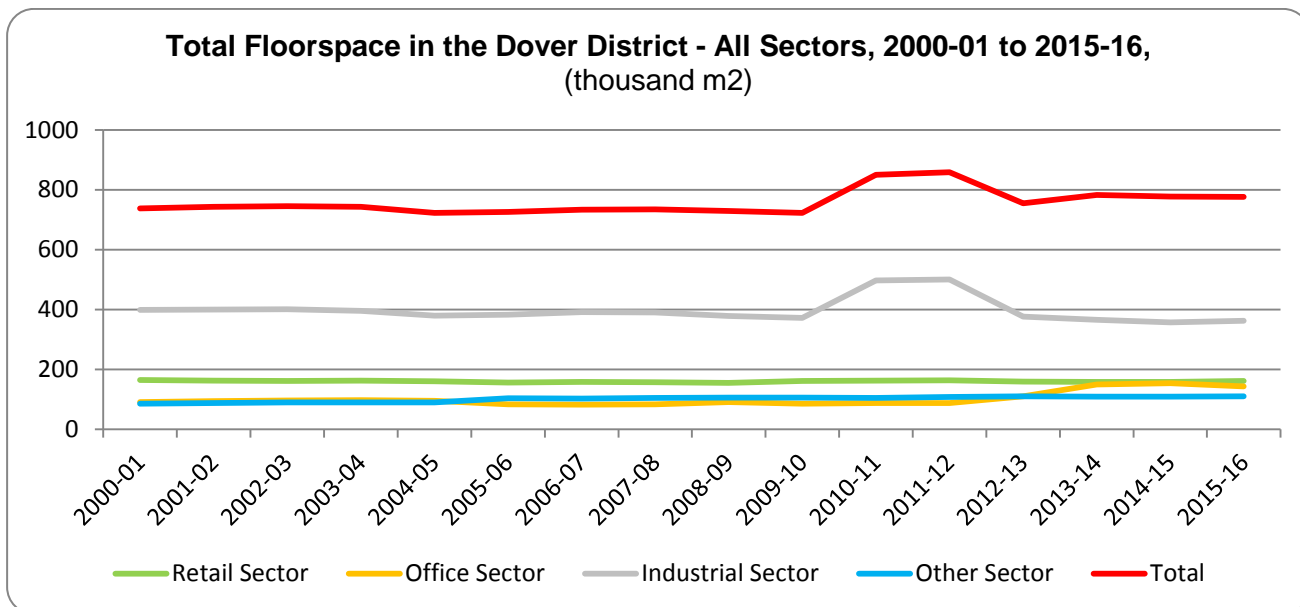
- The Valuation Office Agency sets a rateable value (RV) for each business property (hereditament). This is not the amount of business rates payable. The rates bill (amount payable) for a business property is the product of its rateable value and the relevant national non-domestic rating multiplier.



- In 2015/16, the VOA estimated the total rateable value of business properties in the Dover district was £89,400,000. This is down £1,732,000 (-1.9%) over the past five years. From this total figure, in 2015/16, £39,386,000 (44%) was in the excluded sector.

c) Business Floorspace

- Based on the 2,990 included properties, there is 777,000 m² of business floor space in the Dover district. This can be subdivided into:
 - Retail 161,000m² (20.7%)
 - Office 143,000m² (18.4%)
 - Industrial 362,000m² (46.6%)
 - Other sector 110,000m² (14.2%)

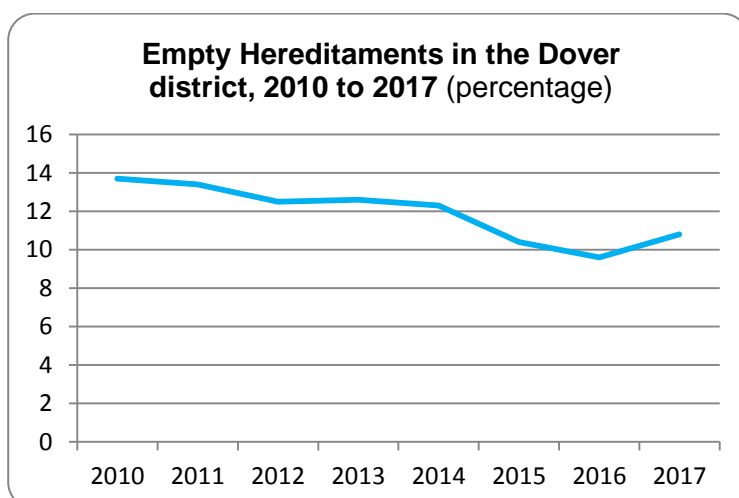


- Over the past five years, total business floorspace has decreased by 82,000m² (-9.5%), with 'industrial sector' floorspace falling by 138,000m² (-27.6%) and 'retail sector' floorspace by 2,000m² (-1.2%). However, 'office sector' floorspace has increased by 56,000 m² (+64.4%) and 'other sector' floorspace has increased by 2,000m² (+1.9%).
- At a county level, the total amount of business floor space varies from district to district, from 1.57 million m² in Tonbridge and Malling to 734,000 m² in Gravesham.

d) Empty Hereditaments

- The estimated percentage of empty hereditaments in the Dover district fell from 13.7% in 2010 to 9.6% in 2016 but has now increased to 10.8% in 2017.

Empty Hereditaments (as at 31 March)		
Year	Number	%
2010	468	13.7
2011	456	13.4
2012	428	12.5
2013	441	12.6
2014	458	12.3
2015	392	10.4
2016	374	9.6
2017	399	10.8



Source: DCLG NDR tables (2010-2013) and EK Services (2014-2017)

e) Collection rates

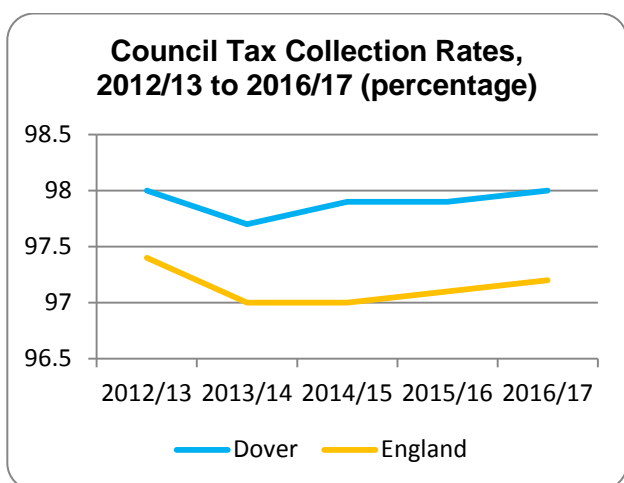
Council Tax	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Dover	99.1	98.4	98.0	97.7	97.9	97.9	98
England	97.3	97.3	97.4	97.0	97.0	97.1	97.2

Amount collected by 31 March as a % of amount collectable

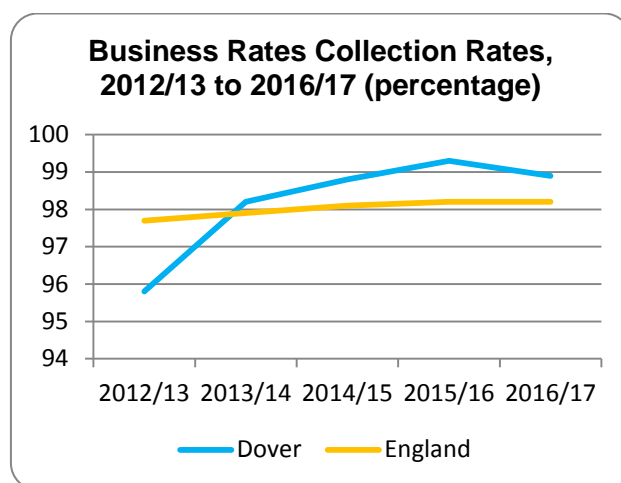
Business Rates	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Dover	98.4	98.8	95.8	98.2	98.8	99.3	98.9
England	98.0	97.8	97.7	97.9	98.1	98.2	98.2

Amount collected by 31 March as a % of net collectable debit

- Over the past year, the collection rates for Council Tax in the Dover district has increased slightly but fallen for Non-Domestic rates. Both are above the average collection rates for England.



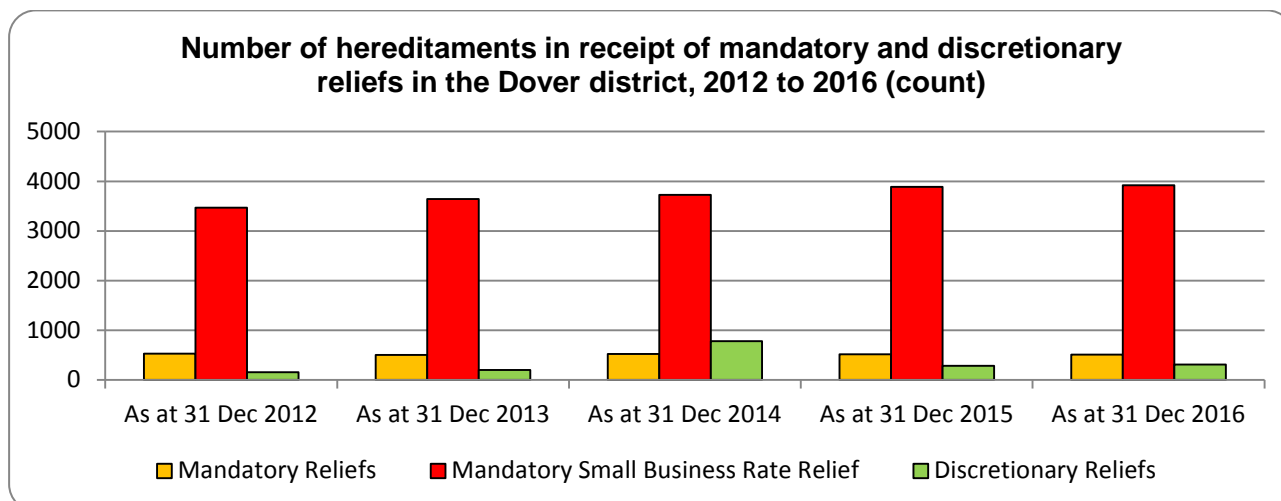
Source: DCLG Council Tax Statistics – Table 6



Source: DCLG Council Tax Statistics – Table 6

f) Support for Businesses

- In the Dover district, as at 31 December 2016, there were 1,502 hereditaments benefitting from the Small Business Rate Relief scheme through paying the lower multiplier and getting a discount (this is up from 1,474 in 2015). Of these, 1,464 businesses were receiving a 100% discount (up from 1,086 in 2015). In addition, 1,583 hereditaments were paying the lower multiplier and not receiving a discount (this is up from 1,223 in 2015).
- At the same time, there were 509 hereditaments in receipt of mandatory reliefs (down from 517 in 2015) and 312 in receipt of discretionary reliefs (up from 284 in 2015).



Number of hereditaments in receipt of mandatory and discretionary relief in the Dover district ³					
	As at 31 Dec 2012	As at 31 Dec 2013	As at 31 Dec 2014	As at 31 Dec 2015	As at 31 Dec 2016
Mandatory Reliefs (MR)⁴					
Charity	218	214	229	224	233
Rural village shop	16	17	16	16	14
Partly occupied	0	0	0	0	0
Empty premises	285	266	268	267	253
Community amateur sports clubs	10	10	9	10	9
Mandatory Reliefs Total (Number)	529	507	522	517	509
Mandatory Small Business Rate Relief (SBBR)					
Paying additional supplement	1177	1,176	1,213	1,190	835
Paying lower multiplier and receiving a discount	1159	1,257	1,377	1,474	1,502
<i>Of which</i>					
100% discount	852	921	1,009	1,086	1,464
0%-100% discount on sliding scale	307	336	368	388	38
Paying lower multiplier and not receiving a discount	1130	1,211	1,137	1,223	1,583
SBBR Total (Number)	3466	3,644	3,727	3,887	3,920
Discretionary Reliefs (DR)					
Charity	112	110	89	97	96
Non-profit making bodies	43	43	23	21	17
Rural village shop	0	0	0	0	0
Other small rural business	0	0	0	0	0
Community amateur sports clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Enterprise Zone discounts	4	48	138	163	199
S47 discounts	0	0	0	0	0
S31 new empty property relief	0	0	0	0	0
S31 long term empty relief	0	0	1	3	0
S31 retail relief	0	0	531	0	0
Discretionary Reliefs Total (Number)	159	201	782	284	312

Source: [DCLG National non-domestic rates collected by councils' collection](#): National non-domestic rates supplementary tables 2013 to 2014, 2014 to 2015, 2015 to 2016 and 2016 to 2017.

- Following the 2017 business rates revaluation, we have put together a scheme to help local businesses with their business rates bills, taking into account the money given to us by the Government. Those ratepayers that receive help under this scheme could have the increase in their business rates bills reduced by up to 70%⁵.

³ Some hereditaments may be entitled to more than one relief. Therefore, the total number of reliefs awarded to hereditaments may be greater than the total number of hereditaments in receipt of relief.

⁴ Excludes Small Business Rate Relief and Transitional Relief

⁵ Source: dover.gov.uk/Business/Business-Rates/Relief/Local-discretionary-discount.aspx

3. COUNCIL TAX IN THE DOVER DISTRICT

a) Average Council Tax Bill 2016/17

- Council Tax Band D⁶ is considered to be the average council tax band and, according to Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) figures, the average Band D council tax set by local authorities in England for 2016/17 is £1,530 (including parish precepts). This is an increase of £46 or 3.1% on the 2015/16 figure of £1,484. In shire districts (including the Dover district) the average charged is £1,547 (+1.4%).

b) Comparison of Council Tax charges across Kent 2016/17

Local authority	Average council tax for the authority excluding parish precepts (Band D)		Average council tax for the authority including parish precepts (Band D)		Average council tax for area of billing authority including parish precepts (Band D)	
Ashford	150	3.13	182	4.19	1,540	3.86
Canterbury	194	2.61	208	3.25	1,566	3.74
Dartford	163	0.00	196	-0.07	1,554	3.31
Dover	172	2.96	234	2.42	1,592	3.61
Gravesham	187	2.72	195	3.16	1,553	3.73
Maidstone	241	2.10	266	2.34	1,624	3.57
Sevenoaks	198	2.57	276	3.40	1,634	3.75
Shepway	246	1.99	296	3.78	1,654	3.81
Swale	160	0.00	184	1.23	1,541	3.50
Thanet	215	2.36	243	5.08	1,601	4.01
Tonbridge & Malling	193	2.67	239	3.57	1,597	3.78
Tunbridge Wells	164	3.14	211	3.16	1,569	3.73

Source: DCLG - Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England: 2016/17 (Table 7)

- In 2016/17, the average council tax for the area of the billing authority for a Band 'D' property, including parish precepts, across Kent ranges from £1,654 in Shepway to £1,540 in Ashford. This compares to £1,592 in the Dover district.
- The council tax consists of several elements: the County Council, the Local Authority, the Police Authority, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Parish Precept.
- The local authority part (ie the billing authority) of the council tax demands are less than the county council requirement. County Council services are £1,134, the Police Authority £152 and the Fire & Rescue services £72. Shepway District Council set the highest local authority rate in the county for 2016/17 at £246, followed by Maidstone Borough Council (£241) and Thanet District Council (£215). Ashford Borough Council set the lowest local authority rate at £150⁷.

c) Council Tax for a dwelling occupied by 2 adults by band 2016/17

- There are eight council tax bands ranging from Band A (for dwellings valued at less than £40,000 on 01 April 1991) to Band H (for dwellings valued at more than £320,000 on that date).

Local authority	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Ashford	1,026	1,197	1,369	1,540	1,882	2,224	2,566	3,079
Canterbury	1,044	1,218	1,392	1,566	1,914	2,262	2,609	3,131
Dartford	1,036	1,209	1,381	1,554	1,899	2,245	2,590	3,108

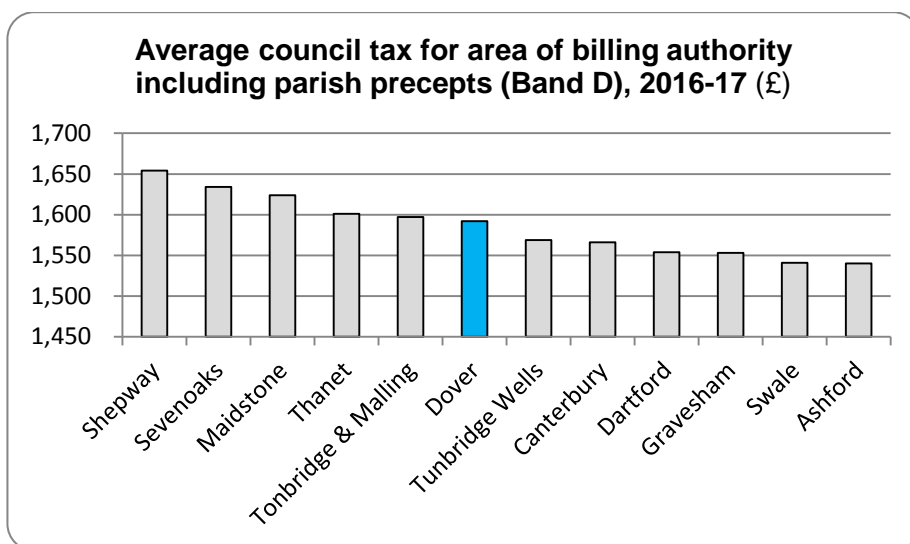
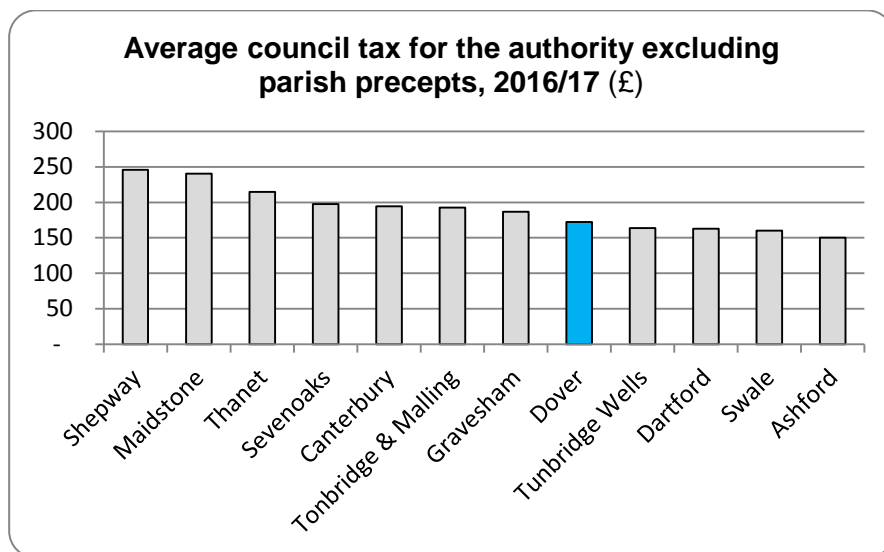
⁶ Band D council tax: This is the council tax payable on a Band D dwelling occupied as a main residence by two adults, before any reductions due to discounts, exemptions or council tax benefit. This definition is widely regarded as a benchmark when comparing council tax levels in different areas or over time.

⁷ Average council tax (Band D 2 Adult equivalent) council tax (including Adult Social Care precept and excluding local precepts).

Local authority	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Dover	1,061	1,238	1,415	1,592	1,946	2,300	2,653	3,184
Gravesham	1,035	1,208	1,380	1,553	1,898	2,243	2,588	3,106
Maidstone	1,083	1,263	1,444	1,624	1,985	2,346	2,707	3,248
Sevenoaks	1,089	1,271	1,452	1,634	1,997	2,360	2,723	3,267
Shepway	1,102	1,286	1,470	1,654	2,021	2,389	2,756	3,307
Swale	1,028	1,199	1,370	1,541	1,884	2,226	2,569	3,083
Thanet	1,067	1,245	1,423	1,601	1,957	2,312	2,668	3,202
Tonbridge & Malling	1,065	1,242	1,420	1,597	1,952	2,307	2,662	3,194
Tunbridge Wells	1,046	1,220	1,395	1,569	1,918	2,266	2,615	3,138

Source: [DCLG - Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England: 2016/17](#) (Table 8)

- Dover District Council has the fifth lowest council tax charge in Kent (£172) and the lowest council tax charge in East Kent.
- Shepway District Council set the highest local authority rate in the county for 2016/17 at £246, followed by Maidstone Borough Council (£241) and Thanet District Council (£215). Ashford Borough Council set the lowest local authority rate at £150⁸.



- Shepway also has the highest average council tax charge when precepts are added (£1,654); followed by Sevenoaks (£1,634); and Maidstone (£1,624).
- Ashford has the lowest average council tax charge (£1,540).

Source: [DCLG Live tables on Council Tax](#)

d) Number of chargeable dwellings

- Total chargeable dwellings (as at 01 October 2015) in the Dover district stood at 51,111.

⁸ Average council tax (Band D 2 Adult equivalent) council tax (including Adult Social Care precept and excluding local precepts).

- Of these, a high majority fall within the lower charging Bands A – C, with 36,469 chargeable dwellings within these bands (71.4%). Only 69 properties fall within the highest charging Band H (0.14%).

e) Where your Council Tax goes

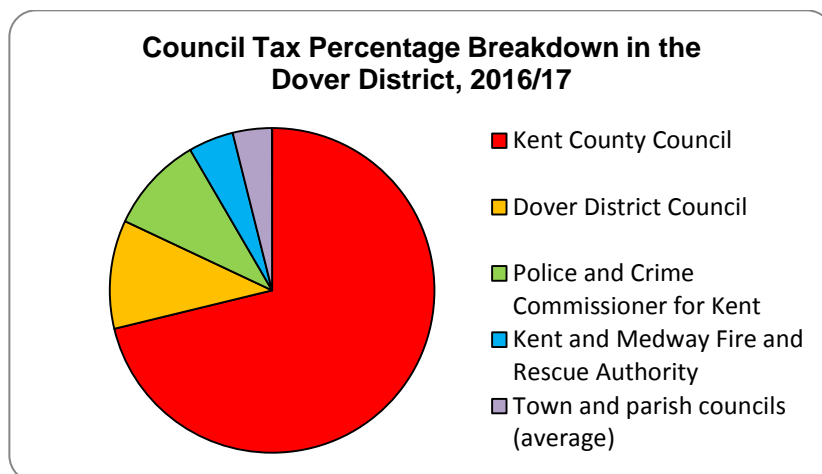
- Dover District Council, Kent County Council, The Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent and The Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority together deliver most of the local services in the district. Town and parish councils also provide some local services.
- The Council Tax you pay is collected by Dover District Council on behalf of all the above authorities. The total amount is then divided between these authorities:

Joint Council Tax breakdown 2016/17 (excluding parish precepts)

Band	Kent County Council	Dover District Council	The Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent	Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority	Total Council Tax (excluding parish precepts)
D	£1,133.55	£172.44	£152.15	£72.00	£1,530.14

Source: [DCLG Live Tables on Council Tax 2016/17](#)

Council Tax Percentage Breakdown 2016/17



For every £1 collected:

- Kent County Council receives 71.2p,
- Dover District Council 10.8p,
- Police and Crime Commissioner 9.6p,
- Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue 4.5p and
- Town and Parish Councils 3.9p.

f) Town and Parish Councils Precept

- All areas within Dover have parish or town councils and they also ask Dover District Council to collect their “precepts” to provide some local services.
- Town and parish council precept figures 2015/16 are available on the DDC website:

Town and Parish Council Charges (Band D) 2016/17					
Area	£	% Change	Area	£	% Increase
Alkham	24.66	-0.32%	Ringwould-with-Kingsdown	33.16	1.19%
Ash	60.58	0.00%	Ripple	29.17	-0.58%
Aylesham	79.77	0.00%	River	40.04	3.01%
Capel-le-Ferne	34.33	19.99%	St Margarets-at-Cliffe	62.84	23.60%
Deal	58.01	-2.04%	Sandwich	84.32	4.45%
Denton-with-Wootton	68.78	1.33%	Sheperdswell-with-Coldred	50.52	3.02%
Dover	91.55	-1.27%	Sholden	50.03	0.00%
Eastry	63.55	1.99%	Staple	28.96	0.00%
Eythorne	46.99	0.00%	Stourmouth	54.05	0.00%
Goodnestone	38.35	5.94%	Sutton-by-Dover	33.19	-2.47%
Great Mongeham	33.27	0.00%	Temple Ewell	37.22	0.00%

Guston	104.31	9.26%	Tilmanstone	43.73	0.00%
Hougham-without	51.92	8.01%	Walmer	37.13	-3.78%
Langdon	54.8	0.00%	Whitfield	55.52	2.89%
Lydden	59.45	2.01%	Wingham	88.17	3.27%
Nonington	30.21	1.07%	Woodnesborough	40.61	1.98%
Northbourne	36.41	1.39%	Worth	42.93	-0.33%
Preston	53.37	0.00%	TOTAL /Average	61.86	0.95%

Source: DDC Council Tax Information 2016/17

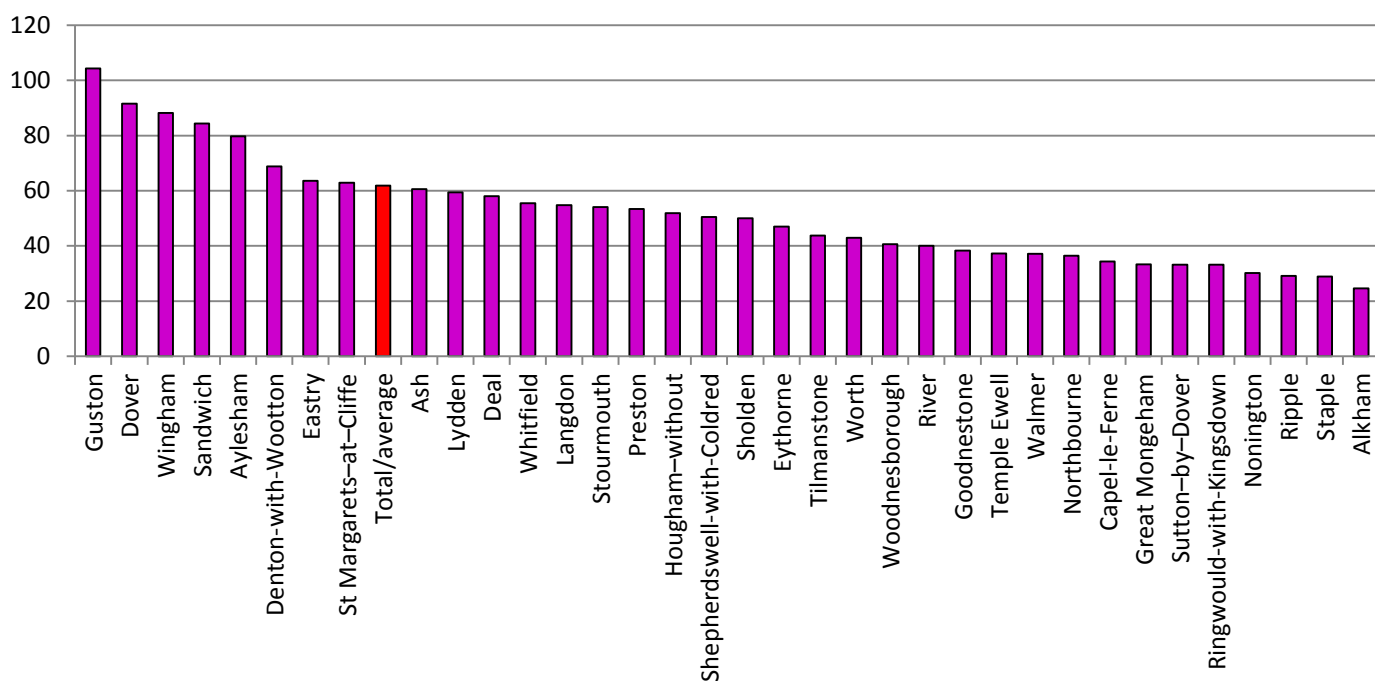
Council Tax Charges for Band D properties across the Dover District 2016/17:

Town and Parish Councils	Band D (£)
Alkham	1,554.80
Ash	1,590.72
Aylesham	1,609.91
Capel-le-Ferne	1,564.47
Deal	1,588.15
Denton-with-Wootton	1,598.92
Dover	1,621.69
Eastry	1,593.69
Eythorne	1,577.13
Goodnestone	1,568.49
Great Mongeham	1,563.41
Guston	1,634.45
Hougham-without	1,582.06
Langdon	1,584.94
Lydden	1,589.59
Nonington	1,560.35
Northbourne	1,566.55
Preston	1,583.51

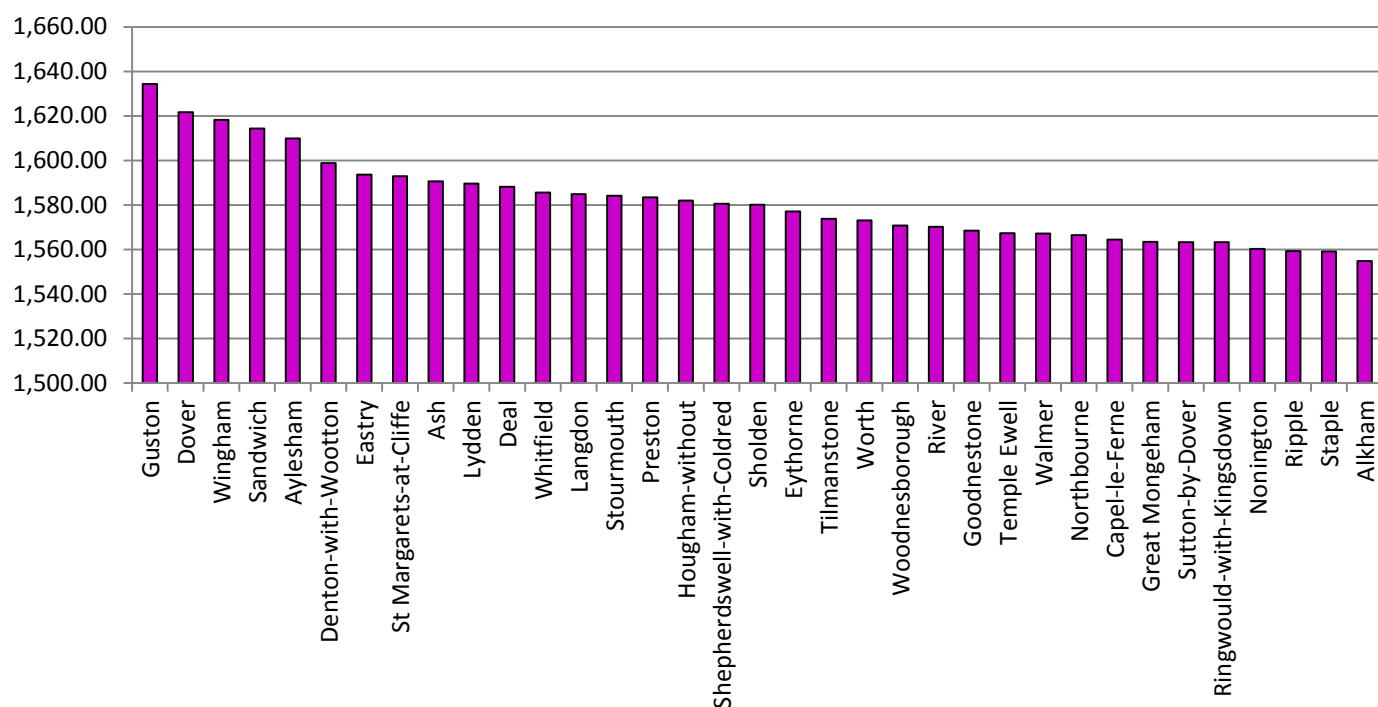
Town and Parish Councils	Band D (£)
Ringwould-with-Kingsdown	1,563.30
Ripple	1,559.31
River	1,570.18
St Margarets-at-Cliffe	1,592.98
Sandwich	1,614.46
Shepherdswell-with-Coldred	1,580.66
Sholden	1,580.17
Staple	1,559.10
Stourmouth	1,584.19
Sutton-by-Dover	1,563.33
Temple Ewell	1,567.36
Tilmanstone	1,573.87
Walmer	1,567.27
Whitfield	1,585.66
Wingham	1,618.31
Woodnesborough	1,570.75
Worth	1,573.07

Source: DDC Council Tax Information 2016/17

Town and Parish Council Charges (Band D), 2016/17 (£)



Council Tax Charges for Band D properties in the Dover District, 2016/17 (£)



Source: DDC Council Tax Information 2016/17

- In the Dover district, the average council tax for Towns & Parishes in 2016/17 is £61.86 (Band D). This compares to £61.28 for last year (0.95% increase).
- Across England the average Band D Parish Precept is £57.40 (+6.1% from 2016/17).

Average Band D Parish Precept for England				
2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
£47.74	£50.23	£52.37	£54.12	£57.40
(+3.9%)	(+5.2%)	(+4.3%)	(+3.3%)	(+6.1%)

DCLG - Council Tax levels set by local authorities in England: 2016/17 (Table 5)

4. NEW HOMES BONUS

- The Government introduced the New Homes Bonus to incentivise housing supply in April 2011 and has pledged cash for communities who allow new homes to be built in their area. The New Homes Bonus is based on the council tax of additional homes and those brought back into use, with a premium for affordable homes and paid for the following six years, with the council keeping 80% of the council tax raised. The grant awarded to Dover is as follows:

Dover District New Homes Bonus	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Year 4:	Year 5:	Year 6:
	£294,000	£449,000	£927,000	£1.307m	£1.571m	£1.899m

Source: Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17

- The government has cut the New Homes Bonus from 6 years to 5 from 2017/18, and to 4 years from 2018/19 onwards, with an estimated loss to the Council of approximately £400k per annum.

5. DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

- We continue to maximise income and investment through use of Section 106 (S106) agreements that we negotiate with developers to contribute towards the costs of providing community and social infrastructure.
- Over the past five years, we have successfully collected the following amounts of development contributions:

- 2012/13: £ 66,008
 - 2013/14: £ 199,708
 - 2014/15: £ 398,130
 - 2015/16: £1,284,876
 - 2016/17: £ 744,518
- Of the £744,518 collected in 2016/17, the council retained £543,703 and Kent County Council received £200,815. This will be used for a range of infrastructure projects. The district council's contributions being used as follows:

Development	Category	Amount (£)
Snowdown Working Mens Club	Children's equipped play space	3,306
Land at Salvatori, Preston	Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Special Protection area & Ramsar Mitigation Strategy	6,042
St John's Ambulance, Mill Hill	Affordable Housing	8,987
Hammill Brickworks	Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Special Protection area & Ramsar Mitigation Strategy	1,668
Woodnesborough Village Hall	Community Space	3,935
Aylesham development	School Pitch Contribution	96,116
	Play Area Contribution	100,852
Aylesham development	Community Development Officer	17,854
Blue Berries Early Care and Education Centre, Sandwich	Affordable Housing	37,169
59 The Marina, Deal	Affordable Housing	16,804
Cannon Street, Deal	Children's Play Space	30,735
Whitfield Urban Expansion	Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Special Protection area & Ramsar Mitigation Strategy	64,205
Land at 104-106 Church Lane, Deal	Affordable Housing	134,050
	Play Area Contribution	6,590
Lidl Foodstore, White Cliffs Business Park	Bus Service Contribution	15,390
	Total	543,703

- Kent County Council will use its proportion to fund the delivery of transport projects, libraries, social facilities and education.
- The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new developments in their area. Councils must use the funds obtained to help provide local or sub-regional infrastructure.
- In April 2011, the Council agreed in principle for the need to prepare a Charging Schedule for the purposes of the CIL. The Council consulted on a CIL Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule in December 2012, and commissioned a viability study of the proposals in December 2013. In March 2015 the Planning Advisory Service supported an independent review of the information gathered.
- Since the introduction of CIL, the Government has amended the legislative basis underpinning the levy on a number of occasions. Through this, the Government has sought to introduce a number of exemptions to CIL, which has undermined the effectiveness of the levy as a way of funding infrastructure. As it stands, the Council does not operate a CIL and there are currently no plans to prepare and adopt a CIL Charging Schedule. We will investigate funding sources for infrastructure delivery as the new District Local Plan advances and will continue working closely with partners to secure appropriate levels of funding.

6. INWARD INVESTMENT

- Dover District Council continues to pursue strategic opportunities to secure external funding for the district. As well as bidding for competitive funding streams from central government, the Council is actively involved in promoting inward investment into the district. This includes the

Invest in Dover website www.investindover.gov.uk, social media, and attendance at the annual MIPIM UK exhibition.

a) Promoting the district

- Dover District Council proactively promotes the 'Enterprise Coast – Dover, Deal, Sandwich' as a great place to live, work and play. Our inward investment website www.investindover.co.uk continues to develop as platform for potential investors, and local businesses, to find out more about key locations, financial incentives, and news and information for business. A Twitter feed (@InvestInDover) complements with c.1,100 followers.
- Other council twitter accounts include VisitDover with c.3,800 followers; Kearsney Parks with c.600 followers; Up on the Downs with c.1,250 followers and Dover Museum with c.1,300 followers. Our 'Keep Me Posted' email service now has c.60,400 subscribers, keeping residents and businesses far-and-wide up-to-date on topics of interest to them – including regeneration projects, Invest in Dover, Skills 4 Dover, and tourism⁹.
- Working in partnership, the Council has exhibited at the MIPIM UK exhibition at London Olympia for the past 3-years. This provides an excellent showcase for the district at the most prominent investment and property exhibition in the UK.

b) Kearsney Parks for People

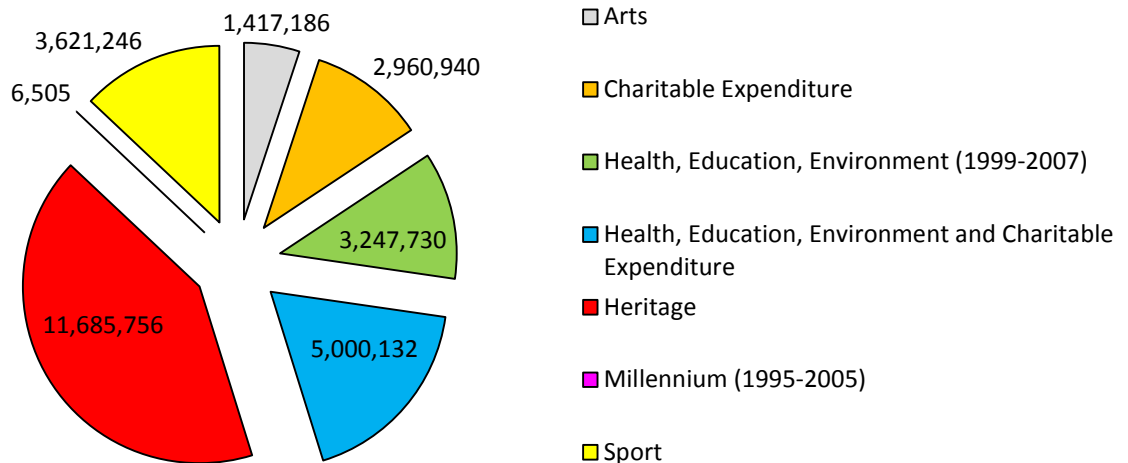
- In 2016 DDC submitted a successful £3.1m bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund/Big Lottery Fund 'Parks for People' programme for a major scheme of restoration and improvement works at Russell Gardens and Kearsney Abbey.
- The plans, developed by Dover District Council, include:
 - Restoring Thomas Mawson's design for Kearsney Court and picturesque landscape features in Kearsney Abbey
 - Recreating Kearsney Abbey's historic role as a cultural venue, attracting new audiences to the parks
 - Celebrating the parks' unique heritage including mills, ecology, people and landscapes through new activities and interpretation
 - Creating a multi-use extension to the grade II listed billiards room in Kearsney Abbey to facilitate new education, training and volunteering programmes
- Our project manager and design team have been reappointed and are working on detailed designs and we have appointed additional members of staff to extend engagement with park users and the local community. The first phase of clearance work took place in Russell Gardens during the winter of 2016/17, with the main restoration and improvement work starting in autumn 2017. The project is due to end in 2020.
- Please see our [Kearsney Parks](#) website for more information.

7. LOTTERY FUNDING RECEIVED IN THE DOVER DISTRICT

- Data from the Department for Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS) shows that, since 1995, there have been 654 lottery grants awarded for the Dover district, totalling **£27,939,495**.
- In 2016, 30 lottery grants were awarded for the Dover district totalling **£2,031,396**, broken down in to the following categories:
 - **Heritage:** £1,593,400
 - **Arts:** £146,999
 - **Health, Education, Environment and Charitable Expenditure:** £290,997

⁹ All twitter followers rounded to the nearest 50

Breakdown of total lottery grants received in the Dover District, 1995 to 2016



Source: [DCMS Lottery Grants](#)

Examples of projects receiving funding in 2016 and 2017 include:

Recipient	Project Description	Amount	Date	Distributing body
Cinque Ports Community Kitchen CIC	This project will support people to live more healthily and meet new people, in particular those on low incomes or who are unemployed, people with health problems, people with disabilities and carers. It will offer cooking classes on a tight budget, using fresh ingredients and making the most of leftovers. The group will create cookery champions who will receive additional training and support to pass on their skills to the community. There will also be free transport to the project for those who need it.	£172,106	18/02/2016	Big Lottery Fund
Deal Breastfeeding Support Group	The organisation will use the funding to set up and run a sling library for parents. This will enable parents to learn how use a slings safely and improve the emotional health and bond between the parent and child.	£4,150	19/09/2016	Big Lottery Fund
English Heritage	Rediscovering Walmer Pleasure Grounds	£1,463,800	13/12/2016	Heritage Lottery Fund
Open Heart Productions	Stepmother Stepfather Production and Premiere	£15,000	31/08/2016	Arts Council England
Sandwich Museum & Archive Toll Bridge Fund	Sandwich History - Refreshed, Revised, Revisited- From Magna Carta to the 21st Century	£99,900	16/08/2016	Heritage Lottery Fund

Home-Start Dover District	This project will deliver a specialised disability support service to families in their homes, with a particular focus on children and parents who are experiencing a physical or learning disability.	£337,192	01/02/2017	Big Lottery Fund
Dover Arts Development	Chalk Up: Destination Dover (Revised)	£57,050	13/02/2017	Arts Council England
Royal Marines Heritage Trails (Deal and Walmer)	Royal Marines Heritage Trails (Deal and Walmer) 2	£44,900	15/08/2017	Heritage Lottery Fund