

# **Babergh Council Tax 2023/24**

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **How much has my bill gone up by?**

Babergh District Council has increased by 2.99%

Suffolk County Council has increased by 3.99%

- 2% for adult social care

- 1.99% for general Council Tax

The Police and Crime Commissioner has increased by 6.03%

For a Band B property in Babergh this equates to:

Babergh District Council 8p per week

Suffolk County Council 86p per week

Police and Crime Commissioner 22p per week

### **Adult Social Care Precept**

The Secretary of State made an offer to adult social care authorities. (“Adult social care authorities” are local authorities which have functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014, namely county councils in England, district councils for an area in England for which there is no county council, London borough councils, the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly.)

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 It was originally made in respect of the financial years up to and including 2019-20.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

### **How is the Adult Social Care precept calculated?**

On your Council Tax bill, the increase in the charge (or precept) for Adult Social Care is shown as 2%.

This 2% is the increase in the charge for Adult Social Care as a proportion of Suffolk County Council's total charge for 2023/24 (Band D equivalent £1,496.43)

The increase between this year's and last year's Adult Social Care charge is 18.01%.

This means that for a band D property, the increase is £28.78, as last year's amount was £159.75 and this year's is £188.53.

Valuation Bands (£)								
Suffolk County Council	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2016/17	£15.00	£17.50	£20.00	£22.50	£27.50	£32.50	£37.50	£45.00
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2017/18	£37.98	£44.31	£50.64	£56.97	£69.63	£82.29	£94.95	£113.94
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2018/19	£53.76	£62.72	£71.68	£80.64	£98.56	£116.48	£134.40	£161.28
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2019/20	£62.05	£72.39	£82.73	£93.07	£113.75	£134.43	£155.12	£186.14
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2020/21	£79.27	£92.49	£105.70	£118.91	£145.33	£171.76	£198.18	£237.82
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2021/22	£97.19	£113.38	£129.58	£145.78	£178.18	£210.57	£242.97	£291.56
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2022/23	£106.50	£124.25	£142.00	£159.75	£195.25	£230.75	£266.25	£319.50
Adult Social Care								
Charge 2023/24	£125.69	£146.63	£167.58	£188.53	£230.43	£272.32	£314.22	£377.06
Adult Social Care								
<b>2023/2024 Increase</b>	<b>-£19.19</b>	<b>-£22.38</b>	<b>-£25.58</b>	<b>-£28.78</b>	<b>-£35.18</b>	<b>-£41.57</b>	<b>-£47.97</b>	<b>-£57.56</b>

## How much Council Tax Reduction have I been awarded?

Detail of the amount of Council Tax Reduction awarded is shown on the front of your bill, or you can view your account online at [www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount)

## I think my Council Tax Reduction is wrong – what do I do?

You should contact the Council and tell us why you think it is wrong.

## I have already told the Council that my circumstances have changed or that I have moved, yet my bill still shows the old information.

The bills were produced based on the information on our system as at the end of 20th February 2023. If you contacted us on or around that date, your bill will still show the original information. A new bill will be issued when we have dealt with your most recent correspondence.

## My circumstances have changed, and my bill needs updating.

If your address details have changed, you can report these online at [www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount)

If you think you may qualify for an exemption or a discount you can find more details at [www.babergh.gov.uk/ctdiscounts](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/ctdiscounts)

## **I pay by Direct Debit – do I need to do anything?**

Your Direct Debit will automatically carry over from one billing year to the next and we will collect instalments on the date shown. If, however, you change address, please remember to ask us to transfer your direct debit to your new account.

## **How do I set up a Direct Debit?**

This can be done online at [www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/ctaccount)

## **What other payments options are there?**

Payment options are shown on the back of your bill. Details are also available at [www.babergh.gov.uk/bctinstalments](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/bctinstalments)

## **I don't agree with my Council Tax band – what do I do?**

You can view the band for your property on the Valuation Office Agency website [Check your Council Tax band - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

If you think the band is wrong, you can find out how to request a review. You can also see information about Appeals at [www.babergh.gov.uk/ctappeal](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/ctappeal)