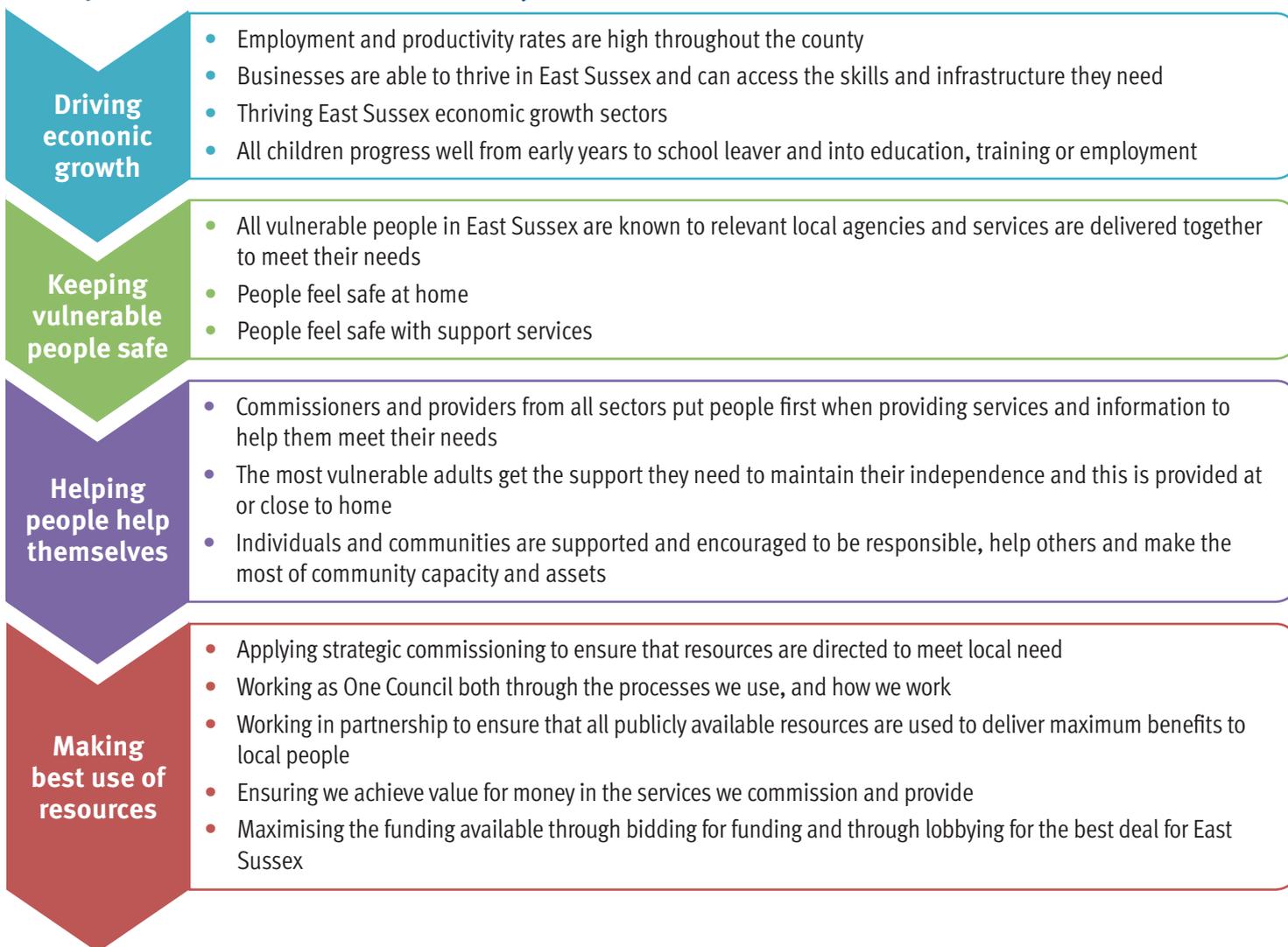


Our priorities for 2016/17

The Council has identified four overarching priority outcomes. Making best use of resources is the gateway priority through which any activity and accompanying resources must pass. The remaining three priority outcomes guide our activities, direct our resources and are reflected in our Council Plan activities and targets. As resources tighten, we will need to have an ever sharper focus on these priority areas, define clearly the outcomes we wish to achieve, and monitor our success in delivering these outcomes for the county's residents, communities and businesses.

Priority outcomes

Delivery outcomes – what this means for residents



Our approach for the year ahead

In a difficult financial climate, East Sussex County Council has to make savings of around £20 million in the new financial year from April; based on current projections, savings of around £70m will be required for 2016/17 to 2018/19. The budget for 2016/17 includes raising council tax by 3.99%, which is 92 pence a week for a Band D property. The increase includes 1.99% to help maintain all the services we provide and 2% to help meet the social care needs of our ageing population (from 2016/17 to 2019/20, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government is allowing councils with adult social care responsibilities to increase council tax by 2% a year for these services¹). In 2016/17 this extra 2% will raise £4.7m to help provide adult social care services in East Sussex.

Gross spending in 2016/17 will be £778.8m, with over two-thirds going to Children's Services and Adult Social Care – which support the county's most vulnerable residents who need particular care and support. This includes older people, people with mental health issues and learning disabilities and children and families. The budget also provides services everyone may use, such as roads, libraries, community services and the environment.

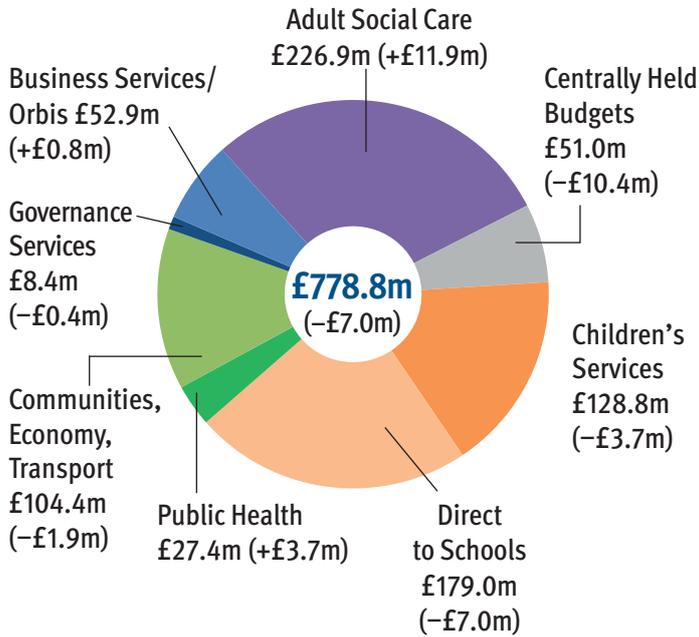
We are also using our capital programme of £363.4 million for 2015-2018 to provide essential services and provide long-term improvements that will deliver our priorities to support the needs of residents.

Services provided

2016/17

How we will spend your money (gross)

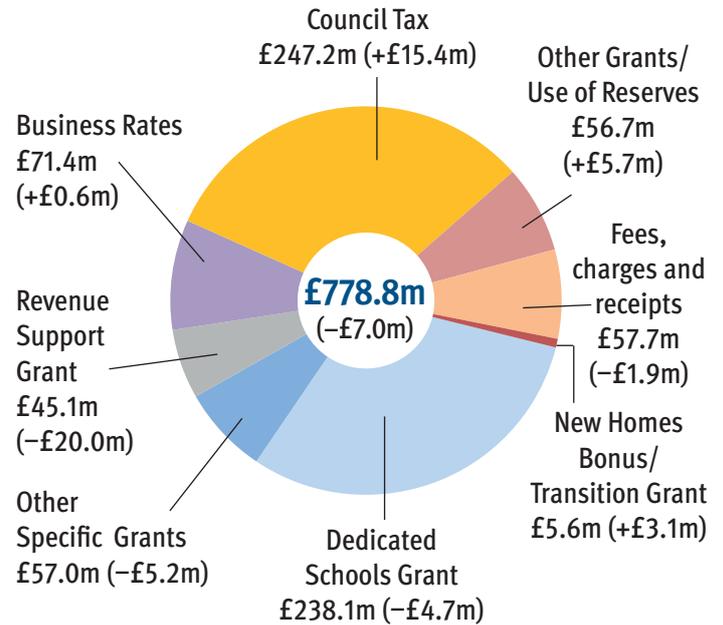
(Difference from 2015/16 shown in brackets)



2016/17

Where the money comes from (gross)

(Difference from 2015/16 shown in brackets)



These figures show East Sussex County Council's share of your council tax bill for 2016/17

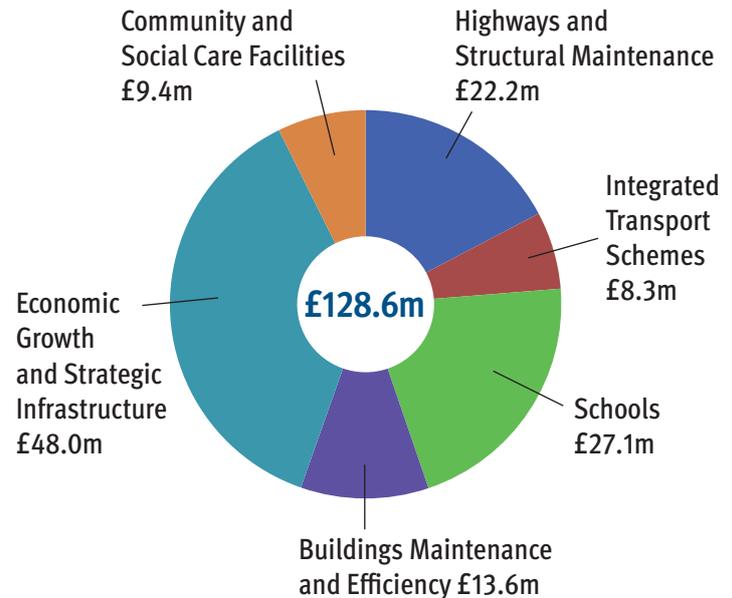
Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Council Tax	£834.60	£973.70	£1,112.80	£1,251.90	£1,530.10	£1,808.30	£2,086.50	£2,503.80

Capital Programme 2016/17

As well as providing services, the Council invests in assets such as roads and buildings. The capital programme sets out the Council's investment plans to support the delivery of the priority outcomes. In 2016/17 gross spend will be £128.6m and includes schemes to support economic growth, provide enough school places, improve roads, social care facilities and libraries; as well as investments to make our buildings more efficient and cheaper to run in the long-term.

You can find out more about the work we will be doing over the next three years in our Council Plan, which will be published on our website by 1 April, along with full details of our budget for the year ahead. Go to eastsussex.gov.uk/councilplan and eastsussex.gov.uk/finance.

2016/17 Capital expenditure



1. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has 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 is the option of an adult social care authority being able to charge a "precept" of up to 2% on its council tax for the financial year beginning in 2016 without holding a referendum, to assist the authority in meeting expenditure on adult social care. Subject to the annual approval of the House of Commons, the Secretary of State intends to offer the option of charging this "precept" in relation to each financial year up to and including the financial year 2019-20.

In relation to the financial year beginning in 2016 the Secretary of State has determined (and the House of Commons has approved) a referendum principle of 4% (comprising 2% for expenditure on adult social care and 2% for other expenditure), for adult social care authorities. These authorities may therefore set council tax up to this percentage in 2016 without holding a referendum.