



## Message from Cllr John Ward, acting leader of Babergh District Council

### Babergh District Council may only keep 9% of your council tax bill, but we make it go a long way.

We don't just collect your rubbish and recycling - we provide leisure facilities, housing, essential grants for local organisations, maintain parks, consider planning applications, invest in regeneration projects, and so much more.

Our residents and communities rely on us - now more than ever, in some cases - and we continue to help those hit hardest by the cost-of-living crisis.

This year, if you live in Band D home, you'll pay £188.10 towards district

council services, or around £3.62 a week. That's a 2.99% rise, the equivalent of just 11p a week, on our share of the bill.

I think that still represents excellent value for money.

The rest of your bill goes to Suffolk County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, town and parish councils.

We recognise these continue to be challenging financial times for everyone, and councils are not immune from this.

All authorities have seen their financial position eroded over many years, mainly due to central government funding failing to keep pace with costs and demand, plus inflationary pressures.

We will have to find extra income and/or savings of £6.7million over the next four years just to continue delivering the services we currently

do - services I know you all value a lot.

Despite these challenges, we remain extremely ambitious for our fantastic district.

As well as delivering good quality core council services, our vision for the next three years is to create a resilient, more sustainable future - built on strong communities, a thriving economy, and protecting our environment.

Ultimately, we want Babergh to be a great place to live, to work, to do business and visit.

Testing times call for imagination, innovation and collaboration - listening to you about what you think is important and how we can develop sustainable local solutions to local issues. Working together will be so important.

Every penny paid will support this vital work. Thank you.

# WHERE YOUR COUNCIL TAX GOES



*Every pound is split:*

Suffolk County Council 74p

Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner 13p

Babergh District Council 9p

Town or parish council 4p (on average)

Using the £3.62 a week you'll pay Babergh District Council each week, we do all of this and more...\*

\*If you live in a Band D home, you'll pay £188.10 for Babergh's services, or around £3.62 a week. That's a 2.99% rise, or 11p a week extra, on Babergh's share of the bill in 2024/25.



Bin collections & recycling



Housing



Licensing



Leisure centres



Local planning and building control



Grants for local organisations



Support for high streets

Support for arts, culture and tourism



Community wellbeing & safety



Visit: [www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk) for details.

# Your money. Caring for Suffolk.



Over the next two years we will invest an extra **£74 million**

to support Suffolk's children and adults who need it most.

This work can be life-changing, by protecting children from neglect and abuse, supporting disabled people and adults with dementia to live independently, and providing residential care.

**77p** from every **£1** we spend goes towards providing these services.

Your contribution makes a real difference.



**23p** from every **£1**, is all that remains to provide our other services, which include:

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, school transport, public transport, road maintenance, Household Waste Recycling Centres, tackling climate change, libraries, arts and heritage, trading standards, community safety and much more.

There is competition for every pound we spend and many difficult decisions and prioritisations are necessary.

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/counciltax)

To deliver all the services that we are required to provide, the council is having to save

**£65 million** over the next two years. This has meant making many difficult decisions, including £11 million of staff savings.

The financial times we are in are challenging for everyone, so we thank you for your support and we will spend public money wisely and carefully for Suffolk.



**Councillor Matthew Hicks**

Leader of Suffolk County Council

## OUR AMBITIONS FOR SUFFOLK

Looking after our health and wellbeing

Strengthening our local economy

Protecting and enhancing our environment

Providing value for money for our residents

### Message from Tim Passmore, Police & Crime Commissioner for Suffolk



Suffolk is a good police force. It offers value for money to Suffolk communities and I am proud to serve as the county's Police and Crime Commissioner.

This year, officer numbers will reach 1425 – more than has ever been recorded. Some of this investment comes from your council tax, the rest from the government's police uplift programme.

In addition, investment in the control room has resulted in the recruitment of an additional 27 call handlers this year which is having a significant impact.

Maintaining a good service costs money and keeping crime levels low in Suffolk is crucial for us all. It cannot be in the county's interest to make cutbacks in our policing capabilities.

I know any increases in taxation are unwelcome, but I can assure you I am doing everything possible to make sure the force spends your hard-earned money as efficiently and effectively as possible and holding the Constabulary to account accordingly.

That said, any organisation should always look for and deliver greater efficiency and increased value - Suffolk Constabulary is no exception, so this work will continue.

[spcc@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:spcc@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

[@timspcc](https://twitter.com/timspcc)



Find out more at: [www.suffolk-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk-pcc.gov.uk)

### In the last financial year...

**92.8%**  
999 calls dealt with within target  
**7th** best performing force (Dec 2023)

**1425\***  
Police Officers in Suffolk  
Compared to 1206 in 2020, prior to Uplift programme & precept investment

\*Target to be reached by 31 March 2024

**£2.02m**  
Commissioning spend this year to support victims especially victims of serious sexual offences & violence against women and girls

Introduction of **80** named police officers working in community policing teams

**5th** Best performing force for lowest levels of recorded crime according to the Office of National Statistics