

MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL



This leaflet forms part of the Council Tax demand notice for the financial year 2008/2009

WHAT IS COUNCIL TAX?

The Council Tax you pay helps to provide your local services, but the amount you have to pay depends on the value of your home relative to others in your local area.

Your gross annual charge is the total of Essex County Council, Essex Police Authority, Essex Fire Authority, Maldon District Council and your particular Town/Parish Council's charges – the same charge applies for all properties in your valuation band in your Town/Parish.

WHY HAS IT INCREASED?

Maldon District Council's element of Council Tax for 2008/9 is set at **£164.00** per annum for a band D property, which compares to £157.00 in 2007/8. This is an increase of £7.00 a year, an increase of 4.46%.

The majority of the Council's budget supports spending on statutory duties with the remainder for discretionary services. These areas are all subject to annual inflation and budgets have been increased accordingly.

In addition the 2008/9 budget contains growth of £878.4k (£360k of which is one off expenditure funded from balances not additional council tax).

- 50% of this has been classified as essential, such as the funding of national concessionary fares scheme;
- 12% is to avoid service failures, such as increasing staffing capacity at the promenade park to cope with popularity of new facilities;
- 34% relates to new priorities, such as corporate communications and the provision of funding to support youth development;
- The balance of 4% is categorised as invest to save and relates to proposals which will generate long term savings such as software to enable mobile working.

Growth has been offset by £158k of savings which have been removed from the budget. These are considered 'soft' savings as they do not impact on service delivery.

Additional Income of £229.5K has been included in the budget which relates to increases in fees and charges.

Full details are available on the Councils website www.maldon.gov.uk

COUNCIL TAX VALUATION BANDS

Most dwellings will be subject to the Council Tax. There will be one bill per dwelling whether it is a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette, mobile home or 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 as at 1st April 1991: Your Council Tax bill states which band applies to your dwelling.

Valuation Band	Range of Values	Valuation Band	Range of Values
A	Up to & including £40,000	E	£88,001 - £120,000
B	£40,001 - £52,000	F	£120,001 - £160,000
C	£52,001 - £68,000	G	£160,001 - £320,000
D	£68,001 - £88,000	H	More than £320,000


BUDGET 2008/2009 - ALL SERVICES	2007/2008			2008/2009		
Service	Gross £000	Income £000	Net £000	Gross £000	Income £000	Net £000
Housing (includes housing benefit expenditure mostly funded by direct government subsidy, together with the costs of housing policy and homeless accommodation)	11,183	(9,687)	1,496	12,423	(11,049)	1,374
Environmental (includes refuse collection, street cleansing, public toilets, cemeteries, pest control, environmental protection, food safety)	4,155	(1,056)	3,099	4,377	(1,164)	3,213
Central (includes council tax benefit scheme, land charges and administration of council tax)	5,183	(4,452)	731	4,869	(4,254)	615
Cultural & Related (includes provision of parks, river management and sports centres)	2,334	(594)	1,740	2,356	(744)	1,612
Corporate Core (includes corporate management and the democratic process)	1,432	0	1,432	1,529	(5)	1,524
Planning & Development (includes planning administration & economic development)	2,197	(773)	1,424	2,501	(734)	1,767
Transport (mostly car parks and concessionary travel scheme)	743	(600)	143	1,076	(725)	351
Non-Distributed Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	27,227	(17,162)	10,065	29,130	(18,675)	10,455
Statutory Adjustments (the total of charges made to services for the use of assets owned by the Council)	(1,636)		(1,636)	(1,267)		(1,267)
Interest on Investments		(735)	(735)		(840)	(840)
Pension Interest Cost & Expected rtn on Assets	390		390	316		316
Net Operating Expenditure	25,981	(17,897)	8,084	28,179	(19,515)	8,664
Revenue Funding of Capital Expenditure			0			0
Net Contributions from Reserves	14	(211)	(197)	0	(425)	(425)
Revenue Support Grant			(582)			(512)
Non-Domestic Rates			(3,471)			(3,678)
Collection Fund Surplus			(11)			(21)
Maldon District Council Precept	25,995	(18,108)	3,823	28,179	(19,940)	4,029
Essex County Council Precept			24,447			25,710
Essex Police Authority Precept			2,836			3,002
Essex Fire Authority Precept			1,459			1,530
Total of Parish & Town Councils Precepts			911			966
TOTAL COUNCIL TAX TO BE COLLECTED			33,476			35,236


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 25%. A 10% discount applies to second homes. A discount no longer applies to properties which are unoccupied and unfurnished for more than 6 months.


Certain people will not be counted when looking at the number of adults resident in a dwelling if they meet certain conditions:


 **Severely mentally impaired**

 **Students, Apprentices, Youth Trainees or Student Nurses**


 **Patients in residential care homes, nursing homes or hostels**


 **Patients resident in hospital**

 **Care workers**


 **Members of international headquarters (usually diplomats)**


 **Members of religious communities**

 **School leavers until 1st November each year**

 **Those over 18 years of age for whom child benefit is payable**

 **In detention or remand by a court**

 **Members of visiting forces and their dependants who are neither British Citizens nor ordinarily resident in the UK**

 **Of no fixed abode temporarily resident in a hostel or night shelter**

 **Non British spouses of students**

 **Diplomats & persons working for certain international organisations**

If there is no discount shown on your Demand Notice and you think you may qualify please write to the Customer Services Team giving details.

EXEMPT DWELLINGS

Some dwellings are exempt from Council Tax. These include:

CLASS A....Property undergoing major repairs/structural alterations for up to 12 months

CLASS B....Empty dwellings owned by Charities for up to 6 months

CLASS C....Dwellings left empty and unfurnished for up to 6 months

CLASS D....Dwellings left empty by persons in detention

CLASS E....Dwellings left empty by patients in care homes or hospitals

CLASS F....Council Tax payer deceased

CLASS G....Dwellings where occupation is prohibited by law

CLASS H....Dwellings awaiting occupation by a minister of religion

CLASS I....Dwellings left empty by those receiving care

CLASS J....Dwellings left empty by those providing care

CLASS K....Dwellings left empty by students

CLASS L....Reposessed dwellings

CLASS M....Students halls of residence

CLASS N....Students dwellings

CLASS O...Barracks and MOD dwellings

CLASS P....Visiting forces accommodation

CLASS Q...Dwellings left empty by a bankrupt person

CLASS R....Unoccupied caravan pitches/moorings

CLASS S....Dwellings occupied only by persons aged under 18

CLASS T....Unoccupied annexe subject to planning restrictions

CLASS U....Dwellings occupied only by severely mentally impaired persons

CLASS V....Dwellings occupied by Diplomats

CLASS W...Annex occupied by a dependant relative

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Council Tax reductions are available in respect of dwellings where disabled persons live and certain prescribed facilities are required for meeting their needs (i.e. extra space, extra kitchen or extra bathroom). The bill may be reduced to that of a property in the band immediately below the band shown on the valuation list. These reductions ensure that disabled people do not pay more tax on account of space needed because of disability.

If you think a reduction should apply, please contact Maldon District Council. **Tel: 01621 854477.**

If your home has any special fixtures which may have been added for a disabled resident which reduce the home's value and you do not think they have been taken into account in the valuation band to which your home has been assigned, you should contact the **Listing Officer at the Inland Revenue Valuation Office, 34 Southway, Colchester CO2 7BB. Tel: 01206 287100.**

APPEALS

If you consider that your property should be placed in a higher or lower band, you should contact the **Listing Officer, Inland Revenue Valuation Office, 34 Southway, Colchester, Essex CO2 7BB. Tel: 01206 287100** (not the Council). You should bear in mind that all Council Tax valuations are based on estimated sale prices on 1st April 1991. Any increase or fall in a dwelling's value resulting from a general change in the housing market since then will NOT affect its banding. Such movement in general prices will not be a reason for changing your Council Tax band. However, if you can establish that the value of your property at 1st April 1991 was such that it should have been placed in a different band, this would be a reason for changing your Council Tax Band.

You may also 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 wish to appeal on these grounds, you must firstly notify **Maldon District Council**. If the matter still cannot be resolved it will be referred to an independent review board. Making an appeal does not allow you to withhold payment of Council Tax owing in the meantime. If your appeal is successful, you will be entitled to a refund of any overpaid Council Tax.

NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE

Maldon District Council is working with the National Audit Commission on a scheme which could save taxpayers thousands of pounds by identifying potentially fraudulent Council Tax discounts. The Single Person Discount, which gives the occupant a 25% discount, can be awarded to any household where the bill payer declares they are the only relevant adult occupant. The scheme (known as the National Fraud Initiative), aims to identify incorrect cases by matching Council Tax data with Electoral Register data to highlight households where it seems there are multiple adult occupants. Maldon's data will be ready to use March 2008. If you have any questions about this scheme please email the National Fraud Initiative at nfiqueries@audit-commission.gov.uk or Maldon District Council at revenues@maldon.gov.uk.

NO IFS, NO BUTS

Benefit fraud is a crime, break the law and you could face a criminal record.

If you are able to provide information about anyone you think may be claiming benefit fraudulently, please call Maldon District Council.

email: hotline@maldon.gov.uk **web:** www.maldon.gov.uk

BENEFIT FRAUD IS BENEFIT THEFT!

Fraud Hotline

01621 843400

(24hr confidential hotline and answer phone)

National Benefit Fraud Hotline

0800 854 440

THE AMOUNT ON YOUR BILL INCLUDING TOWN/PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPTS

Authority	Council Tax Requirement	Tax Base	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Essex County	25,709,765	24,564.8	697.74	814.03	930.32	1046.61	1,279.19	1,511.77	1,744.35	2,093.22
Essex Police	3,002,310	24,564.8	81.48	95.06	108.64	122.22	149.38	176.54	203.70	244.44
Essex Fire	1,529,896	24,564.8	41.52	48.44	55.36	62.28	76.12	89.96	103.80	124.56
Maldon District	4,028,585	24,564.8	109.33	127.56	145.78	164.00	200.44	236.89	273.33	328.00
Parish/Town 2008/2009	Precept £	Tax Base	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Althorne	15500	521.1	19.83	23.13	26.44	29.74	36.35	42.96	49.57	59.48
Asheldham	1650	56.3	19.54	22.80	26.05	29.31	35.82	42.34	48.85	58.62
Bradwell-on-Sea	12500	348.7	23.90	27.88	31.87	35.85	43.82	51.78	59.75	71.70
Burnham-on-Crouch	99000	3,196.6	20.65	24.09	27.53	30.97	37.85	44.73	51.62	61.94
Cold Norton	19000	475.2	26.65	31.10	35.54	39.98	48.86	57.75	66.63	79.96
Dengie	1650	50.1	21.95	25.61	29.27	32.93	40.25	47.57	54.88	65.86
Goldhanger	4000	285.8	9.33	10.89	12.44	14.00	17.11	20.22	23.33	28.00
Great Braxted	2250	157.1	9.55	11.14	12.73	14.32	17.50	20.68	23.87	28.64
Great Totham	8869	1,267.0	4.67	5.44	6.22	7.00	8.56	10.11	11.67	14.00
Hazeleigh	1150	153.1	5.01	5.84	6.68	7.51	9.18	10.85	12.52	15.02
Heybridge	95000	2,881.5	21.98	25.64	29.31	32.97	40.30	47.62	54.95	65.94
Langford	2545	72.9	23.27	27.15	31.03	34.91	42.67	50.43	58.18	69.82
Latchingdon	29350	460.5	42.49	49.58	56.66	63.74	77.90	92.07	106.23	127.48
Little Braxted	2000	76.0	17.55	20.47	23.40	26.32	32.17	38.02	43.87	52.64
Little Totham	4500	195.3	15.36	17.92	20.48	23.04	28.16	33.28	38.40	46.08
Maldon	356660	5,415.9	43.90	51.22	58.53	65.85	80.48	95.12	109.75	131.70
Mayland	65000	1,490.4	29.07	33.92	38.76	43.61	53.30	62.99	72.68	87.22
Mundon	4200	150.1	18.65	21.76	24.87	27.98	34.20	40.42	46.63	55.96
North Fambridge	8800	380.7	15.41	17.98	20.55	23.12	28.26	33.40	38.53	46.24
Purleigh	24000	548.0	29.20	34.07	38.93	43.80	53.53	63.27	73.00	87.60
Southminster	54400	1,530.0	23.71	27.66	31.61	35.56	43.46	51.36	59.27	71.12
St. Lawrence	20000	576.8	23.11	26.97	30.82	34.67	42.37	50.08	57.78	69.34
Steeple	7000	193.8	24.08	28.09	32.11	36.12	44.15	52.17	60.20	72.24
Stow Maries	3600	88.7	27.06	31.57	36.08	40.59	49.61	58.63	67.65	81.18
Tillingham	23000	399.9	38.34	44.73	51.12	57.51	70.29	83.07	95.85	115.02
Tollesbury	52505	1,020.5	34.30	40.02	45.73	51.45	62.88	74.32	85.75	102.90
Tolleshunt D'arcy	12163	425.4	19.06	22.24	25.41	28.59	34.94	41.30	47.65	57.18
Tolleshunt Knights	5000	413.6	8.06	9.40	10.75	12.09	14.78	17.46	20.15	24.18
Tolleshunt Major	5494	261.6	14.00	16.33	18.67	21.00	25.67	30.33	35.00	42.00
Ulting	1705	68.0	16.71	19.50	22.28	25.07	30.64	36.21	41.78	50.14
Wickham Bishops	12000	969.5	8.25	9.63	11.00	12.38	15.13	17.88	20.63	24.76
Woodham Mortimer	1150	153.1	5.01	5.84	6.68	7.51	9.18	10.85	12.52	15.02
Woodham Walter	10169	281.6	24.07	28.09	32.10	36.11	44.13	52.16	60.18	72.22

DIRECT DEBIT APPLICATION FORM

Please complete and sign the instruction below and return it to Maldon District Council, Princes Road, Maldon, Essex CM9 5DL. Upon receipt, a revised bill will be issued to you showing the amounts and when they will be debited from your bank account.

Monthly instalments are the assumed method of payment. Instalments available will depend on the number of months remaining in the financial year. If you would prefer an alternative, please indicate your preference by the appropriate box below:

One annual payment

Half yearly payments



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager	Bank/Building Society
Postcode	

Originator's Identification No.

990815

Payment Reference Number

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Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

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Instruction to you Bank or Building Society

Please pay Maldon District Council Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Maldon District Council and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Bank or Building Society account number

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Signature(s)

Branch Sort Code

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Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account

Please provide the following details:-



Full Name

Address

Telephone

(optional)

A copy of the Direct Debit Guarantee can be found on your demand notice.