

015/22

11 February 2022

Wealden limits council tax increase to 9p a week

A rise in council tax of just 9.6p a week has been approved by Wealden District Council's Cabinet committee.

The increase for 2022/23 will mean residents in Band D properties pay an extra £5 a year while those in the highest band will pay an extra 20p a week. An additional 6p a week will be added to the council tax bill for those living in the lowest band properties.

The increase was approved – following a six week public consultation – by the council's Cabinet committee on Wednesday 9 February and is expected to be ratified at a meeting of the Full Council on Tuesday 22 February.

It is the first time council tax bills in Wealden have risen for two years following a freeze in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Council leader Bob Standley said, "Nobody wants council tax to rise but these minimal increases are reasonable amounts to ensure we deliver good services to our residents.

"The main reason for the increases is that there are financial challenges ahead so we have to be reasonably prudent. We are investing in projects which will contribute to the council's income and help keep future council tax increases as low as possible."

Wealden council's share of the council tax bill is 10% and the money helps pay for refuse and recycling collections, planning, street cleaning, environmental protection and free car parking.

The remaining 90% of council tax bills is set by and distributed among East Sussex County Council, Sussex Police and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service as well as local parish or town councils.

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