

Medway Council: local authority assessment

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Assessment published: 10 January 2025

About Medway Council

Demographics

Medway Council is a unitary authority in the County of Kent. It had a population of 279,730 in 2021. The population has grown by 15,800 since the last census in 2011 a rise of 6% and an increase of 24% of people aged 65 and over. Medway has an index of multiple deprivation score of 6 (with 10 being the highest and most deprived) and is ranked 70th out of 153 local authorities with responsibility for adult social care.

Approximately 23% of the population are aged 0-17 years, approximately 60% are aged 18-64 and 17% are aged over 65. Medway is not particularly ethnically diverse. The majority of the population (84%) are White. 6% Asian, Asian British. 5% Black, Black British, Caribbean, or African and 5% Mixed or Multiple or Other background.

Medway is part of the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System. Medway became a unitary authority in 1998 and has been under a Labour administration since 2023.

Financial facts

The Financial facts for **Medway** are:

- The local authority estimated that in 2023/24, its total budget would be **£377,876,000**. Its actual spend for that year was **£409,856,000**, which was **£31,980,000** more than estimated.
- The local authority estimated that it would spend **£86,470,000** of its total budget on adult social care in 2024/24. Its actual spend was **£97,640,000**, which was **£11,170,000** more than estimated.
- In 2023/2024, **23.82%** of the budget was spent on adult social care.
- The local authority has raised the full adult social care precept for 2023/24, with a value of **2%**. Please note that the amount raised through ASC precept varies from local authority to local authority.
- Approximately **3570** people were accessing long-term adult social care support, and approximately **1670** people were accessing short-term adult social care support in 2022/23. Local authorities spend money on a range of adult social care services, including supporting individuals. No two care packages are the same and vary significantly in their intensity, duration, and cost.

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