

Your Local Council <u>Delivering for Lowestoft</u>



Our Commitments for 2025/26



Lowestoft Town Council:

- Putting Lowestoft First
- Led by Local People
- Meeting Local Needs



Lowestoft Town Council was created in 2017 and believe that together we can make Lowestoft a better place to live.

As Lowestoft Town Council enters its ninth year since being formed, it is amazing to think how far we have come in delivering our ambitions for Lowestoft.

In 2024, we continued our work to <u>bring the</u>

<u>Town Hall back into community use</u> with construction expected to start in 2025, saw <u>major refurbishment on the Marina Theatre</u>

<u>start</u>, and partnered with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to see <u>all of our tennis</u>

<u>facilities refurbished</u> whilst keeping them free-to-access. We've also continued to grow our dedicated team of staff as we bring more of our grounds maintenance work in-house and bring a wider range of events and activities to the town.

2025 will see us deliver more for the people of Lowestoft. Over the coming year, we have plans to continue our schedule of play area improvements with Thirlmere Walk receiving a refurbishment, deliver more free-to-access events and activities (including Lowestoft Pride, VE Day and free sports sessions), and make our successful trial of the Bulky Waste Collection Scheme for residents of Lowestoft a permanent service to help reduce fly-tipping and restore pride in our town.

We have also increased our Food and Social Relief budget which has supported many food banks and pantries over the past year, whilst also maintaining our Community Grants budget to support local organisations.

There are many ways for people to engage with the Town Council, whether it be by attending meetings in-person or online, coming along to our events or activities, or interacting with us on social media. Everyone is welcome to share their views and ideas as we continue our aim of being the voice for the people of Lowestoft.

Councillor Nasima Begum
Mayor of Lowestoft, 2024/25 Civic Year

Our Commitments

Maintaining and improving our assets and services including play areas, parks and open spaces and public conveniences





Delivering free-to-access sports classes for all ages and abilities whilst also providing free use of our leisure facilities including Tennis, Cricket and Bowls.

Helping address the climate, biodiversity and health emergencies





Supporting community
events and organising
commemorations
including Remembrance
Sunday and Holocaust
Memorial Day services

Awarding grants to groups benefiting local people

In 20<mark>24</mark>/25, **35 local projects,** charities and community organisations were awarded £83,330.





Investing in Lowestoft and its people

In 2024/25 we delivered:

- Finalising the plans to bring the Town Hall back into community use
- ✓ Investment in significantly improving the Marina Theatre, including starting the major refurbishment work
- ✓ New play areas at Pakefield Green and Britten Road
- Refurbished public conveniences at Triangle Market, Pakefield Street and Fen Park
- ✓ High-quality tennis courts refurbished at Kensington Gardens, Normanston Park and Denes Oval (in partnership with the LTA)

In 2025/26 we are planning to:

- ➤ Increase our Food and Social Relief budget whilst continuing to provide grant funding opportunities that benefit the local community
- Refurbish the play area at Thirlmere Walk and the public conveniences at Sparrows Nest Gardens and Normanston Park
- Improve the changing room facilities at Normanston Park (in partnership with Suffolk FA)
- Bring the Town Hall back into public use





Caring for our Environment and Improving Health





In 2024/25 we delivered:

- Expansion of our Grounds Maintenance Team to manage our parks, opens spaces and buildings
- ✓ New sustainability practices to ensure less waste in our parks and the creation of habitat areas
- ✓ A trial free-to-access Bulky Waste Collection Scheme for Lowestoft residents
- ✓ A variety of new free-to-access sports activities to encourage participation

In 2025/26 we have budgeted to:

- Continue with the free-toaccess Bulky Waste Collection Scheme for Lowestoft residents
- Continue to develop our programme of free-to-access sport and fitness activities
- Ensure that all our assets are maintained to a high standard for everyone to enjoy

Bringing People Together

In 2025/26 we have planned a <u>wide variety of free-to-access</u> <u>events for all</u>, including:

8 May 2025 **VE Day 80th Anniversary**

21 June 2025 **Suffolk Day 2025**

12 July 2025 **Lowestoft Pride**

15 August 2025 VJ Day 80th Anniversary

23 August 2025
Festival of Kindness
in collaboration with Norfolk 8

(in collaboration with Norfolk & Waveney MIND)

20 September 2025
Planet Positive

October 2025

Black History Month

9 November 2025 **Remembrance Sunday**

27 January 2026 Holocaust Memorial Day





Our Budget for 2025/26

The money raised through the Council Tax helps manage and develop services and assets in your town and deliver on our commitments to you.

For 2025-2026 our budget will be £2,413,263.

For a **Band D property** this is £181.23 per year.

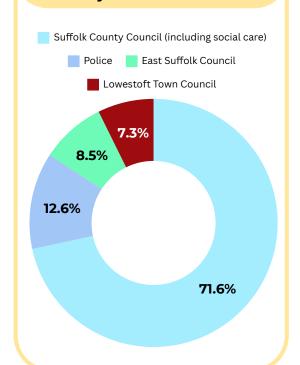
This is a 13% increase on the cost to each household compared to the 2024-2025 precept (£2,090,222 which was £160.38 for Band D).

For £3.49 per week* your council provides:

- Free-to-access Bulky Waste Collection Scheme
- Food and Social Relief funding and Grant funding to local organisations and charities
- Maintenance of your local parks and open spaces, including investing in improvements to these
- Free-to-access sports and fitness activities alongside free use of our sports facilities
- A full calendar of events throughout the year
- Support to the Marina Theatre, providing a leisure and cultural offer to the Town.

*based on a Band D property

Percentage of Council Tax to each authority for the current year (2024/25)



Engage with Your Council

Everyone is welcome to attend our council meetings throughout the year at Hamilton House.

All public meetings are also streamed live on our YouTube channel.

If you would like to speak about a particular topic or have any views you would like to share, please contact us.

How to contact us



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Find us on:









