

- Select your local authority from the drop-down menu in cell C8.
- Fill in all the pink cells in column E with 2017-18 budget data as defined by the Revenue Account (RA) lines in columns B and C. This should be consistent with what you are providing in the official 2017-18 RA budget return. **Please enter expenditure in £000s.**
- The remaining cells will auto-complete once you have completed step 2.
- Use the box at the bottom (cell B31) to comment on the information provided in the table as described in row 30.

Local authority:	Nottinghamshire
E-code	E3021

Revenue Account Line/s	Service Area	2015-17 Revenue Account (RA) Net Current Expenditure	2017-18 Revenue Account (RA) Net Current Expenditure	2017-18 Total Adult Social Care precept	Additional funding in 2017-18 for Adult Social Care announced at Budget 2017	2017-18 Adult Social Care Expenditure, excluding the 2017-18 Adult Social Care Precept and the additional funding for Adult Social Care announced at Budget 2017	Change in expenditure 2016-17 to 2017-18 (excluding the 2017-18 Adult Social Care Precept and the additional funding for Adult Social Care announced at Budget 2017)
		£ 000s	£ 000s	£ 000s	£ 000s	£ 000s	£ 000s
		A	B	C	D	E	(E/A) -1
360	Total Adult Social Care	230,929	233,063	9,463	15,257	208,343	-9.78%
799	Total Service Expenditure	887,375	893,455				
190	Total Education Services	385,775	387,397				
313	Children's Social Care- Children Looked After	50,267	50,460				
323	Children's Social Care- Youth Justice	1,094	1,045				
325	Children's Social Care- Safeguarding Children and Young People's Services	23,811	26,043				
380	Total Public Health	47,708	47,424				
440	Homelessness	0	0				
601	Total Police Services	0	0				
602	Total Fire and Rescue Services	0	0				
799, excluding lines: 360, 190, 313, 323, 325, 390, 440, 601 and 602	"Other Non-ringfenced/Non-Statutory Services" Expenditure (also excludes Adult Social Care)	147,881	148,023				0.10%

Below is a description of how my local authority proposes to use the funding from the 2017-18 adult social care precept and the additional funding in 2017-18 for adult social care announced at Budget 2017, in support of the table above. [If adult social care budgets have reduced by more than "other non-ringfenced/non-statutory services" budgets (which exclude adult social care), before the addition of the precept and additional funding, I have explained why that is and how it is in keeping with the intention that the precept and additional funding is used solely for the benefit of adult social care.]

From 2011/12 the adult social care budget at Nottinghamshire County Council is on track to save nearly £100million by 2019/20. According to current financial assumptions the Council faces a gap of £62.9m by 2020/21 and the adult social care budget will be required to identify further savings in the region of 50% of this gap to help the Council to achieve a balanced budget. Clearly given this situation the additional £9.4m to be raised through the Social Care Precept agreed in the February 2017 council budget and the subsequent additional funding for Adult Social Care and Health will contribute to the current demands and pressures temporarily, but it will not meet the total cost of these on a permanent basis.

You will note from our return that although the Precept and the additional funding for Adult Social Care for 2017/18 will raise £24.7m, the net budget increases by £2.134m. This reflects the reducing level of central government funding for the Council, the current use of Council reserves – which is mitigating base budget reductions – and the increase in demand.

In April 2014 the Council approved an Adult Social Care Strategy, a legal and ethical framework for delivering sustainable savings in response to significant reductions in central government funding. It is intended to protect support for people with the highest long term needs and lowest incomes, while encouraging other people to be more independent through offering alternatives to social care support or short term support to enable a return to independence. The Strategy is focused on promoting independence and wellbeing; promoting choice and control and ensuring value for money.

We continue to go further with implementation of the Strategy which includes changing the nature of the way we work with people, including early resolution of people's social care needs wherever possible; offering good advice, information and signposting to appropriate community resources over the phone, supported by Nottinghamshire Help Yourself (an online directory of services); offering online and telephone assessments and assessments based in Social Work Clinics, which means that people are seen and have their needs met more quickly. We are investing money in preventative services provided through the voluntary sector which support people who are at risk of needing formal social care services, and help to delay the need for this support. Having reduced assessment and care management staffing in previous rounds of savings more recently we have committed resources to increasing numbers of staff and making posts permanent. This has been in response to the new responsibilities of the Care Act and increase in demand as a result of this, as well as a rise in demographic demand. We have seen an increase in safeguarding enquiries of 23%, and a 73% increase in carers' assessments and reviews since the Care Act was introduced. This outstrips the money that was made available by the Government for the Care Act. In addition to this the workforce capacity required by the High Court judgment on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards has seen an increase in the number of specialist social workers employed, and we continue to try to recruit to manage the significant number of assessments and reviews required.

The next phase of the Strategy includes a greater focus on preventative actions, targeted interventions, accessing a wider range of support and an emphasis on good support planning by staff to further embed the principles of promoting independence. This approach is evidence based and informed by research into good practice, analysis of data and national research including Professor John Bolton's work for the IPC (What are the opportunities and threats for further savings in adult social care? February 2016).

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We have been very successful in managing the discharge arrangements of people with care needs leaving hospital (with the number of delayed transfers of care attributable to social care significantly lower than the England average), and in working with partners to identify those at risk of hospital admission and providing support to avoid this. But this is an area of work that requires a high level of resources and oversight in order to maintain good performance.

