

# What councils do

From vital support to looking after our county's heritage, we deliver a wide range of services day in, day out.

**Councillor Lee Breckon**, cabinet member for resources and finance, sets out our budget



Every day, we transform lives, keep Leicestershire moving and support our local economy – and provide a wealth of services to our residents. These wide-ranging responsibilities mean our yearly budget is £400m – plus a four-year £450m plan to spend on one-off projects such as new schools, roads and a solar farm.

Those numbers might sound large – but our finances face significant pressure. With growing demand for infrastructure to support new homes, and for special educational needs support, we're doing everything we can to keep costs down.

Soaring demand for services, plus uncertainty over national funding, means we need to look at all options to help protect services. And with over £220m of savings made since 2010, and our books balanced for two years, we're in a much better position compared to most other councils. And importantly, we're continuing to deliver for our residents.

Our yearly budget is **£400m**

## A simple guide to council services >



**Leicestershire County Council is responsible for services across the whole of the county, including:**



### Education

Managing support for schools



### Planning

Dealing with minerals and waste plans



### Environment

Boosting biodiversity and tackling climate change



### Libraries

Books, computer access, community events and more



### Social care

Protecting and supporting thousands of children, adults and families



### Waste management

Waste disposal as well as helping residents recycle



### Public health

Helping people stay active and healthy



### Trading standards

Protecting consumers and businesses



### Roads and transport

Looking after 2,575 miles of highway

## Leicestershire is split into seven smaller district council areas

- Blaby District Council
- Charnwood Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Melton Borough Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

They are responsible for services like:



### Waste collection

As well as helping residents recycle



### Council Tax collections



### Housing



### Planning

Local plans and planning applications



### Leisure/recreation



### Environmental health

## Parish and town councils

These operate at a level below district and borough councils – they're elected and can advise on a number of local issues, including:



### Allotments and cemeteries



### Bus shelters



### Community centres



### Play areas and play equipment



### Parish-owned parks and open spaces



### Consultation on neighbourhood planning

They also have the power to issue fixed penalty fines for things like:



### Litter



### Graffiti



### Fly posting

## Working with our communities

Our role extends to working hand-in-hand with community groups.

One example of this is litter 'wombles' who we've supported to keep communities tidy this summer.

The fund, which closed in May, has supplied much-needed safety and litter picking equipment to groups across the county.

From the 300 successful applications received, we've already given out 643 hi-vis vests, 284 road signs, and 623 litter pickers.

Over the next few weeks this will rise to 1,200 hi-vis vests, 560 road signs, and 1,275 litter pickers.

Councillor Pam Posnett, cabinet member for communities, said: "The response to this fund has been incredible.



Pam Posnett

I'm pleased we have worked successfully with voluntary groups and parish councils across the county, tidying up our environment."

So far we've given out

643 hi-vis vests 

623 litter pickers 