

**Savings Proposals 2026/27 to 2028/29**

Department	Savings already identified £'000								New savings £'000				Total savings £'000			
	Legacy FYE of decisions/actions taken in 25/26				To be agreed and actioned for 26/27 onwards											
	2026/27	2027/28	n/a	Total	2026/27	2027/28	n/a	Total	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
Adult Social Care and Health	2,525			2,525				0	1,454	183		1,637	3,979	183		4,162
Business Services				0		825		825	355	132		487	355	957		1,312
Children's Services	70	20		90				0	526	24	8	558	596	44	8	648
Communities, Economy and Transport	546	187		733	75	187		262	636	125		761	1,257	499		1,756
Governance Services	63			63				0	80			80	143			143
Total	3,204	207	0	3,411	75	1,012	0	1,087	3,051	464	8	3,523	6,330	1,683	8	8,021

Adult Social Care & Health - Proposed New Savings			Net budget £'000
Service Area	Proposed Action	Likely Impact	2025/26
Planning, Performance and Engagement (PPE)	Restructure of PPE division	Reduction in project support, training and development capacity. Going forward significant new projects will require recruitment of a project manager to be costed in (and included in timescales).	1,647
Strategy, Commissioning & Supply Management (SCSM)	Adult Social Care (ASC) Strategy - 'What Matters To You?'	Reduction in transformation budget to deliver the priorities from the ASC 'What Matters To You' strategy.	330
SCSM	Restructure of policy and strategic development functions	Realignment of resources to deliver the prevention strategy.	
Operations	Integrated Night Service	Current contract ends 31/08/2026. The impact of withdrawing funding would be minimal for ESCC but greater for the NHS.	276
Operations	Administrative Restructure	Restructure of operational support services (excluding directly provided services, financial services, and health and social care connect).	2,502
Operations	Restructure of Quality and Safeguarding functions	The Safeguarding Development Team would merge with the Principal Social Work Team, resulting in a reduction of senior social work management posts.	88
Operations	Contract Management	Renegotiation of contract overheads for services commissioned from the NHS.	
Public Health	Public Health	Ensuring alignment of public health growth and development to further support council plan priorities, in line with public health grant conditions.	0
<b>TOTAL - Adult Social Care &amp; Health - Proposed New Savings</b>			

Business Services - Proposed New Savings			Net budget £'000
Service Area	Proposed Action	Likely Impact	2025/26
Finance, Procurement & Human Resources (HR)	To explore the potential opportunities for reducing the Business As Usual (BAU) costs of Oracle (phase 2) having now successfully gone live.	The successful go-live and exiting of hypercare for phase 2 may present opportunities to reduce costs and/or operate more efficiently, though this would need to be considered against the need to ensure that the system continues to run effectively.	
Finance & HR	GoodShape contract - centralise budgets from 2026/27	Corporate Management Team have agreed, in principle, to ending the GoodShape contract and to use Oracle for sickness absence reporting. It is expected that the contract will cease December 2026, dependent on completion of Oracle Phase 3 (HR & Payroll).	176
All Depts	Mobile Phone rationalisation	Following roll out of the permissions for staff to use their own phones where appropriate, reduce mobile phone allocations and data usage by approximately 10%.	399
<b>TOTAL Business Services - Proposed New Savings</b>			

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Children's Services - Proposed New Savings				Net budget £'000	Savings £'000				Specific or disproportionate impacts relating to protected characteristics										
Service Area	Proposed Action	Likely Impact	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total	Age	Disability	Sex	Gender Reassignment	Ethnicity	Marriage / Civil	Pregnancy /Maternity	Religion / Belief	Sexual Orientation	No impacts identified	Further Information	
Early Help & Social Care	Stopping the payment of term-time accommodation for university students who are Care leavers	Care leavers who are currently at university and eligible for support will continue to receive the same level of funding as currently in place until the end of their course. Care leavers applying for university for 2026-27 academic year onwards will be impacted. All will be eligible for a revised package of support, supported to apply for loans in line with all students, and in addition supported to apply for university bursaries. There is a potential impact on number of care leavers who will apply, attend and complete university courses, although the rebased offer is in line with a range of other Local Authorities who have similar levels of care leavers attending university.	900	18	24	8	50		Y			Y						Additional equality characteristic: care experience	
Commissioning & Transformation - NHS commissioned services	Notice given on some funding contributions to the NHS.	No direct impact on ESCC delivered services. The potential impacts of the reduced funding on NHS commissioned and delivered services will be considered by the relevant NHS organisations.	568	267			267										Y		
Education	Staffing review across the division to seek general efficiencies where available	Efficiencies will be sought across the Education Division in order to minimise the impact on services.	Multiple	100			100										Y		
Early Help & Social Care	Adoption South East Regional Adoption Agency - through management of change, there is a 10% saving on all partners' contributions from 2026-27	No direct impact on ESCC delivered services.	1,410	141			141										Y		
TOTAL - Children's Services				526	24	8	558												

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