

OUR GENDER PAY GAP REPORT

2023-24

BACKGROUND

The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, requires employers with 250 or more employees to publish statutory gender pay gap calculations annually. This includes the following:

- Gender pay gap (mean and median values)
- Gender bonus gap (mean and median values)
- Proportion of men and women receiving bonuses
- Proportion of men and women in each quartile of the organisation's pay structure.

The salary data is based on the required snapshot date of 31 March 2023 and was published in line with the required timescale of 30th March 2024.

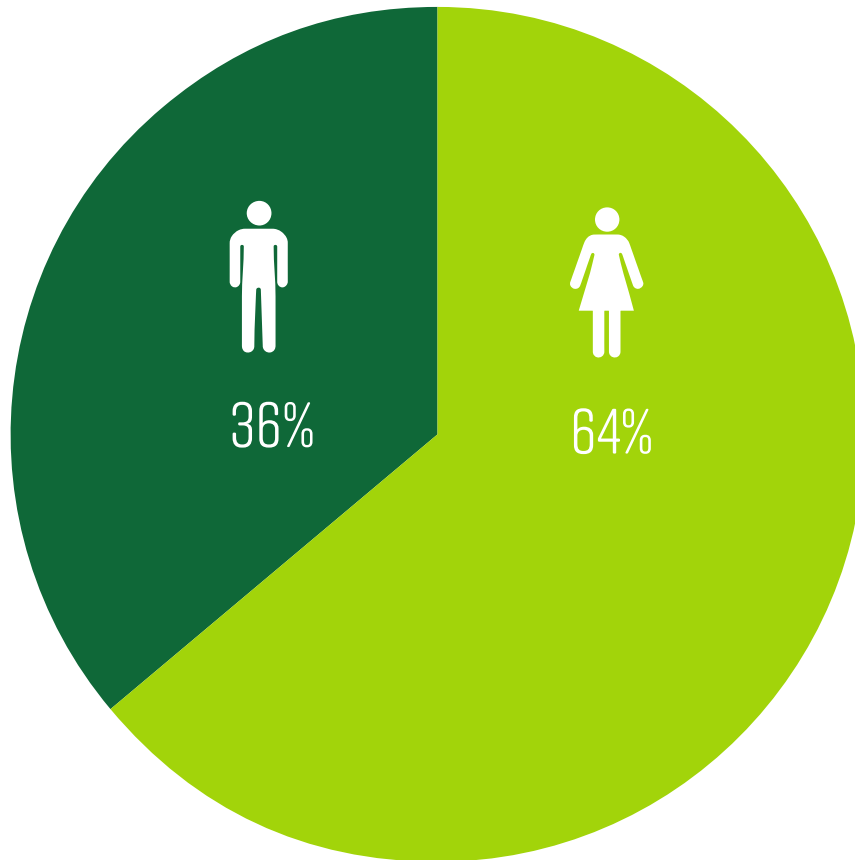
East Hampshire District Council paid two bonuses or similar types of payments to employees this year. These amounts are included in the salary comparison for gender pay. There are some market supplements paid but these are captured as part of ordinary pay and the figures used for hourly pay have been increased to take account of the impact of these additional amounts.

This data is published on the council website, made available to staff and can also be found on the gender pay gap service government website.

It is important to note that this data does not directly relate to the issue of equal pay and further explanation is provided later.

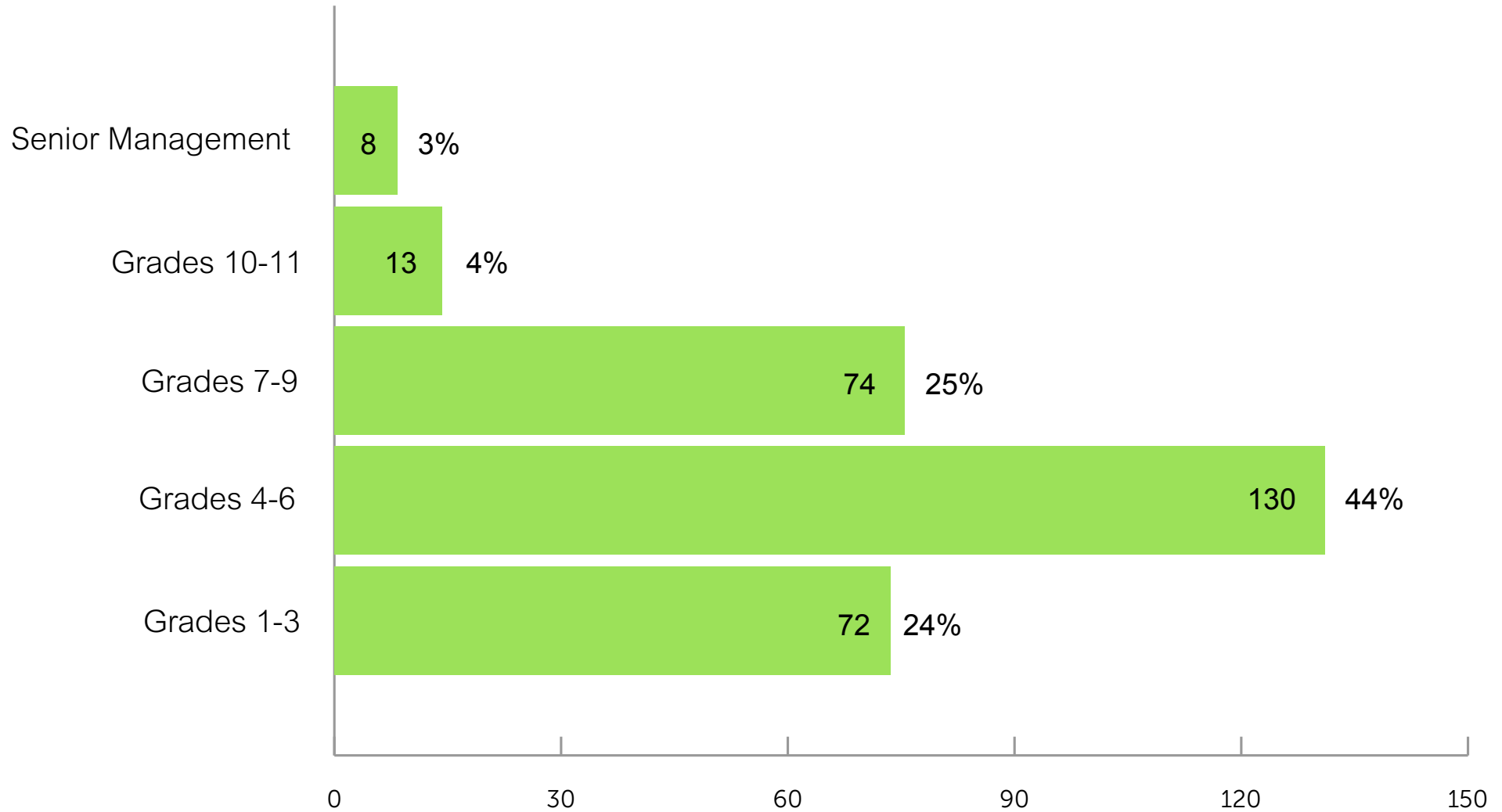
There are no equal pay issues within EHDC.

WORKFORCE BY GENDER



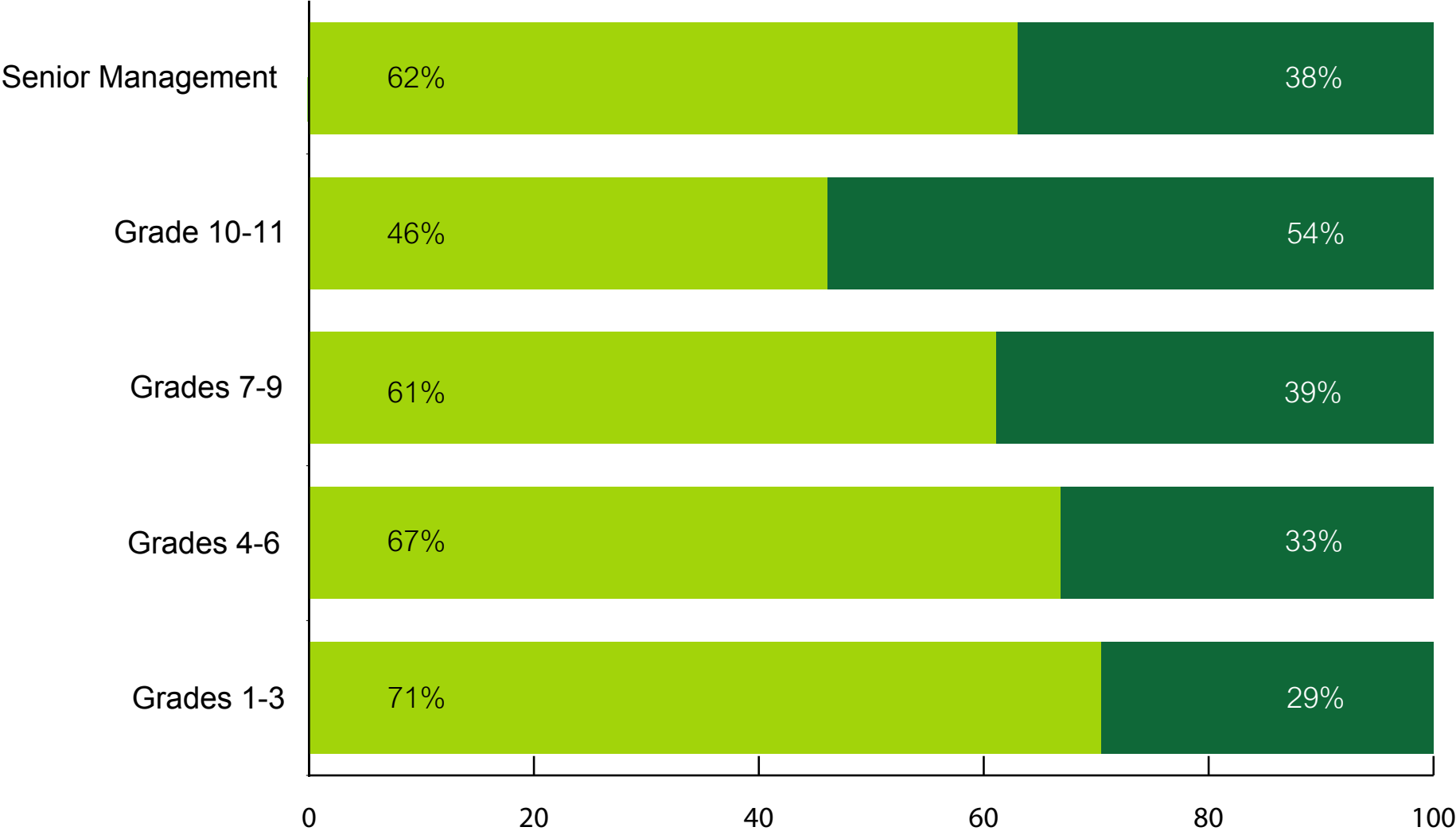
On the snapshot date of March 31 2023, 297 people were employed by East Hampshire District Council.

WORKFORCE BY PAY GRADE



GENDER SPLIT ACROSS PAY GRADES

Female Male



GENDER PAY GAP

The results of the Gender Pay Gap survey are as follows:

	Male	Female	Difference	Percentage	Public sector benchmark
Median	£18.85 per hr	£17.17 per hr	£1.68 per hr	8.91%	13.6% (2022)
Mean	£21.47 per hr	£18.92 per hr	£2.55 per hr	11.87%	16.9% (2022)

When the workforce are ranked in order of their hourly pay rate and then divided into four equal groups, the percentage split of the workforce across the four pay quartiles by gender is as follows:

QUARTILES	MALE	FEMALE
Q1 LOWER	31%	69%
Q2 LOWER MIDDLE	28%	72%
Q3 UPPER MIDDLE	35%	65%
Q4 UPPER	49%	51%
WHOLE WORKFORCE	36%	64%

The gender pay gap means that when the average (mean) and median (central point) of all male and female hourly pay rates are compared, the value for male employees is greater than that for female employees.

A combination of higher paid roles at EHDC having a larger proportion of men than women at the top of the salary bracket for each quartile contribute to the gender pay gap. In addition to this and conversely, at the lower quartiles, a larger number of females are at the lower end of the salary bracket.

For the purposes of benchmarking, figures for the public sector have been included in the table on the left. The ONS have an Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings and the information they have published for 2022 provided the above benchmarking data for the Public Sector.

TACKLING THE PAY GAP

Factors that contribute to the gender pay gap at EHDC

When comparing the figures for 2023 with 2022, we can see a considerable decrease in the gender pay gap at East Hampshire District Council (2022 median 12.29% down to 8.91% and 2022 mean 19.17% down to 11.87%). The ongoing Organisational Design work to recruit at parity, to adhere to DMA principles, to ensure Gender Pay equality in policy and process and to promote and embed flexible working for all has resulted in positive change.

It is still worth noting that the management level and qualified staff within many of the professional service areas provided by EHDC, such as Planning, Building Control and Environmental Health, have historically been dominated by male employees.

Over time, the impact of incremental pay means that more male staff are found at the top of their pay scales and these professional roles will be in the upper quartiles. Over time this imbalance is being addressed and results are becoming clear.

Policies already in place to promote gender pay equality

- Equality policy
- Flexitime policy
- Flexible working options including parental leave
- Enhanced maternity pay, paternity and adoption pay
- Fair and transparent processes relating to promotion, pay and reward and terms and conditions of employment
- Open recruitment processes, supported by selection based upon merit. The approach is underpinned by training on the recruitment process making appointment decisions based upon the requirements of the role as defined in job descriptions and person specifications
- Assistance to acquire professional qualifications
- Factor based JE Scheme covering all roles
- Positive Trade Union engagement and collective bargaining

ALWAYS IMPROVING

We recognise that further work could be done to address this issue.

We will continue to:

- Ensure our Learning and Development Programme is accessible to all including the promotion of apprenticeships at all levels of the organisation.
- Move from a largely paper-based exit interview process to a digital version to collect and analyse the reasons for leaving and put in place actions to bring about positive change.
- Develop recruitment processes to remove any barriers that might deter female applicants for senior roles.
- Promote flexible working and widening participation specially of men using parental leave.
- Review senior pay levels and take any action where needed.
- Develop and implement talent management and succession planning processes to enhance career development opportunities.
- Analyse data from this and previous years to identify any further actions which could be taken to address the gender pay gap.

EQUAL PAY

It is important to remember that the presence of a gender pay gap does not imply that there is an equal pay issue within EHDC.

Equal pay is the right for men and women to equal treatment in their terms and conditions of employment for work that is the same or broadly similar. It's an aspect of UK equalities legislation which has been in force for over 40 years.

The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) explains the difference in the following way: "The gender pay gap is not the same as pay discrimination or equal pay. The gender pay gap is calculated by taking all employees in an organisation and comparing the average pay between men and women. Equal pay rules outlaw pay differences in men and women's pay for same or similar work. It's possible for an employer that treats its women fairly in terms of pay to have a large gender pay gap, and for an organisation that treats its female workers unfairly to have a small gap."



Caroline Tickner
Director of Change & Performance



Gill Kneller
Chief Executive