

Value for money from your Council Tax 2009/10

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Value for money from your Council Tax

Dear Resident

Epsom and Ewell is a great place to live and work and the Council works together with our residents and partners to make the Borough cleaner, safer and greener. Some of our achievements in the last year include enhancing our kerbside recycling scheme, upgrading local play areas and earning a safety award for Hook Road car park.

Our policy is to keep Council Tax as one of the lowest in Surrey and to ensure our services are as cost effective as possible. In 2009/10 the Council will face many challenges, however our promise is to continuously improve what we do to ensure we provide our services to you in the most economic way.

Councillor Keith Mann
Chairman, Strategy and Resources Committee

Your Council Tax pays for Borough Council, County Council and Police services. Epsom & Ewell's part of your Council Tax bill has increased by 3.9%. This is just 11p more a week for Band D properties. Separate leaflets are provided by Surrey County Council and Surrey Police Authority which outline the Council Tax charges they make.

Share of the bill

Annually the Council has to estimate the cost of its services for the next year, taking account of:

- Inflation
- New and improved services
- Government legislation and how to respond efficiently to its effect on services
- Cost savings and the availability of reserves
- The amount of grant allocated by Central Government, including business rates collected by the Borough Council which are redistributed to local authorities as per an agreed formula

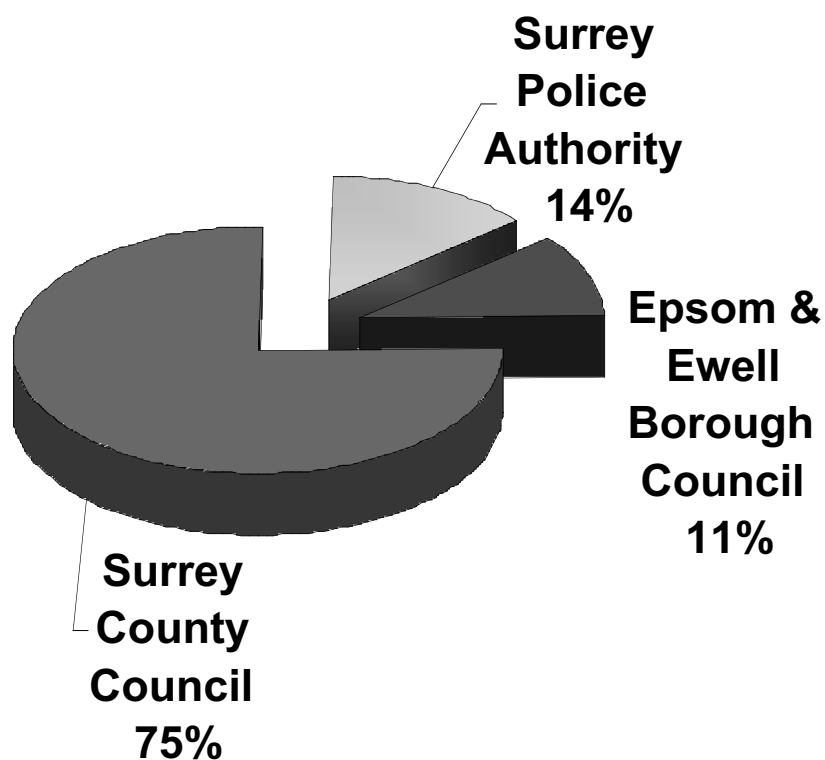
For 2009/10 the grant from Central Government will be a 0.5% increase on the 2008/9 settlement.

Where your Council Tax goes

Your bill is made up of three elements:

- An amount charged by Surrey County Council
- An amount charged by Surrey Police Authority
- An amount charged by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Each authority will receive a portion of the Council Tax that you pay during 2009/10.



This year the Borough Council will collect £45.8m from Council Tax payers. The following table compares the total amounts to be collected from Council Tax in 2009/10 with those in 2008/09:

| | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2009/10 | Increase for Band D property | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | Total precept | Amount per Band D property | Total precept | Amount per Band D property | £ | % |
| | £000 | £ | £000 | £ | | |
| Surrey County Council | 33,131 | 1,058.04 | 34,530 | 1,089.18 | 31.14 | 2.9 |
| Surrey Police Authority | 5,885 | 187.92 | 6,249 | 197.10 | 9.18 | 4.9 |
| Epsom & Ewell Borough Council | 4,794 | 153.10 | 5,043 | 159.07 | 5.97 | 3.9 |
| Total | 43,810 | 1,399.06 | 45,822 | 1,445.35 | 46.29 | 3.3 |

Council Tax charges

The Council Tax is calculated according to property bands. Single person discounts (25%) or other discounts and exemptions will be applied to your account if appropriate. The table below indicates the charges where the full amount is payable in 2009/10.

The way your Council Tax bill is calculated is set out in legislation. The total amount to be raised in the Borough is first calculated by adding together the amount Epsom & Ewell Borough Council needs to pay for services, to the amounts that Surrey Police Authority and Surrey County Council need to raise in this Borough. The money to be raised to pay for all services is divided by the tax base for the area (31,703 properties) to give the charge for properties in property valuation Band 'D'.

| Property Band | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Epsom & Ewell Borough Council | 106.05 | 123.72 | 141.40 | 159.07 | 194.42 | 229.77 | 265.12 | 318.14 |
| Surrey Police Authority | 131.40 | 153.30 | 175.20 | 197.10 | 240.90 | 284.70 | 328.50 | 394.20 |
| Surrey County Council | 726.12 | 847.14 | 968.16 | 1,089.18 | 1,331.22 | 1,573.26 | 1,815.30 | 2,178.36 |
| Total per Household | 963.57 | 1,124.16 | 1,284.76 | 1,445.35 | 1,766.54 | 2,087.73 | 2,408.92 | 2,890.70 |
| Valuation Band (An adjustment is made to Band D to calculate other bands) | Dx6/9ths | Dx7/9ths | Dx8/9ths | | Dx11/9ths | Dx13/9ths | Dx15/9ths | Dx18/9ths |

Surrey County Council, Surrey Fire and Rescue & Epsom & Ewell Borough Council efficiency statement

| | Surrey County Council | | | Surrey Fire and Rescue | | | Epsom & Ewell Borough Council* | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | (1) Total £'000 | (2) Percentage of 2007-08 baseline expenditure | (3) Per Band D Property £ | (1) Total £'000 | (2) Percentage of 2007-08 baseline expenditure | (3) Per Band D Property £ | (1) Total £'000 | (2) Percentage of 2007-08 baseline expenditure | (3) Per Band D Property £ |
| 2008/09 | 24,500 | 4.4% | 50.43 | 1,199 | 2.7% | 2.47 | 570 | 4.0% | 18.34 |
| National Average | | | 53.00 | | | 2.00 | | | 21.00 |

Notes:

- (1) Efficiency forecast 2008/09.
- (2) Efficiency forecast against the baseline expenditure.
- (3) Value of efficiency savings for each property.

*Epsom & Ewell Borough Council efficiencies are mainly made up from:

- Reducing costs through better procurement of supplies and services
- Achieving the same level of service for less money
- Increasing staff efficiency through greater productivity

How we calculate the amount to be collected

The Borough Council's budget requirement includes its spend on local services less income raised from those services. It is the amount of money that will need to be raised through Central Government grants (including redistributed business rates) and local taxation:

| | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2009/10 | 2009/10 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Total | Amount per Band D property | Amount per resident for year | Total | Amount per Band D property | Amount per resident for year |
| | £000 | £ | £ | £000 | £ | £ |
| Budget Requirement (Net Expenditure) | 9,042 | 288.74 | 129.91 | 9,309 | 293.64 | 131.30 |
| Collection fund transfer | (98) | (3.12) | (1.41) | (96) | (3.03) | (1.35) |
| Less: Revenue Support Grant | (507) | (16.19) | (7.29) | (782) | (24.67) | (11.03) |
| Less: Business Rates | (3,643) | (116.33) | (52.34) | (3,388) | (106.87) | (47.79) |
| Council Tax | 4,794 | 153.10 | 68.87 | 5,043 | 159.07 | 71.13 |

The main areas of expenditure and net of service income are set out in the following table:

| Net Expenditure 2008/09 £000 | Service | Gross Expenditure 2009/10 £000 | Government Grants £000 | Other Income £000 | Net Expenditure £000 | Expenditure per Resident £ |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1,348 | Refuse Collection | 3,279 | 0 | 1,755 | 1,524 | 21.49 |
| 574 | Environmental Health | 1,014 | 0 | 458 | 556 | 7.85 |
| (81) | Highways & Car Parks | 3,372 | 0 | 3,184 | 188 | 2.65 |
| 927 | Housing | 13,595 | 12,536 | 113 | 946 | 13.35 |
| 1,443 | Social & Welfare | 2,296 | 347 | 567 | 1,382 | 19.49 |
| 611 | Planning | 1,534 | 200 | 525 | 809 | 11.42 |
| 3,366 | Recreation | 5,622 | 604 | 1,685 | 3,333 | 47.00 |
| 854 | Other Services | 8,307 | 3,182 | 4,554 | 571 | 8.05 |
| 9,042 | Total | 39,019 | 16,869 | 12,841 | 9,309 | 131.30 |

The main budget changes

Our net spending is estimated to increase by £267,000 including the following main budget changes:

| | | £000 | £000 |
|-------|--|-------|--------------|
| | Budget requirement for 2008/09 | | 9,042 |
| Add: | Inflation | 550 | |
| | Loss of income through drop in demand for services | 435 | |
| Less: | Increases in fees and charges | (216) | |
| | Reduced transport costs | (104) | |
| | Increased income from partnership grants | (100) | |
| | Other variations in service cost (net) | (19) | |
| | Sub-total of changes | | 546 |
| | Increased use of working balance: | | (279) |
| | Budget requirement for 2009/10 | | 9,309 |

The main service change to be introduced in 2009/10 is the extension to the existing kerbside waste collection service to include kitchen waste recycling. This will be funded from recycling income including waste subscriptions, landfill tax credits and other contributions. It is expected that this will increase recycling from 30% to 50%. The Council will employ around 367 people in 2009/10 both in full time and part time jobs. The full time equivalent will be 310 staff (297 in 2008/9).

Capital expenditure on projects and grants

| Schemes | £000 |
|---|--------------|
| Supporting affordable housing | 1,130 |
| Property works | 580 |
| Disabled facility grants and housing assistance | 445 |
| Electronic government/IT | 200 |
| Environmental and other improvements | 195 |
| Playground and leisure improvements | 173 |
| Car parks | 88 |
| Waste strategy and bin replacement | 45 |
| Total capital investment | 2,856 |

Want to know more?

Details of the various ways you can pay your Council Tax can be found in the enclosed 'Your Guide to Council Tax' leaflet. Alternative formats of the publication, including large print, are available on request.

This brochure can be downloaded from our website www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Extra copies can be requested by calling **01372 732000**

or by emailing contactus@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

The Council's Policy Book, performance and services information can be found on our website

www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Performance information will be published in future editions of the Council's quarterly magazine, *Borough Insight*.

If you require a translation in your language, please contact:

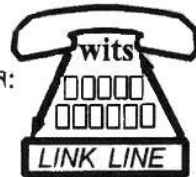
ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਜ਼ਬਾਨ 'ਚ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ:

જો તમને પોતાની ભાષામાં ભાષાંતર જોઈએ છે, તો મહેરબાની કરીને સંપર્ક સાધો:

Se necessitar de uma tradução, contacte por favor:

यदि आपनार निजेर भाषाय अनुवाद चान ताहले अनुग्रह करे योगायोग करन:

اگر آپ کو ترجمہ اپنی زبان میں چاہئے تو براہ مہربانی رابطہ کریں۔



01483 750548

Environment Agency

The Environment Agency's flood defence work is funded by a levy on Surrey County Council. Surrey is covered by the Southern and Thames regions. We are required to show the following information on their behalf.

| | Thames | Southern |
|---------------------------|--------|----------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Gross Expenditure 2008/09 | 88,357 | 55,930 |
| Gross Expenditure 2009/10 | 96,798 | 66,930 |
| Local levy raised 2008/09 | 10,000 | 1,131 |
| Local levy raised 2009/10 | 10,000 | 1,154 |

Thames – There is no increase in the total local levy raised in 2009/10.

Southern – Changes in the Gross Budgeted expenditure is due mainly to an increased capital programme.

For more information contact the Environment Agency on their Customer Service Line **08708 506506**.