



Value for money from your Council Tax 2010/11

Some of the services provided by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council with your Council Tax money include:

- Affordable housing
- Allotments
- Car Parks
- Cemetery
- Concessionary Bus Permits
- Council Tax and Housing Benefits
- Discretionary Rate Relief
- The Ebbisham Centre (in partnership with others)
- Epsom Playhouse, Ewell Court House, Bourne Hall
- Environmental Health
- Graffiti Removal
- Gypsy Site Management
- Housing Advice Service and Housing Needs Register
- Land Charges
- Licensing
- Meals on Wheels and RouteCall
- Parking enforcement
- Parks and Open Spaces (including Nonsuch Park with London Borough of Sutton)
- Planning and Building Control
- Rainbow Leisure Centre
- Recycling
- Refuse Collection
- Social Centres
- Sports and Leisure Development
- Streetcare and Environmental Improvements
- Support for Voluntary Organisations

Value for money from your Council Tax

Dear Resident

The financial situation has affected us all over the last year and the Council has had a significant reduction in income. However we have largely preserved our services to residents. We are committed to saving money where we can as well as reducing our carbon footprint.

In 2010/11 we expect to see economic difficulties continue, however the budget will provide the services our residents expect. Inevitably, some service provision will change to ensure that we conserve our financial position and do not waste public money. In realigning some of our services we will maintain our policy to keep Council Tax as one of the lowest in Surrey.

Councillor Keith Mann
Chairman, Strategy and Resources Committee

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

- Increased costs
- Service changes
- Government legislation and how to respond efficiently to its effect on services
- Efficiency 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 2010/11 the grant from Central Government will be a 0.5% increase on the 2009/10 settlement.

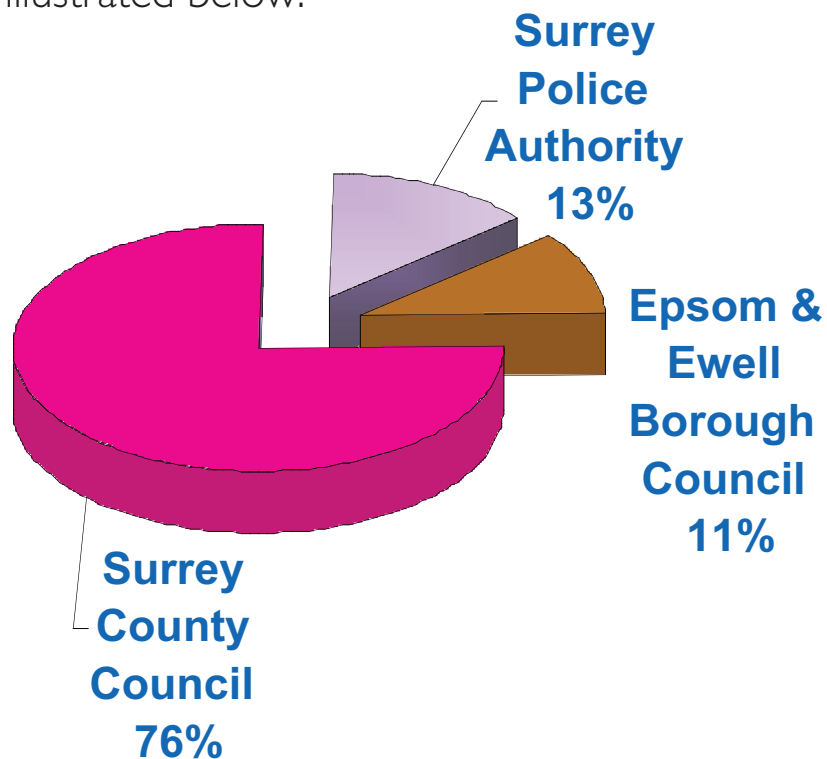
Your Council Tax pays for Borough Council, County Council and Police services. Epsom & Ewell's part of your Council Tax bill has increased by 2.5%. This is just 8p more a week for Band D properties.

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 2010/11 as illustrated below:



This year the Borough Council will collect £47m from Council Tax payers. The following table compares the total amounts to be collected from Council Tax in 2010/11 with those in 2009/10:

	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11	2010/11	Increase for Band D property	
	Total precept	Amount per Band D property	Total precept	Amount per Band D property	£	%
	£000	£	£000	£		
Surrey County Council	34,530	1,089.18	35,534	1,116.36	27.18	2.5
Surrey Police Authority	6,146	193.86	6,319	198.54	4.68	2.4
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	5,043	159.07	5,190	163.05	3.98	2.5
Total	45,719	1,442.11	47,043	1,477.95	35.84	2.5

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 2010/11.

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 (31,830 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	108.70	126.82	144.93	163.05	199.28	235.52	271.75	326.10
Surrey Police Authority	132.36	154.42	176.48	198.54	242.66	286.78	330.90	397.08
Surrey County Council	744.24	868.28	992.32	1,116.36	1,364.44	1,612.52	1,860.60	2,232.72
Total per Household	985.30	1,149.52	1,313.73	1,477.95	1,806.38	2,134.82	2,463.25	2,955.90
Valuation Band (An adjustment is made to Band D to calculate other property bands)	Dx 6/9ths	Dx 7/9ths	Dx 8/9ths		Dx 11/9ths	Dx 13/9ths	Dx 15/9ths	Dx 11/9ths

Becoming more efficient

In 2010 -11, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council has increased its targets for efficiency savings through greater productivity on all services and, where appropriate, is working with neighbouring councils to deliver efficiencies through sharing costs. Other efficiencies will be achieved through better procurement of supplies and services and the Council has set ambitious targets for reductions in energy use in our properties and in the delivery of our services.

All councils are required to measure and report the value of efficiency savings they have achieved since April 2008. An efficiency saving occurs when the cost of an activity falls, but its effectiveness is not reduced. The table below shows the value of efficiency savings achieved by the end of March 2009 and what is forecast to be achieved by the end of March 2010.

	1) By March 2009 £'000	2) By March 2010 £'000	3) Saving per Band D dwelling £	4) National average for similar authorities £
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	650	838	£26	£41
Surrey County Council	17,314	29,365	£60	£98
Surrey Police Authority	13,966	19,697	£40	£54
Surrey Fire and Rescue Authority	1,324	2,429	£5	£4

Columns 3 and 4 show the value of gains forecast to be achieved by March 2010 for the average Band D dwelling and compares that with the average figure for similar authorities across England.

Each year, councils are assessed by the Audit Commission under its Comprehensive Area Assessment. In 2009, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council was assessed as performing well and scored 3 out of 4 for Managing Performance and 2 out of 4 for Use of Resources. Surrey County Council was assessed as performing adequately and scored 2 out of 4 for both Managing Performance and Use of Resources.

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:

	2009/10	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11	2010/11	2010/11
	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)	9,309	293.64	131.30	9,381	294.72	129.57
Collection fund transfe	(96)	(3.03)	(1.35)	-	-	-
Less: Revenue Support Grant	(782)	(24.67)	(11.03)	(531)	(16.69)	(7.34)
Less: Business Rates	(3,388)	(106.87)	(47.79)	(3,660)	(114.98)	(50.55)
Council Tax	5,043	159.07	71.13	5,190	163.05	71.68

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

Net Expenditure 2009/10 £000	Service	Gross Expenditure 2010/11 £000	Government Grants £000	Other Income £000	Net Expenditure £000	Expenditure per Resident £
1,524	Refuse Collection	3,325	0	1,549	1,776	24.51
556	Environmental Health	1,022	0	487	535	7.39
188	Highways & Car Parks	3,247	0	3,154	93	1.29
946	Housing	15,939	14,824	109	1,006	13.91
1,382	Social & Welfare	2,263	248	551	1,464	20.22
809	Planning	1,658	184	572	902	12.45
3,333	Recreation	5,372	520	1,751	3,101	42.84
571	Other Services	7,730	3,554	3,672	504	6.96
9,309	Total	40,556	19,330	11,845	9,381	129.57

The main budget changes

		£000	£000
	Budget requirement for 2009/10		9,309
Add:	Reduction in government grants received	209	
	Reduced free income from from trading accounts (car parks & recycling)	412	
	Reduced interest received	150	
	Trade waste tipping charges	81	
	Concessionary fares costs	65	
Less:	Salary efficiency savings	(300)	
	Increased charges for services	(209)	
	Service savings options	(276)	
	Other cost reductions (net)	(147)	
	Sub-total of changes		(15)
	Reduced use of Working Balance		87
	Budget requirement for 2010/11		9,381

Our net spending is estimated to increase by £72,000 (0.8%) including the main budget changes in the table opposite.

There are several service change options this year. Please visit our website www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk for more details about the budget changes and new charges for services.

The main changes are:

1. The transfer of social centre places from Cox Lane to Longmead & rental of premises
2. Reduced frequency of grass verge cutting
3. Closure of Bourne Hall on Mondays when the Library is closed
4. Reduction in Civic costs.

Capital expenditure on projects and grants

Schemes	£000
Supporting affordable housing	1,130
Information technology	380
Disabled facilities grants	350
Car Parks - energy reduction / safety	150
Contaminated land strategy	100
Other schemes	300
Total capital investment	2,410

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

Information on our performance and services can be found on our website www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk and in our quarterly magazine, *Borough Insight*.

Please note calls made to our Contact Centre may be recorded for monitoring and training purposes.

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

নেওর ব্রুচর্তু অথটী স্রবন 'স অনুবাং সাতীয়া টী. ডা' স্থিলা অরজে সাত্রা অট:

পৌ তমনে যৌরনী আখামা আখানর পৌঠমে টে, না সত্রেংরনী কহীনে অখর্ক সাখী:

Se necessitar de uma tradução, contacte por favor:

যদি আপনার নিজের ভাষায় অনুবাদ চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন:

اگر آپ کو ترجمہ دستی زبان میں چاہئے تو براہ کرم سہ ماہی 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 2009/10	96,798	66,930
Gross Expenditure 2010/11	113,089	65,650
Local levy raised 2009/10	10,000	1,154
Local levy raised 2009/11	10,000	1,851

Thames – There is no increase in the total local levy raised in 2010/11.

Southern – Changes in the gross budgeted expenditure is due to the fluctuations in the capital programme based on national prioritisation.

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