

Our 2026/27 budget ensures we can continue to deliver essential services – Adult Social Care, Children’s Services and Education, Highways and Transport, Libraries and Culture, Public Health, and Surrey Fire & Rescue – despite inflationary costs, rising demand and a significant reduction in Government funding.

This is our final budget before the move to two new unitary councils in April 2027. We’re also investing in Surrey this year, including new SEND units and more school places, modernised care accommodation and enhanced highways maintenance. All to continue to deliver services that support residents who need us most, protect essential services and enhance our communities and improve daily life.

The average Band D Council Tax per year is £1,938.42*, here’s how your money is spent:

*For illustrative purposes, this represents the total budget split by the Surrey County Council portion of Band D Council Tax value. Some areas are funded by specific restricted grants, which are not reflected here. Please note: figures refer to the Surrey County Council element of Council Tax and exclude other precepts (e.g. Police and District/Borough).

£813.54

ADULTS, WELLBEING AND HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

Adult Social Care, Public Health and community support

£502.55

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Looking after children in care, schools and adult education

£263.07

PLACE

Highways, waste management and environmental services

£79.16

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND EMERGENCIES

Surrey Fire and Rescue, Emergency Management, Trading Standards and Safer Communities

£168.99

RESOURCES

Support services like IT, Finance, HR and communications

£111.11

CENTRAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Includes capital financing costs

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND OUR INVESTMENTS

We have set a balanced budget in one of the most challenging financial contexts in recent years. Higher costs, rising demand and a £50 million reduction in Government funding mean tough choices.

With around 92% of funding needing to come from local sources within three years, we’re delivering efficiencies, keeping a strong focus on prevention, and rephasing some capital to lower borrowing. Councillors have approved a Council Tax increase of 4.99% (including the Adult Social Care Precept).

The increase of £1.77 per week for the average Band D Council Taxpayer will help us protect the most vulnerable, support communities, and keep Surrey moving.

At the same time, we’re investing £297 million in 2026/27 in new SEND units and extra school places, modernised care accommodation, a new short breaks centre for adults with additional needs, library refurbishments, upgrades to buildings and fire stations, and enhanced highways maintenance and flood alleviation.