

# COUNCIL TAX 2021

## Dear Resident of Surrey

Surrey County Council has agreed budget plans for the coming financial year and I wanted to write to you to outline how we plan to deliver services, protect our communities and make meaningful investments in the future of the county.

The past 12 months have been hard for everyone, with COVID-19 impacting every aspect of our lives.

We continue to respond to COVID-19 in the county, doing everything possible to keep residents safe, and we have long term plans in place to lead Surrey's recovery.

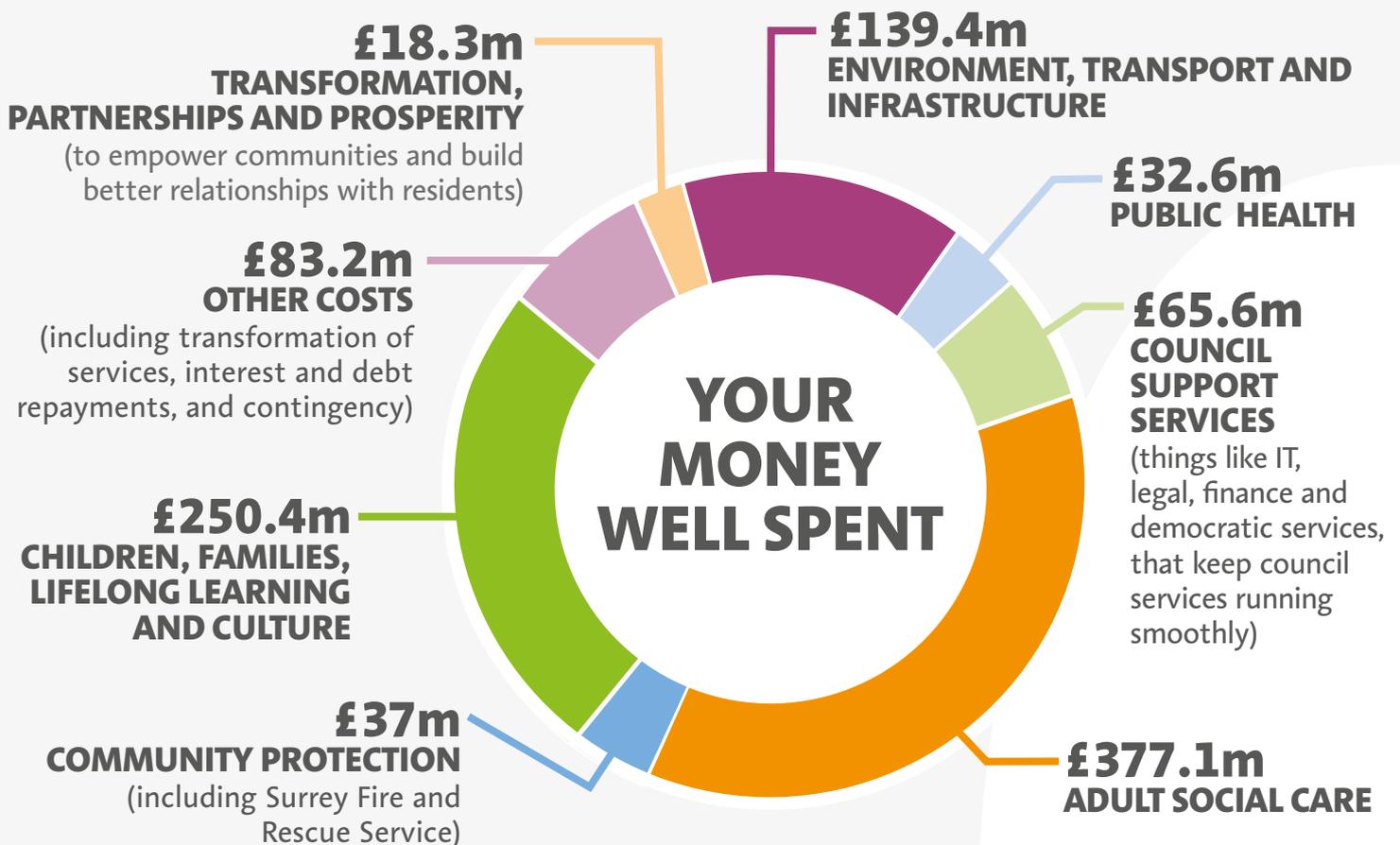
We have transformed the County Council over the last few years and our financial position is strong.

We have again been able to set a balanced budget, despite the pressures of the last year, and our ambitious investment will make sure Surrey remains a fantastic place to live and work.

**Tim Oliver, Leader of Surrey County Council**



Our year-on-year revenue budget is how we spend Council Tax, business rates and some government grants. It is around £1bn spent on vital services that residents rely on. Most of that money is spent on our most vulnerable residents so many of you will not see it, or access those services, but it is support that is critical for those who need us most.



No Council Tax rise is welcome, but this year we are able to limit the increase to 2.49% - half the amount allowed by government and half that planned by many other councils. This is equivalent to 72p per week for a Band D property.

We are committed to keeping Council Tax as low as possible and making sure you get the best value for your money. We will continue our work to transform services so they are the best and most efficient they can be, and be responsible in protecting our stable finances in an uncertain future.

# INVESTING IN SURREY'S FUTURE

We are building on our investment plan – to spend money now on things that will have a lasting positive impact for you, the residents of Surrey. This is even more important now as we look to lead Surrey's recovery from COVID-19. This one-off investment includes:



**£116m** investment in infrastructure aimed at boosting economic growth across the county

**£33m** extra investment into Surrey Fire and Rescue Service



Our **£268m** investment in schools and



**£74m** in SEND provision will ensure our children can overcome this year's disruption and get the best possible start in life



**£286m** for large scale infrastructure projects like in Farnham town centre and the A320 scheme

**£264m** investment in highways making getting around the county safer and smoother



**£170m** investment in accommodation for Looked After Children, Extra Care and independent living, to ensure those most in need can be given better life chances and live safely and independently



The **£100m** Your Fund Surrey has launched for community-led projects that will transform local areas



**£105m** for 'Greener Future' projects including things like renewable energy, active travel and low emission transport

**£253m** investment on flood alleviation to protect tens of thousands of homes and businesses



**This investment will make Surrey a place that is fit for the future - where nobody is left behind, businesses thrive and there are opportunities for all.** For more information about our budget and Council Tax, please visit [surreycc.gov.uk/yourmoney](https://surreycc.gov.uk/yourmoney)

If you would like this information in Easy Read version, large print, Braille, in audio or in another language or format, please contact us on:

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