

# Where does my Council Tax go?

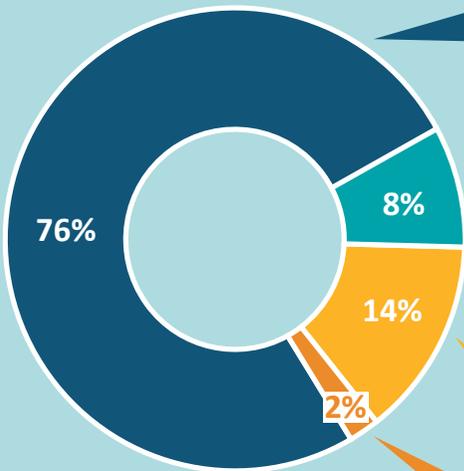
## 76% Surrey County Council

The county council provides services including highways, education and social care

## Guildford Borough Council keeps just 8% of the Council Tax we collect

## 14% Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner

## 2% Parish Councils



We collect Council Tax on behalf of all the local authorities in our area but only **8% stays with us.**

**This year our share of Council Tax will increase by 2.99%, that's £5.93 extra per year** for a Band D property, or about an extra 11p per week.

**We'll receive £204.09** a year in Council Tax from a Band D property, yet provide around **£1,132 in services per household.**

# Our services

For just £3.92 per week, we provide vital services to meet the needs of our residents, communities and businesses.



## Community wellbeing support

Supporting people, groups and organisations to strengthen the communities that make Guildford a place where everyone is valued. This includes community transport, community meals, an activities hub and a café at the Hive.



## Leisure and culture

Providing a wide range of sport, leisure and social opportunities for people of all ages. We're responsible for Guildford Spectrum, Guildford Lido, Ash Manor Sports Centre, and 14 multi-use games areas. We also care for heritage buildings, including Guildford Castle and Guildford Museum.



## Planning and building control

Setting planning policy, developing Local Plans, evaluating planning applications and monitoring all building and new development in the borough.



## Bin collections, recycling and street cleaning

We collect 7.2 million waste and recycling bins from households across the borough each year, as well as green waste and managing street cleaning.



## Environmental health and licensing

Dealing with fly-tipping, pest control, air quality, animal welfare and food safety standards. Keeping residents safe by licensing and enforcement of street traders, tattoo artists, taxi drivers, and those who sell alcohol.



## Parks, countryside and bereavement services

Protecting and managing over 100 sites and 1,000 hectares of parks, gardens and countryside. Running the crematorium and some cemeteries.



## Parking

Operating over 20 car parks across Guildford and managing off street parking enforcement.



## Elections and democracy

Managing all elections and referendums within the borough and maintaining the Register of Electors. We also train councillors to help them be effective in their roles and oversee council meetings.



## Property management

Managing the buildings we own that are used to deliver our services or bring in commercial income.



## Regeneration and economic development

Investing in regeneration projects and developing the local economy so Guildford is a great place to live, work and do business. Building sustainable new council homes for social and affordable rent, and shared ownership.



## Private sector housing and homelessness prevention

We provide protection and advice for private housing tenants and supported over 300 households to prevent homelessness last year.

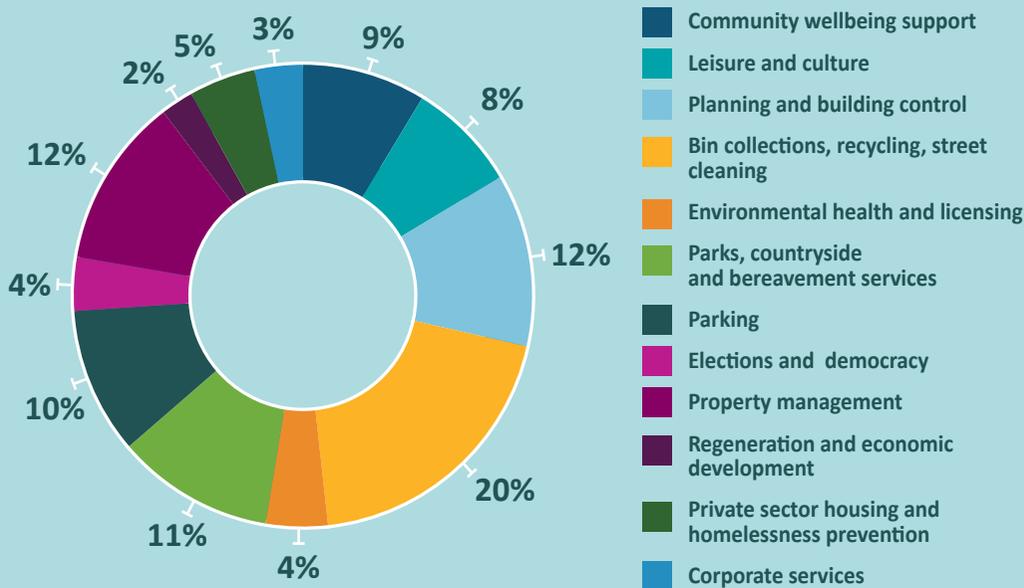


## Corporate services including HR, finance, legal and customer services

Working across the council to support the efficient running of our services and dealing with residents' enquiries.

# How we spend your money

Guildford's planned spending for 2025/26.



## A Greener, Fairer, Thriving Guildford

Our Corporate Strategy sets out our priorities for the next ten years.



### A more sustainable borough

We're committed to becoming a more socially and environmentally responsible borough



### Decent and affordable homes

We will use the powers and means available to us to ensure that local people have access to decent homes that they can afford



### A more prosperous borough

Building on Guildford borough's strong local economy to attract inward investment



### A resilient and well-managed council

We're committed to public service, we exist to serve our residents, businesses, and visitors



### A more inclusive borough

A welcoming borough where people of diverse identities feel valued, respected, included, supported, and represented

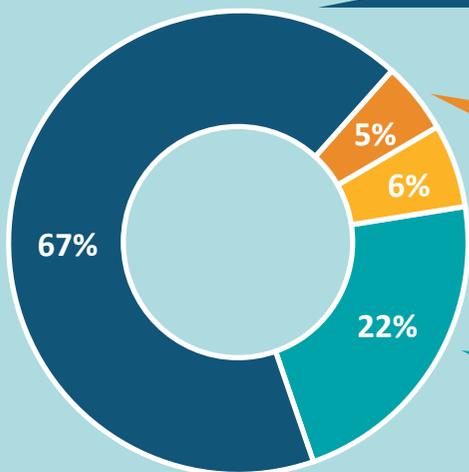
More information about this strategy is on our website:  
[www.guildford.gov.uk/corporatestrategy](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/corporatestrategy)



# Our funding

Where Guildford Borough Council gets its money from.

**Total Annual Income 2025/26**  
**(£56.9 million)**



**Fees, charges, investments and other income**

**Central government grant**

**Business rates**

**Council Tax**

\*This income excludes the Housing Revenue Account, which is ringfenced income used to maintain council homes.

Demand pressures, high inflation and interest rates on top of reduced government funding have put significant pressure on the budgets of local authorities, including ours. It's important that we continue to manage our resources in a sensible and sustainable way, so we can maintain good quality public services.

## It's easier if you switch

Sign up to direct debit

[www.guildford.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/counciltax)

## Get an electronic bill

Sign up for your My Guildford account, link your Council Tax account and choose to get an electronic bill: [www.guildford.gov.uk/register](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/register)

## Keep up to date

Sign up to About Guildford our monthly digital newsletter [www.guildford.gov.uk/aboutguildford](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/aboutguildford)



## Financial hardship support

We recognise the financial pressures many individuals and families are facing. We're committed to supporting those in need and will continue to fund initiatives that help people who may be struggling to pay Council Tax.

[www.guildford.gov.uk/benefitsandgrants](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/benefitsandgrants)

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