



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Our draft budget

2026 to 2027



Easy
Read

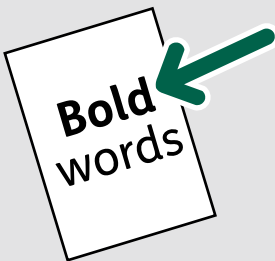
Easy Read



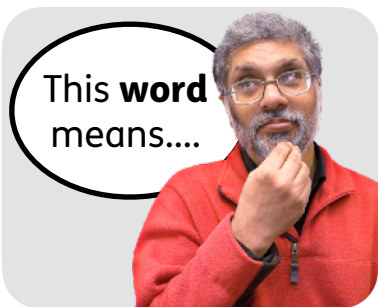
This is an Easy Read version of Surrey County Council's Budget. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

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About this booklet



We are Surrey County Council.

We run important services across Surrey.



Every year, we write a plan for how we are going to spend our money.

This plan is called a **budget**.



Before we agree on our budget, we write a **draft budget**.

A **draft budget** is where we write down our ideas and ask people what they think of them.



This is our draft budget for April 2026 to March 2027.

Tell us what you think



We want to know what you think of our ideas.



This will help us to decide on our final budget.



After you have read the information in this booklet, go back to the survey page on the website here:

surrey-county-council.civilspace.io/en/projects/surrey-county-council-2026-27-budget-consultation



You can answer these questions until Sunday 4 January 2026.

What we want Surrey to be like



We want Surrey to be a great place for everyone.



We want everyone to:

- Have a great start to life when they are children.



- Live healthy and happy lives.



- Be part of their local community.



We do not want to leave anyone out.

How we spend money



£1.2 billion

We spend about £1.2 billion each year.

We spend most of this on services for the people who need us most, like:



- Adult Social Care - this is care and support for people to live independently.



- Children's services.



- Services that keep people safe.

Our services



This part of the booklet is all about our services and how they spend money.



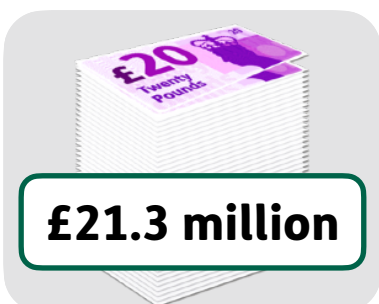
Our services are run by different teams.



We have less money to spend on services than we used to.



So our teams have made choices that will help us save money.



But we still need to save £21.3 million more.

Health, care and living well

This team supports people across Surrey, with services like:



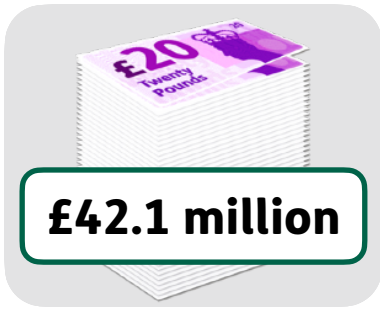
- Adult Social Care, which helps more than 23,000 people every year.



- Public Health, which helps to keep everyone healthy.



- Communities and Prevention, which supports people to be happy and healthy in their local areas.



This team thinks they will need to spend an extra £42.1 million next year.



This is mainly because more people need care and support.

This team has plans to:



- Get an extra £4.3 million to help pay for what they do.



- Save £17.8 million by working differently.

Children, families and learning

This team is in charge of:



- Social care for children.



- Schools in Surrey.



We have to spend a lot of money to help children who need extra support in school.



£20.4 million

This team thinks they will need to spend an extra £20.4 million next year.



This is mainly because more children need support to learn and grow.



They have plans to save £14.7 million.

Community protection and emergencies

This team keeps Surrey safe. They are in charge of services like:



- The fire service.



- Trading Standards – they stop companies from breaking the law.



- Keeping local areas safe.



- Helping in emergencies.



£2.4 million

This team thinks they will need to spend an extra £2.4 million next year.



This is mostly because they need to pay their staff more.



But they think that they can save £1.4 million.

Making places in Surrey better

This team is in charge of things that affect everyone, like:



- New buildings.



- Roads.



- Dealing with rubbish.



This team thinks they will need to spend an extra £6.9 million next year.



But they also think that they will be able to save £6.2 million.

Central support



This team supports the rest of our services to work well.



They also help customers who contact the Council.



They think that they will need to spend an extra £6.7 million next year.



But they think that they will be able to save £8.9 million by working differently.

Big projects



We are also planning how to spend money on big projects next year.

This includes projects like:



- Fixing roads and buildings.

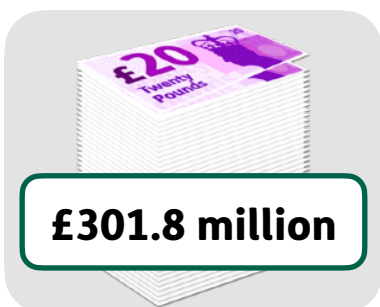


- Making our schools and libraries better.



- Looking after the **environment** and stopping floods.

The **environment** is everything around us, like plants, animals and the air.



We are planning to spend £301.8 million on these big projects.



Big projects cost more than they used to.



And we are not sure if things are going to keep getting more expensive in the future.



So we have made changes to make sure we can still afford these big projects.

Where our money comes from



Every year, we spend about £1.2 billion.



We get most of our money from **Council Tax**.

Council Tax is money that local people pay to us.

We also get money from:



- Local companies.



- Charging people to use some services.



We are finding it hard to pay for everything that we need to do.

So we are planning to charge people more Council Tax.



Most people would pay about £55 more each year.



We might need to charge people even more than this.



We know that many people are finding it hard to pay for all the things they need.



So we have to think hard about whether we will charge people more Council Tax.

If you need support



We know that people are finding it hard to pay for everything, including Council Tax.



We can help people who need it most.



You can go to our website to find help with money and health:
www.surreycc.gov.uk/health-and-welfare/support



You can also get help from your local district or borough council.

What to do next



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surrey-county-council.civilspace.io/en/projects/surrey-county-council-2026-27-budget-consultation



Answer the questions there to tell us what you think.

If the survey doesn't work or you need more help, you can contact us by:



- Email: contactcentre@surrey.gov.uk



- Post:
Surrey County Council
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