



**South
Derbyshire**
District Council

Annual Report 2015-2016



People | Place | Progress

www.south-derbys.gov.uk



**South
Derbyshire**
District Council

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Mercia Marina, Willington

South Derbyshire continues to be one of the fastest-growing districts in the UK, the population having increased by 15 per cent since 2001. By 2028, around 111,900 people are expected to call it home.

The area, which lies at the heart of The National Forest, is visited by more than two million tourists a year thanks to attractions like Rosliston Forestry Centre, Calke Abbey, Mercia Marina and Sharpe's Pottery Museum, while its 3,500 business enterprises – up from 3,100 in 2013 – have helped to create record numbers of people in work.

Figures such as these are a great source of pride to this Council, which in 2014 celebrated the 40th anniversary of its formation.

That anniversary was an opportunity to pause briefly and reflect on South Derbyshire's transformation from a clay and mining area to a thriving manufacturing, construction and retail economy. Since the Millennium the Council has focused on reinventing itself as a forward-looking "open for business" authority equipped to deliver success well into the future.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2016-21 sets out the way we intend to develop and further improve services over the next five years. The document makes clear our vision and values for South Derbyshire, based on People, Place, Progress and Outcomes.

By focusing our work around these themes and closely monitoring our performance against them we will continue to achieve more with less.

These are challenging times for local authorities. We need to continue to make budget savings in order for the minimum level of General Reserves to be sustained. We are well prepared and are already achieving good progress in many areas of service delivery.

In the past year Green Flag Awards have been granted to Swadlincote's Eureka Park and Church Gresley's Maurice Lea Memorial Park – the official mark of a quality green space.

Work has progressed quickly on dozens of new council homes for the District at sites in Linton, Swadlincote and Overseal, while record numbers of Council tenants were found to be satisfied with the service they are receiving from the authority.

Our Building Control team received a prestigious national award for their work on the Boardwalk at Mercia Marina in Willington. Plans to create a 'cycling legacy' in South Derbyshire will make the District one of the most attractive places to travel on two wheels.

Multinational companies such as Nestlé and Toyota continue to reinvest in an area that prides itself on its reputation as a place to do business. It was a year in which the future of foundations specialist Roger Bullivant Limited (RB), which employs more than 400

people in the District, was secured with the announcement that the firm was moving from its Drakelow base to industrial facilities in Hearthcote Road, Swadlincote, while the growth of steel lintel manufacturer Keystone Lintels has been impressive.

South Derbyshire Business Advice Service continues to offer free expert advice and support to those considering a start-up venture or those already self-employed. Working with our partners to keep crime and anti-social behaviour to a minimum has cemented South Derbyshire's reputation as one of the safest places to live in the county.

Exciting new events like the Swadlincote Festival of International Food and Crafts have drawn in thousands of visitors to the town, while the 'can do' spirit of its people was recognised by Sainsbury's, which announced a £1 million investment to reduce food waste under its Waste less, Save more initiative.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2016-21 is our pledge to the people of South Derbyshire that we will not rest on our laurels.

Our commitment to make this District a better place to live, work and visit remains as strong as ever.



Bob Wheeler

Bob Wheeler - Leader
South Derbyshire District Council



Frank McArdle

Frank McArdle - Chief Executive
South Derbyshire District Council



The Corporate Plan 2016-21

The Corporate Plan sets out the way in which South Derbyshire District Council intends to develop and further improve its services between 2016 and 2021.

It was approved following extensive consultation into South Derbyshire's needs, categorising them under three central themes: People, Place and Progress.

By focusing on and monitoring performance against the Council's responsibilities under each theme it hopes to achieve Outcomes of financial health, governance, customer focus, equality and diversity, environmental standards, a skilled workforce and democracy.

The Corporate Plan is central to our work as a Council – it sets out our values and vision for South Derbyshire and defines our priorities for delivering high-quality services.



Keystone Lintels in Swadlincote and, left, the town's Pipeworks development.

Our Vision

‘Making South Derbyshire a better place to live, work and visit’

Our Values

Throughout our work, we will:

- Put our residents first
- Set clear targets
- Act decisively
- Lead for success
- Actively listen and resolve problems
- Develop our staff
- Be driven by economy, effectiveness and efficiency

What We Do

- Promote and develop economic development, tourism, sport and leisure.
- Collect household rubbish and continue to promote recycling in innovative ways.
- Manage and maintain more than 3,000 Council homes and offer a homelessness prevention service to those in need.
- Carry out street cleaning, pest control and work to prevent pollution.
- Deal with planning applications, building regulations, tree preservation orders, listed buildings and heritage.
- Work to ensure that the food and drink in restaurants, cafes and pubs is safe to consume.
- Employ Safer Neighbourhood Wardens to make our communities cleaner and safer.
- Provide a 24-hour, 365-days-a-year emergency Careline service.
- Save money and the environment through energy efficiency schemes.
- Support voluntary groups, cultural activities and crime prevention work.
- Work with organisations on a wide variety of community projects for the benefit of residents.
- Collect Council Tax and Business Rates, pay Housing Benefits.



Attending Council meetings

All the Council's committees report back to Full Council meetings where their work can be considered by every Elected Member.

If you would like to come to see a committee or the Full Council in action, you can find a full calendar of meetings, as well as agendas and the minutes which record what was decided, by visiting the Council and Democracy section of our website at www.south-derbys.gov.uk.

Most of the meetings of the Council and its committees are open to the public. Occasionally some final agenda items are "exempt", which means that they can be discussed when only Councillors are present.

Items are exempt due to specific legal and contractual reasons or where individuals are identified.

The Finance and Management Committee ensures that all Council services are organised and funded effectively and efficiently.

The Environmental and Development Services Committee, alongside the Housing and Community Services Committee, sets out and monitors the work of Council staff to ensure the best possible services for the people of South Derbyshire.

The Council's Licensing and Appeals Committee handles licensing for entertainment, alcohol and

private hire drivers as well as any appeals on employment issues by Council staff.

In 2015-16 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee assisted the Finance and Management Committee to develop the Council's budget proposals, held a series of public meetings to discuss local Section 106 health-based planning contributions and set up a task group to consider the future cemetery needs of South Derbyshire.

The Planning Committee considers applications in relation to planning policy, the representations received from members of the public, consultation responses and the recommendations of the planning officer.

Tenant participation encourages individuals to make a real contribution to the decisions that affect their homes and communities. A Directory of Tenants details those interested in contributing to service delivery reviews. Participants are contacted when opportunities for involvement arise. There are currently 11 local tenants' area representatives, with plans to increase that number to 20 in the next two years.

Publications such as Housing Services' Annual Report, our tenants' magazine Housing News and our suite of leaflets ensure people are kept well informed.

Having your say at Area Forums

At these local meetings, local people can raise local issues. You can get involved in the decision-making process, find out more about Council services, express any concerns you might have as well as put forward your own ideas to add to your sense of community.

The meetings, held up to four times a year, cover the Etwall, Linton, Melbourne, Newhall, Repton and Swadlincote areas. Each starts with a Safer Neighbourhood meeting at 6.15pm, where community safety issues are discussed with Derbyshire Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers.

Through the commitment of people who attended these meetings, 14 local Safer Neighbourhood Projects were funded in 2015-16, including CCTV schemes, lighting and youth activities. High-visibility items such as snap bands and smiley stickers were purchased and given out to primary school pupils, while three 'Your Choice' events at secondary schools saw guest speakers provide thought-provoking and inspirational talks to the students.

There is a second meeting, beginning at 7.30pm, which is dedicated to District and County Council matters. Senior and specialist staff take part in the meetings, which are usually

attended by District, County and Parish Councillors.

Every year at the Area Forums, local residents are involved in deliberations about the rate at which Council Tax should be set.

The dates of Area Forums, agendas and minutes can be found on our website at: www.south-derbys.gov.uk/areaforums

Tell us what you think about Council services

To tell us your opinions on Council services or how we have dealt with an issue, please contact Customer Services. Alternatively, download and complete the Comments, Compliments and Complaints form found on our website www.south-derbys.gov.uk

If you wish to make a complaint about a Councillor, please visit the Standards and Behaviour section of our website at www.south-derbys.gov.uk/standards

Your District Councillors

Aston-on-Trent			Church Gresley			Etwall		Willington & Findern		Hatton	Hilton			Linton		Melbourne	
																	
Neil Atkin	Hilary Coyle	Peter Watson	Gordon Rhind	Trevor Southerd	Stuart Swann	Lisa Brown	David Muller	Martyn Ford	Andrew MacPherson	Andrew Roberts	Andrew Billings	Julie Patten	Amy Plenderleith	John Grant	Bob Wheeler	John Harrison	Jim Hewlett
Midway			Newhall & Stanton			Repton		Seales		Stenson		Swadlincote		Woodville			
																	
Paul Dunn	Robert Pearson	John Wilkins	Sean Bambrick	Kevin Richards	Linda Stuart	Peter Smith	Michael Stanton	Margaret Hall	Patrick Murray	Manjit Chahal	David Shepherd	Robert Coe	Neil Tilley	Sandra Wyatt	Kim Coe	Gillian Farrington	Steve Taylor

In researching our Corporate Plan 2016-21, it became clear that the things important to the District and its success are its People, Places and Progress, with the latter focused on economic development.

Underpinning every one of our activities are Outcomes including customer service, financial efficiency and environmental responsibility. These are included in the Corporate Plan to demonstrate their importance and to enable measures and projects to be set against them.

The activities listed beneath each heading could often easily sit under another, reflecting our belief that viewing individual services in isolation will fail to deliver the high quality and integrated approach the District needs to succeed.

Here is a snapshot of what has been achieved in 2015-16 under our new themes:

People - Keeping residents healthy, happy and safe

Get Active in the Forest's **dementia walks**, held at **Rosliston Forestry Centre** and designed specifically for those living with the condition and their carers, were extended following a successful pilot.

Free tennis sessions aimed at the over-50s were introduced at Church Gresley's Maurice Lea Memorial Park in a bid to increase physical activity in a fun and informal way.

Record numbers of Council tenants (93 per cent) were found to be satisfied with the service they are receiving from the authority through the Survey of Tenants and Residents (STAR).

A Church Gresley man became the first person in South Derbyshire to be successfully prosecuted under

new legislation allowing authorities to **regulate the trade of scrap metal**.

Sporting stars, dedicated volunteers and a raft of other inspirational individuals were officially recognised for their achievements in the **District's annual sports awards**. The Junior Sportsperson of the Year gong was won jointly by footballer, cricketer and skier Lara Shaw and table tennis star Helena Dicken.

Two long-serving football coaches – Bob Errington and Dave Jacobs – were presented with plaques by Council Chairman Cllr Neil Atkin to recognise their **dedication to nurturing young talent** at Repton Casuals Football Club.

Twenty Christmas hampers were made up and delivered to those in need by youngsters involved in Housing Services' Dreamscheme project.



A **Community Food Hub** to bring together people from all walks of life to enjoy a meal together was introduced. Run in partnership with Derbyshire County Council and South Derbyshire CVS, around 30 people regularly attended bi-monthly meal events in the first three months of the scheme.

A **new jogging group** designed to get people of all ages out and active was launched. Aston Joggers was set up as part of the **Jog Derbyshire initiative**.

Nine numberplate security operations were held across the District, with more than 300 vehicles secured.

A **weekly 5km parkrun** – an international scheme encouraging people to get jogging – was introduced at Rosliston Forestry Centre.

An animated **Champions of Recycling video** designed to help reach a new generation of recyclers was launched.

Supermarket **Sainsbury's announced a £1 million investment in Swadlincote** to reduce food waste under the Waste less, Save more initiative.

The **annual South Derbyshire Day** took place at Derby County FC's iPro Stadium, celebrating the District and the contribution made by its volunteers.

Representatives from across the private, public and voluntary sectors came together to share ideas to make South Derbyshire a **'Dementia Friendly Community'**, under which strategies will be put in place to improve inclusion and quality of life for those living with dementia, their families, friends and carers.

An **Active Adults programme** aimed at those aged 60 and above was introduced at Etwell Leisure Centre.

A **beacon was lit** in Swadlincote's Eureka Park to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Plans to bring **outdoor table tennis facilities** to South Derbyshire were announced after the Council secured a grant from Tesco's Bags of Help initiative.

"Our focus on people is about equipping residents with the skills to do local jobs and giving them the opportunity to take part in a whole range of activities."

Stuart Batchelor, SDDC Director of Community & Planning



THE
CHAMPIONS
OF
RECYCLING



The Queen's 90th birthday beacon at Eureka Park.



Place - Creating vibrant communities to meet residents' needs



A project to **commemorate those who died in World War One** was completed. The Environmental Education Project team, part of the Council, used a £9,800 Heritage Lottery Fund grant to **create history trails throughout the District**.

Green Flag Awards – the mark of a quality green space – were officially bestowed upon **Swadlincote's Eureka Park** and **Church Gresley's Maurice Lea Memorial Park**. It was the second year running that both parks had received such recognition.

Ceremonies were held to mark building progress at three South Derbyshire sites which will **provide dozens of new council homes for the District** – the 23-home Coton Croft in Coton Park, Linton; a 10-home development in Pennine Way, Swadlincote; and a 12-home scheme in Lullington Road, Overseal.

A programme of work to ensure that South Derbyshire's **cemeteries are safe for everyone** who visits them continued in Newhall with memorial safety testing at St John's churchyard and Newhall Cemetery.

BBC Radio 2 Folk music award-winner Blair Dunlop gave a performance at Milton Village Hall under the **Live & Local scheme**.

A public consultation was launched on Part 2 of the **South Derbyshire Local Plan**, the document that will guide the number of homes to be built in the District up to 2028. Part 2 of the Local Plan is the section that will allocate sites in the District for developments of fewer than 100 homes. It will also identify areas of green space

which are of particular importance to local communities and would be protected from future development, with topics such as retail, heritage and educational facilities also covered.

Housing Services, under the Dreamscheme project, created a '**community allotment**' at the Midway Allotments in Chestnut Avenue, which will be cared for and managed on a voluntary basis to act both as an educational resource and to provide fresh food to those who need it.

The **Council's Housing Strategy** 2016-21, which sets out how future housing needs in the District will be met, was unveiled. The document makes clear priorities such as satisfying the demand for affordable properties, along with details about how the District's most vulnerable residents will be protected.



"In one of the country's fastest-growing areas we're striving for continual improvement of services including planning, housing, environmental services and leisure and cultural facilities."

Mike Haynes, SDDC Director of Housing & Environmental Services

The **Wednesday Night Project**, designed to engage young people and allow them to express themselves, was launched at Swadlincote's former Market Hall.

A **£50,500 skate park** was installed at Newhall Park.

Plans to create a 'cycling legacy' in South Derbyshire and make the District **one of the most attractive places to travel on two wheels** were unveiled. The vision was ignited by news that the world's top female cyclists were to race through the area on Stage 4 of the Aviva Women's Tour 2016.

A **free trees giveaway** to all South Derbyshire residents, schools and community groups took place,

designed to help the District become even greener and more aesthetically pleasing.

A survey asking people to **help shape the development of sporting and recreational facilities** in South Derbyshire up to 2028 was conducted. The results will help to form the emerging Open Space, Sport and Community Facility Strategy.



Youngsters try out the skate park at Newhall Park.





Swadlincote's **award-winning monthly farmers' market** continued to go from strength to strength, offering the finest food from The National Forest and beyond. Its varying themes included British asparagus, strawberries and cream, Halloween treats and National Butchers' Week.

More than **70 walks catering for every age, taste and ability** were enjoyed as part of The National Forest Walking Festival 2015.

Thousands of people flocked to enjoy a mixture of vintage vehicles and family entertainment as part of the annual **Swadlincote Festival of Transport**, which transformed the town centre into a trip down memory lane.

Seventy-five per cent of the 600-plus food retail and catering businesses in South Derbyshire received the **maximum 'five' rating** for hygiene standards from the Council's Environmental Health team.

The future of foundations specialist **Roger Bullivant Limited (RB)** was secured with the announcement that the firm was moving from its Drakelow base to **new state-of-the-art facilities** in Hearthcote Road, Swadlincote. The company employs more than 400 people in South Derbyshire.

A free **'Thinking of starting a business?'** session took place in Swadlincote, organised by the South Derbyshire Business Advice Service and aimed at those considering a start-up venture or already self-employed.

A **Business Breakfast** was held at Willington's Mercia Marina, giving companies a chance to broaden their horizons and learn about grants and new business opportunities.

The state-of-the-art **Swadlincote Golf Centre** was officially opened.

The High Sheriff of Derbyshire Oliver Stephenson officially opened Swadlincote's first ever **Antiques, Collectables and Vintage Fair**.

The Swadlincote Townscape Heritage Fund, a project managed by the Council, **secured more than £400,000** from the Heritage Lottery Fund to further improve the town centre.

Swadlincote's first ever **Festival of International Food and Crafts** attracted thousands of people keen to sample paella, kangaroo meat, fine chocolates, continental beers and artisan sausages, as well as a craft market, live music and children's activities.

A **free course**, delivered on behalf of the D2N2 Growth Hub in partnership with the Council, promised to help businesses produce **'Champagne Marketing on a Lemonade Budget.'**

The Council's Building Control team received a **prestigious national award** for its work on **The Boardwalk at Mercia Marina**, which was named best small commercial building at the grand final of the Local Authority Building Control Building Excellence Awards.

The first ever **Swadlincote Spring Wedding Fair** featured 50 local businesses and attracted first-time visitors to the town from as far afield as Blackpool.

Thousands of people turned out for the annual **Swadlincote Christmas lights switch-on**, part of a three-day celebration which included the monthly farmers' market.

Hundreds of people turned up to the **annual Swadlincote Jobs Fair**, where more than 70 exhibitors offered around 1,500 roles and 120 apprenticeships. Youngsters from four South Derbyshire schools were invited to 'have a go' at a series of new skills, with major employers present including Dellner, 3aaa and Northgate Public Services.

"We are committed to growing and diversifying our strong economy to show that South Derbyshire is well and truly open for business."

Frank McArdle,
SDDC Chief Executive



Swadlincote Festival of Transport



Payment machines were introduced at the Council's Civic Offices in a bid to reduce waiting times for customers. The two paypoints process money securely within 24 hours and accept Council Tax, planning, licensing and housing rental payments and currently complete between 900 and 1,000 transactions per month.

A **specially designed leaflet** was produced to combat the biggest cause of noise complaints in South Derbyshire – barking dogs.

Almost **£300,000 was handed out to 22 South Derbyshire groups and projects** committed to improving people's quality of life under the Community Partnership Scheme, from a scout group and parish councils to a cricket club, churches and village halls.

The Council scooped the **Gold award** – meaning it is going above and beyond the call of duty – in the **RoSPA Occupational Health and Safety Awards 2015**. It was the fifth consecutive year it had been named among the winners, with recognition afforded to the high standards shown across the organisation to keep residents, visitors and staff safe.

Almost **42,000 Housing Electoral Registration Enquiry Forms** were delivered to homes across South Derbyshire to ensure an up-to-date electoral register and to encourage people to register to vote in upcoming elections.

The Council stepped up measures to ensure residents were not incorrectly or fraudulently claiming money by issuing postal reminders with Benefits-related correspondence, as well as using **new software technology** to identify credit data and therefore changes in circumstances. One South Derbyshire resident was handed a suspended jail sentence after admitting wrongly claiming more than £15,400 in Benefits.

Additional income received from business rates and planning fees helped the Council to **achieve a budget surplus** in 2015-16, further strengthening an overall financial position which had been steadily improving in recent years.

The hashtag **#SDwhatson**, indicating 'South Derbyshire what's on', was introduced on social media to help create an instantly searchable directory of upcoming events in the District at the click of a mouse button or touch of a screen.

A **Community Governance Review** to establish whether or not a parish council would be created commenced, following the submission of a petition from the Newhall and Stanton Parish Council Campaign Group.



"Improving our workforce and operations, delivering quality services at a reasonable cost, maintaining stable and sustainable finances and being environmentally responsible are crucial in our work."

Kevin Stackhouse,
SDDC Director of Finance
& Corporate Services



The Council and its operational centres achieved the **revised ISO14001 standard for environmental management**, making the authority one of the first organisations internationally to be awarded it and be recognised for adopting enhanced methods of managing environmental impact. The management framework has seen significant energy reduction and cost savings at leisure centre sites, for example.

A focus on sustainable development and renewable energy has seen the Council facilitate a **3.5MW solar farm on a brownfield site** in Linton, helping it in its aim to be positioned as a leading signatory in the Local Government Association's Climate Local commitment.

An **online guide** to help people understand their 2016-17 Council Tax bill went live on the Council's website. It was one of a number of improvements made to the site, based on an analysis of visitors, to improve navigation and cater for customer demand.





The clubhouse at the £2.5m sporting hub project in Melbourne.

By working in partnership with other organisations and by offering sustained support to voluntary and other local groups, South Derbyshire continues to achieve more for less.

Evidence of the value of these partnerships appears throughout this report. Partners with whom we work include:

Active Nation

Active Nation manages the Green Bank Leisure Centre in Swadlincote and Etwall Leisure Centre in partnership with the Council. Each of these centres has undergone extensive refurbishment work.

Citizens Advice

South Derbyshire District Council helps to fund Citizens Advice so that it can continue providing vital support and advice on issues such as employment and debt.

Derbyshire County Council / Parish Councils

South Derbyshire District Council, Derbyshire County Council and Parish Councils work in conjunction on a vast array of projects designed to benefit local people.

Law:Public

When required Law:Public offers the Council's legal team additional expertise across its broad range of legal services.

Melbourne Sporting Partnership

South Derbyshire District Council is working with clubs from five different sports to develop facilities costing £2.5 million at Cockshut Lane Recreation Ground.

Northgate Public Services

Northgate Public Services (NPS) works with the Council to provide its corporate services and deliver extra value for money. During the partnership, NPS has guaranteed to make savings of £2.1 million and spend £1.9 million on the upgrade of IT systems and services.

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership

This is the statutory Community Safety Partnership for South Derbyshire. It brings together agencies to reduce and prevent incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in the District.



"When we set out in search of a Waste less, Save more town we never thought we'd get the overwhelming response and enthusiasm that we've seen from South Derbyshire."
Sainsbury's CEO Mike Coupe



South Derbyshire CVS

South Derbyshire CVS chairs the Strategic Volunteering Partnership which is assisted by the District Council to support all forms of volunteering in South Derbyshire.

South Derbyshire Sport

South Derbyshire Sport focuses on increasing sports participation by young people. More than 1,400 young people attended the 37 Summer Activities sessions held in the District's parks during the summer of 2015.

The National Forest Company

The National Forest Company is a co-sponsor with Rolls-Royce of the Environmental Education Project which works to develop knowledge, respect and understanding of the environment. It also supports events and walking schemes.

The South Derbyshire School Sports Partnership

The partnership is managed by the Council's Sport and Health team. It has had great success with activities for young people including competitions and festivals, school games, leadership and volunteering and Bikeability.

The South Derbyshire Partnership

This partnership of the public, private and voluntary sector promotes South Derbyshire through three groups which focus on community safety, sustainable development and health and wellbeing.



Village Games

Supports local activity through a range of events, from chair-based exercise to youth group support.

The Forestry Commission

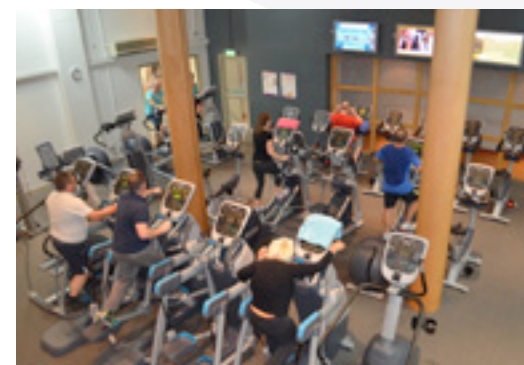
South Derbyshire District Council jointly owns Rosliston Forestry Centre in partnership with The Forestry Commission.

Sainsbury's

The supermarket has invested £1 million in Swadlincote under its Waste less, Save more initiative, which during 2016 hopes to reduce food waste in the area by 50 per cent.

Other partnerships the Council works in conjunction with include:

- Aurora Country Developments Ltd
- Derbyshire Sport
- John Port School
- People Express
- Public Health England
- Rolls-Royce
- Central Midlands Audit Partnership
- Local Energy Area Partnership
- Home Improvement Agency
- Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group
- D2N2 Better Business Regulation Partnership
- Sport England
- The Community Partnership Scheme
- The Football Foundation
- The National Lottery
- The NHS

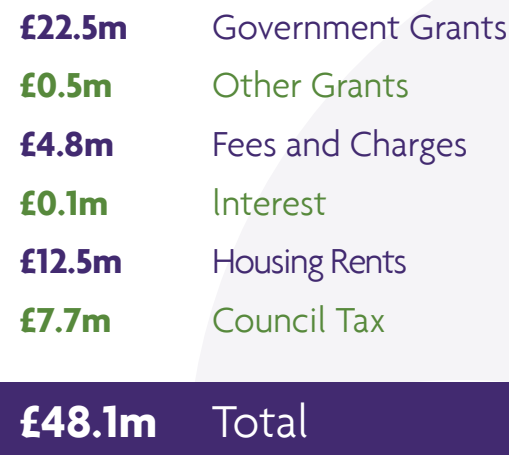


Our Income

Our total income for 2015-2016 was £48.1 million compared to £49.8 million in 2014-2015.

This came from grants, housing rents, Council Tax, fees and interest.

In 2015-2016, our element of the Council Tax remained the same as 2014-2015. This gave a Band D Council Tax of £150.25, significantly less than the national average of £168 for shire district councils. The figure for housing rents pays for local authority housing.



Our Expenditure

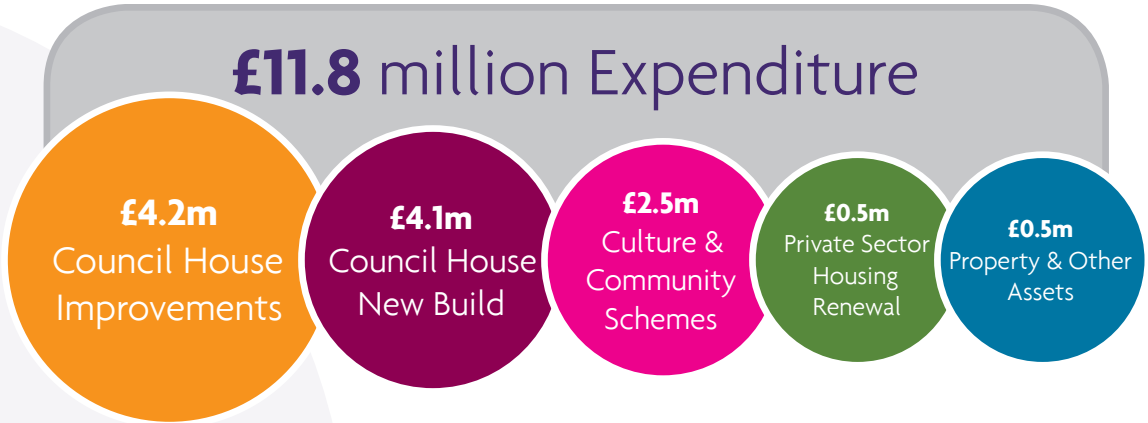
Our revenue account shows the costs of running our services. In 2015-2016, we spent a total of £44.6 million on delivering services. This was 2% less than the £45.7 million we spent on services in 2014-2015. The decrease was mainly due to some budget reductions, together with expenditure on housing benefits. Our revenue also shows the costs of delivering our priorities and the amount left to be financed from local and national tax income.

What We Spent on Services



What We Spent on Land and Property

Our **capital account** sets out the money we spend on buying and improving our land and property so we can offer first-class public facilities. In 2015-2016, we spent £11.8 million on our land and property assets. We financed this through £1.8 million of grants and contributions and £10 million from capital receipts and reserves.



**Culture and community schemes includes Grove Hall £0.9m and Melbourne Sporting Partnership £0.9m*

At the end of the financial year we draw up a balance sheet that shows how much our land and buildings are worth, what we owe others, what others owe us and how much cash we have. Our net worth is £46.4 million.

Our balance sheet: 31 March 2016

Revenue Reserves & Balances		Net Assets	
£8.4m	General Balances	£118m	Value of Land & Property
£24.5m	Unusable Reserves <small>(offsets the values of the Council's assets and its pension deficit)</small>	£15.1m	Liquid Assets
£7.6m	Capital Reserves	-£86.7m	Less Money Owed By Us
£5.9m	Earmarked Reserves		
£46.4m Net Worth		£46.4m Total	

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services' Statement



The Council was able to achieve a budget surplus in 2015-2016, mainly due to additional income being received from business rates and planning fees. This has further strengthened the Council's overall financial position, which had been steadily improving in recent years.

Due to anticipated reductions in core funding it's likely that the Council will need to address budget deficits from 2018-2019, but it is considered that the authority is in a good position to meet this challenge.

The Council's external auditors Ernst & Young were appointed to review our 2015-2016 accounts. We received an unqualified audit opinion and Full Council approved these accounts on September 22, 2016. A full copy of the audited statement of accounts is available on our website at: <http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk>

Kevin Stackhouse
Director of Finance and Corporate Services, South Derbyshire District Council

Follow us on:



@SDDC

@SDDCsport

@RFC1993

@RoslistonEnvEd

@SharpesMuseum

@SwadlincoteTIC

@SwadTeam

@MarketsSwad

Follow us on:



South Derbyshire Environmental Health

South Derbyshire Sport

SDDC Housing

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership

Rosliston Forestry Centre

Roger Badger

Environmental Education Project at

Rosliston Forestry Centre

Sharpe's Pottery Museum

Swadlincote Tourist Information

National Forest Walking Festival

Swadlincote Town Team

Swadlincote Markets

Swadlincote Townscape Heritage Scheme



Pictures courtesy of:

Northgate Public Services

The Keystone Group

Judi Whileman (Get Active in the Forest)

Roger Bullivant Limited (RB)

Stagg Communications

The National Forest Company/Chris Beech