

**South
Derbyshire**
District Council

Annual Report 2014-2015



South Derbyshire Changing for the better

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It's been a year of milestones in South Derbyshire.

In 2014, the district reached the big 40 – it was formed in April 1974 as a merger of the Swadlincote Urban District along with Repton Rural District and part of South East Derbyshire Rural District.

At that time the Council's motto of 'The Earth, Our Wealth' largely reflected its mining and clay working history, but in the four decades since there has been a remarkable reinvention of the area as a manufacturing, construction and retail economy that has thrived on population growth.

The earth is, indeed, still South Derbyshire's most prized asset – the planting of millions of trees, to the point where the district now boasts nearly a third of the ever-growing National Forest, is testament to that.

An overall vision to make South Derbyshire a clean, green and safe place to be has paid huge dividends. It remains one of the fastest-growing districts in the country, the population having increased by 4% since 2011.

It covers an area of approximately 340 sq km and, according to the Office for National Statistics, more than 98,000 people now call it home.

A focus on South Derbyshire's rural credentials now helps to pull in upwards of two million visitors a year. Popular attractions like Sharpe's Pottery Museum, in Swadlincote, and Calke Abbey show how the area's history is embraced to create a prosperous tomorrow.

Rosliston Forestry Centre, one of the jewels in its crown, also celebrated a landmark anniversary – 20 years ago it was the first visitor centre to be opened in the National Forest and now attracts

around 180,000 visitors a year.

Business continues to boom, with multinational companies such as JCB, Bison, Nestle and Toyota all taking advantage of the area's dedicated and skilled workforce.

South Derbyshire boasts 3,180 business enterprises, up from 3,100 in 2013, resulting in record numbers of people in work. In April 2015 there were just 494 unemployed people in the District, representing 0.8% of the population aged 16 to 64 and significantly below the national average (1.9%).

For those who do need a helping hand into employment, the Business Advice Service offers free expert advice and has hosted several sessions aimed at budding entrepreneurs and those who have recently become self-employed. It is a scheme that goes from strength to strength.

The annual Swadlincote Jobs Fair again proved popular, attracting hundreds of people to Green Bank Leisure Centre, where more than 1,000 roles were on offer.

The drive to improve leisure facilities and increase people's participation in physical activity continued with the completion of a £600,000 investment at Green Bank.

There is all of this – and yet there's so much more of the South Derbyshire story to tell.

The major features of a £547,000 refurbishment and restoration project at Swadlincote's Eureka Park are now complete, while work begun on Coton Croft, the first council-owned housing development for a generation.

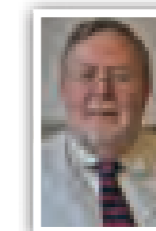
South Derbyshire's Environmental Education Project (EEP), based at

Rosliston Forestry Centre for more than two decades, was recognised by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, emphasising the quality of the learning experiences on offer through the project.

South Derbyshire's reputation as one of the safest places in the county has been strengthened thanks to work to keep crime and anti-social behaviour to a minimum, while recycling rates rocketed following the introduction of the Easy Green Recycling Scheme.

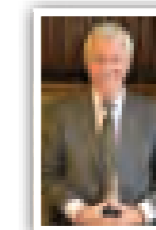
The Council works tirelessly to use taxpayers' money to benefit local people. In March 2014, thanks to a balanced budget and strong financial reserves, council tax was frozen for a fourth consecutive year, while an 'efficiency dividend' scheme was announced to give a portion of council tax bills back to residents.

This Annual Report will show you how we are striving to make life better in South Derbyshire, working with our partners towards this common goal. Providing value for money is our commitment to you.



Bob Wheeler

Bob Wheeler - Leader
South Derbyshire District Council



Frank McArdle

Frank McArdle - Chief Executive
South Derbyshire District Council



Our Values

- Put our customers first
- Set clear targets
- Act decisively
- Lead for success
- Develop our people
- Treat people fairly
- Actively listen and resolve problems
- Maintain value for money through continuous improvement



Open for Business

Unemployment in South Derbyshire continued to fall, with the growth of indigenous companies such as Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK (pictured below right) and JCB (pictured above), and the attraction of new businesses. Inward investments and reinvestments have been seen across all sizes of companies and a variety of sectors, including the following:

Brunel Healthcare Manufacturing, which packages in excess of three billion tablets each year, undertook a £5 million investment in a major new facility that will add 100 jobs.

Rapidly growing bespoke timber staircase manufacturer Two Twenty opened its purpose-built new premises at Foston and added to its workforce of skilled craftsmen.

Advance LED lighting solutions, which specialises in bespoke lighting for retail, refrigeration and transport, relocated to a larger unit at Hilton allowing it to expand and increase its research and development capability.

Clipper Logistics took on a 240,000 sq ft warehouse at Tetron Point in Swadlincote, offering some 200 new jobs.

Thousands attended the opening of 'The Boardwalk' at Mercia Marina in Willington, where the new building has added office space for businesses plus a farm shop, fashion/gift stores, beauty salon and a central bar-restaurant to the existing attractions.

What We Do

Promote and develop economic development, tourism, sport and leisure.

Collect household rubbish and continue to promote recycling.

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, pay Housing Benefits and Council Tax Benefits.



Your District Councillors



■ Conservative ■ Labour

Get involved in the Council's work

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 involved.

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, set out and monitor 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 2014-15 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee assisted the Finance and Management Committee to develop the Council's budget proposals and carried out an in-depth analysis of NHS dentistry provision in South Derbyshire, as well as exploring the potential for introducing automated payment machines at the Civic Offices.

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 and resident participation encourages individuals to make a real contribution to the decisions that affect their homes and communities. Ways to get involved in housing include the South Derbyshire Tenants Panel and the Publications Panel on which members look at the content and design of all our publications, including Housing Services' Annual Report, our tenants' magazine Housing News and our suite of leaflets to ensure they are relevant, interesting and easy to read.

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 quarterly meetings 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 local Derbyshire Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers taking part.

Through the commitment of people who attended these meetings, 10 local Safer Neighbourhoods projects were funded in 2014-15, including CCTV installations at

Overseal Village Hall, Rosliston Village Hall and Frank Wickham Hall in Etwall, as well as the replacement of a damaged boundary fence in Stenson Fields and the fitting security cameras and an alarm system at Hartshorne Community Pavilion.

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 the 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



The **South Derbyshire Business Advice Service** assisted 195 existing and new businesses, with advice ranging from registering a new company to marketing a new product. In addition, 85 individuals attended workshops and seminars staged by the Business Advice Service to help those thinking about starting a business. Its support enabled a number of South Derbyshire businesses to secure grants and loans to expand their operations, purchase new equipment, extend premises and take on additional employees.

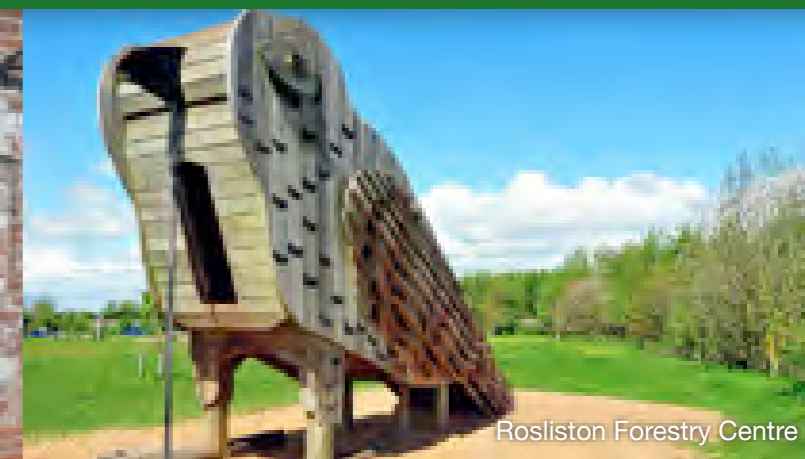
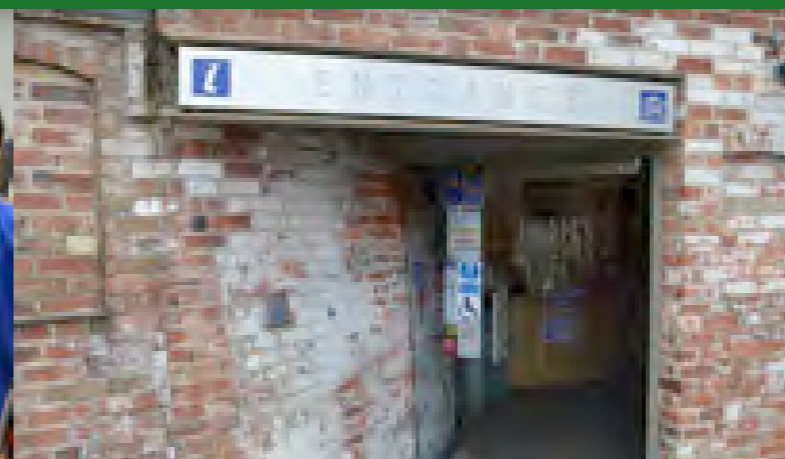
One entrepreneur to benefit from the service was Spencer Bloomfield, whose **YOLO Food Company** accessed cash to open a new 2,000 sq ft HQ at the Viking Business Centre in Woodville, producing around 1,000 pre-prepared healthy meals each week.

In a further boost for the District's businesses, a project offering them free **health and safety advice** was extended as part of a drive to create jobs and boost industry.

Demand to attend the annual **Swadlincote Jobs Fair** (pictured above) proved so high that it had to be moved to a larger venue – the town's Green Bank Leisure Centre. Hundreds of people attended, keen to secure one of more than 1,000 roles on offer.

Themes ranging from the Commonwealth Games through to celebrating St George helped to ensure that **Swadlincote Farmers' Market** continued to grow in popularity. It culminated in the market winning the regional heats of the prestigious BBC Food and Farming Awards in the 'Best Food Market' category, beating off competition from Bakewell and Erewash.

The **Swadlincote Festival of Transport** – organised by The Box Motor Club in Woodville and Swadlincote Rotary Club – returned for a second year, when thousands of visitors enjoyed the display of classic and modern vehicles, as well as crafts, live entertainment and even a visit from the Daleks.



The **National Forest Walking Festival 2014**, in its eight year and part-funded by the District Council, returned with 71 walks spread over 12 days, aimed at people of all ages and abilities. Around 1,100 people – an average of more than 15 per walk – took part.

In a football World Cup year, support was offered by the Council to allow local pubs to stay open late during some England matches, helping to bring the community together and **boost the night-time economy**.

A consultation event was held to give people the chance to have their say on shaping the future of Swadlincote town centre. It was hosted under the **Swadlincote Townscape Heritage Scheme**, a project managed by the Council and seeking to win financial backing from the Heritage Lottery Fund to make the town even more attractive.

The visitor economy of the National Forest is now worth some £337 million and supports around 4,500 full-time equivalent jobs. Around a third of this spend comes from the 720,000 visitors who stay in the area, with the remaining two-thirds from the 6.4 million local residents and people who visit for the day. **Swadlincote Tourist Information Centre** handled more than 9,000 individual enquiries, with thousands more accessing visitor information online.

The **What's On in South Derbyshire** publication is published three times a year both in printed form and online, backed up by the widescale promotion of events across the District via social media.

Work is at an advanced stage on the **Local Plan**, which is designed to help South Derbyshire grow and flourish up until 2028 by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure accompanies future development.

"I don't think we'd be in the strong position we're in today without the support of the South Derbyshire Business Advice Service" - David Guilford, Managing Director of DG Light Haulage



The **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership** continued to work across the District to maintain its position as one of the safest in the county – it had the second-lowest number of incidents of anti-social behaviour in the whole of Derbyshire in 2014-15.

The District's first **Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)** was secured against a prolific shoplifter, closely followed by a second. The CBO replaced the ASBO and was introduced to give communities more power to deal with anti-social behaviour.

The 12th annual **Liberation Day** was a huge success, with hundreds of over-55s enjoying a day of nostalgia and picking up information on how to stay safe and secure.

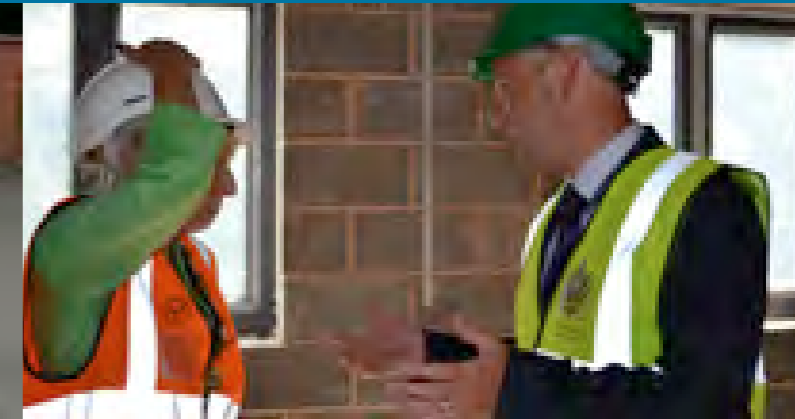
The then Government Planning Minister Nick Boles visited Davidsons Homes' award-winning 'Millbrook' development in Melbourne, the first development in South

Derbyshire to be given the highest rating in the **Ourplace quality design scheme**, adopted by the District Council.

A scheme to fit **tamperproof numberplate screws** to vehicles was stepped up at a series of events across South Derbyshire, including in Melbourne, Scropton, Willington and Castle Gresley.

Swadlincote Skate Park was relaunched following a £50,000, year-long modernisation and upgrade project, shaped and sculpted by youngsters. A permanent mural (pictured below) was also created and unveiled in tribute to former user Mark 'Frodo' Haywood, 21, who was tragically killed in a road accident.

More than 20 banners were put up outside primary schools across South Derbyshire as part of national **Road Safety Week**, to encourage parents to make safety their top priority on the school run.



Work began on the first council-owned housing development in South Derbyshire for a generation. The **Coton Croft project**, in Coton Park, Linton, will be made up of 23 affordable one, two, three and four-bedroom houses. We will invest £108 million over the next 30 years to ensure that the Council maintains and exceeds the Decent Homes Standard.

Trent & Dove Housing celebrated the completion of 41 new social homes at **'Majestic Place'** in Swadlincote, delivered in partnership with the District Council.

Midway is set to get a much-needed **community centre** on land owned by the District Council. Work is ongoing to deliver the 400 sq m facility at Chestnut Avenue Recreation Ground, which will sit alongside two newly laid football pitches and a children's play area.

Our **Careline Service** (pictured below right), which helps around 1,600 vulnerable people to remain independent, is blossoming at Oakland Village in Swadlincote. A total of 37,970 calls were dealt with between April 2014 and the end of March 2015.

An Iraq war survivor was one of four inspirational individuals chosen to help encourage South Derbyshire youngsters to fulfil their potential in life. The **'Your Choice'** event saw the quartet speak to pupils at Newhall's William Allitt School, Granville Sports College in Woodville and Swadlincote's Pingle School.

The Friday Night Project – set up to offer activities to youngsters in Woodville and held at Granville Sports College – toasted its sixth birthday.

The Council's **Dreamscheme**, which works with youngsters on community projects and then rewards them for their hard work, teamed up with Overseal Parish Council to transform a local youth shelter and IT suites in the village hall.

"Keepmoat is pleased to be working alongside South Derbyshire District Council to help provide vital new homes."
Martin Smithurst, Keepmoat.



The annual **Festival of Leisure** weekend at Church Gresley's Maurice Lea Memorial Park attracted around 10,000 people as it cemented its reputation as one of the highlights of the local calendar.

Swadlincote's new-look **Eureka Park** was officially reopened following a £547,000 restoration project. Its features include a new performance area, a giant sundial (pictured bottom left), refurbished world war memorial gates and terraced areas of planting to inject some floral colour.

A £15,000 **outdoor gym** (pictured bottom right) was unveiled at Newhall Park as part of a wider scheme to improve this well-used public space.

State-of-the-art facilities were unveiled at **Green Bank Leisure Centre** (pictured below) in Swadlincote following a £600,000 investment. Work included the creation of a 30-cycle spin studio, an upgrade of the fitness changing area as well as a modernised café, reception, crèche and meeting room.

The high-quality facilities at **Etwall Leisure Centre** persuaded Australia's national badminton team to make it their training base ahead of the Commonwealth Games.

South Derbyshire Sport served up an ace with news that the courts at both Swadlincote's Eureka Park and Maurice Lea Memorial Park, in Church Gresley, would be free for everyone to use, 365 days a year.

The Village Games project introduced 'walking football' to South Derbyshire for the first time, aimed at getting those aged over 50 physically active.

The District Council donated 100 bags on nutrient-rich compost to aid the planting of **150 fruit trees** at Melbourne's Whistlewood Common, while a free trees scheme returned for a 12th year to offer Crab Apple, Field Maple, Wild Cherry and Whitebeam to residents, schools and community groups.



The **South Derbyshire Sports Awards** recognises outstanding performers, volunteers and unsung heroes in the District. Etwall's Thomas Taylor (pictured above) was named Sportsperson of the Year for helping to secure gold for the Archery GB Junior Men's team at the World Youth Games in Moscow.

The Tale of Jemima Puddleduck was the first of a series of family shows held at outdoor arena The Glade, at Rosliston Forestry Centre. **Gladefest** – 12 hours of live music and entertainment – returned for a third year and pulled in 300 people.

More than **9,000 events** – a record number – to entertain youngsters during the summer months and school half-term holidays were held. Activities included track and field athletics as well as an inflatable arena for football, hockey, table tennis and dodge ball.

Rosliston Forestry Centre celebrated its 20th birthday in style with a photographic exhibition, food fair and bake-off challenge.

Figures showed that more food businesses were meeting the **top food hygiene rating** than anywhere else across the East Midlands, with more than 75 per cent given perfect marks by the District Council's Environmental Health team.

The efforts of green-fingered gardeners were rewarded in the 10 categories of the Council's annual **Can You Dig It?** awards, which recognise those going above and beyond to spruce up their homes and communities.

Work continued apace to enhance leisure facilities at Melbourne's Cockshut Lane Recreation Ground under the **Melbourne Sporting Partnership** project. Designs for the clubhouse, tennis courts, car parking and artificial grass pitch were all finalised and tenders were sent out.

The successful delivery of a range of Public Health-commissioned services included **Healthy Lifestyle Hubs** (GP Referral scheme), **Walking For Health** and **Five/60** (young people's physical activity and nutrition programme).



"What better way to immerse yourself in the National Forest than on your own two feet?"
Debbie Chesterman, National Forest Walking Festival



While the economic outlook started to brighten this year, we are aware that challenges remain and that is why South Derbyshire District Council aims to provide value for money to residents and hard-working families.

We know every penny counts and so Council Tax for 2014/15 was frozen for the fourth consecutive year, helping protect our residents from pressures on their finances.

In addition, council tax payers were handed back a £6.20 slice of their bills under an initiative known as an 'Efficiency Dividend'.

To help clamp down on Council Tax, Business Rates and Housing cheats, the Council was awarded £176,000 by the Government to help with its counter-fraud work.

The council's bid, submitted alongside other authorities under the Derbyshire Joint

Fraud Initiative (DJFI), was one of only 52 successful ones from across the UK.

The money will cover two years of staffing and research costs.

Our auditors Grant Thornton reported that: "The Council has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness."

Recycling in the district continues to go from strength to strength – making a positive contribution to the environment and saving the costs of landfill.

The introduction of the Easy Green Recycling Scheme has seen residents in South Derbyshire double the amount they were recycling previously. Under the new scheme, plastics and cardboard can be recycled alongside tins, cans, aerosols, foil, mixed glass, paper and textiles.

Improving your experiences with the Council

South Derbyshire District Council's work focuses on providing the best possible services for local businesses and residents.

The Community Partnership Scheme has been developed to provide support, advice and grant funding to community projects in South Derbyshire and helps community groups to bring external funds - such as lottery money - to South Derbyshire.

Events are a great way to bring people together, to celebrate our strengths and to support our economy and the year saw something for all tastes and ages.

Dozens were organised to mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War, with services of remembrance, music shows,

photographic exhibitions and poppy planting among them.

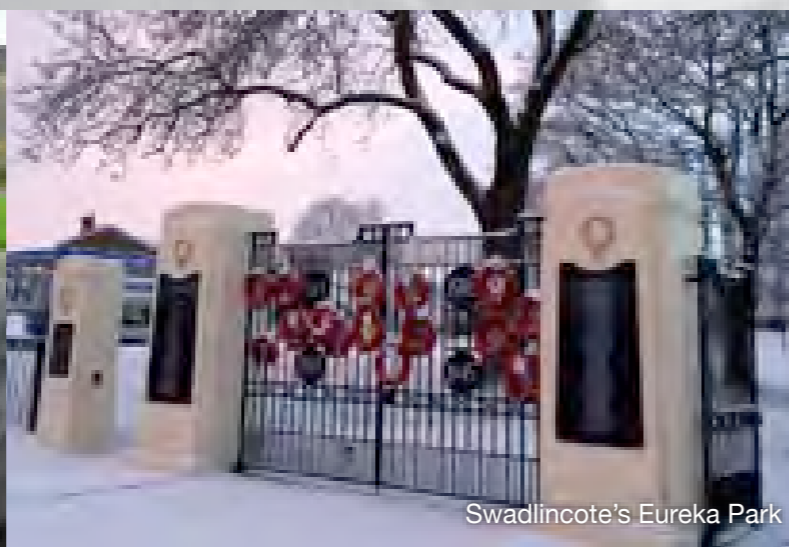
The memorial gates at Swadlincote's Eureka Park were restored as part of a wider revamp and the Council's Environmental Education Team worked with local schools to research the impact the war had locally.

A sight for straw eyes – Swadlincote's scarecrow hunt – made a welcome return. Dozens of creations were displayed in shops, enabling shoppers to explore the town centre and the great businesses it has.

The Swadlincote Pancake Races (pictured below) took place on Shrove Tuesday, with schools and businesses all fielding teams.

Christmas would not be the same without Swadlincote's Christmas lights switch-on and the event delivered the usual mix of entertainment for all the family.

"The Council has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness." - Grant Thornton



Swadlincote's Eureka Park





By working in partnership with funding and 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 Bureau

South Derbyshire District Council helps to fund the CAB 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) has worked 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.

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. This included supporting refurbishment work at Green Bank Leisure Centre and Etwall Leisure Centre, which has seen expansion of the gym and development of a spin studio and additional studio space.

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

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
- Sport England
- The Community Partnership Scheme
- The Football Foundation
- The National Lottery
- The NHS

"The partnership has developed significantly. Joint initiatives have seen considerable service improvements." - Dave Meaden, Chief Executive, Northgate Public Services



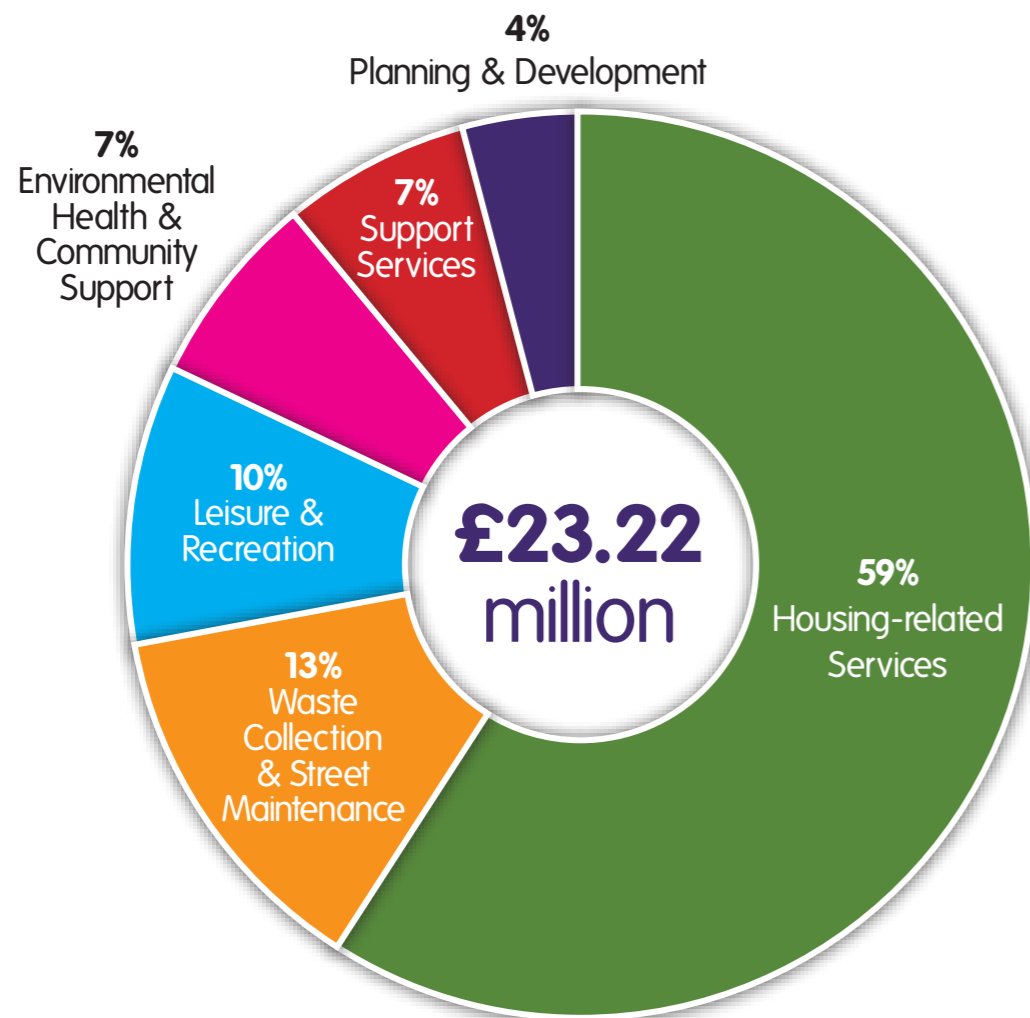
What we spent on services

During the year 2014-15, the Council's net expenditure on day-to-day services was just over £23 million.

£13.79m	Housing-related Services	£1.69m	Environmental Health & Community Support
£2.93m	Waste Collection & Street Maintenance	£1.57m	Support Services
£2.39m	Leisure & Recreation	£0.85m	Planning & Development

£23.22m Total

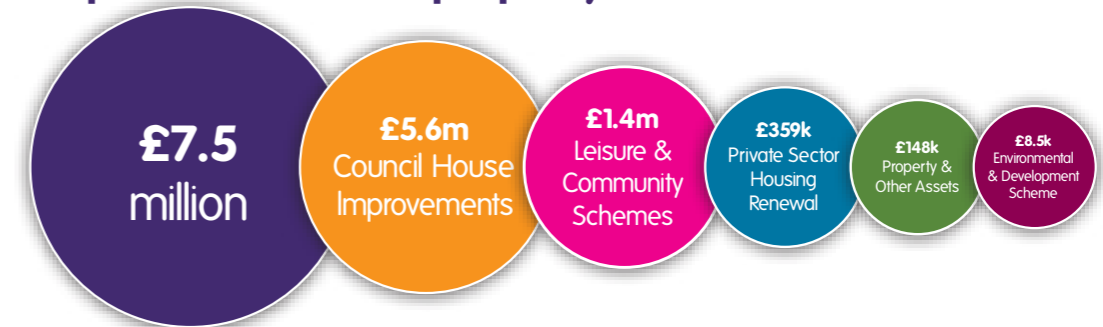
In percentage terms, this is shown in the following chart:



The Council spends more than half of its money on housing-related services, which includes managing and maintaining its 3,000 homes, together with dealing with homelessness and supporting the elderly and vulnerable.

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 2014-15 we spent £7.5 million on our land and property assets, financed by a combination of Government grants, external contributions and the Council's own resources saved up in reserves.

What we spent on land and property



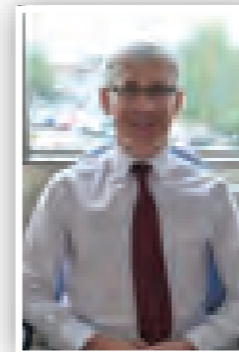
The expenditure on leisure schemes included the upgrade to facilities at Green Bank Leisure Centre (£600,000) and improvements at Eureka Park (£500,000).

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 £37.4 million, up from £35.7 million in March 2014.

Our balance sheet: 31 March 2015

Revenue reserves & balances		Net Assets	
£13.7m	Provisions/Unusable Reserves	£112.1m	Value of Land & Property
£9.1m	Capital Reserves	£18.7m	Liquid Assets
£8.5m	General Reserves	£93.4m	Less money owed by us
£6.1m	Earmarked Reserves		
£37.4m	Net Worth	£37.4m	Total

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services' statement



"The Council ended the year in a stable financial position following a period of volatility and restructuring to meet reductions in Government funding. The District continues to grow and the Council is well positioned to meet the challenges of further reductions in funding following the Government's summer 2015 Budget. The Council will try to ensure there is limited impact on its services.

The Government's public spending watchdog, the Audit Commission, appointed Grant Thornton Accountants to review our 2014-15 accounts and we received an unqualified audit opinion. Full Council approved our 2014-15 accounts on September 24, 2015. A full copy of the audited statement of accounts is available on our website at www.south-derbys.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_budgets_spending/statement_of_accounts".

Kevin Stackhouse

Director of Finance and Corporate Services, South Derbyshire District Council

Follow us on:



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

