## Your council tax 2021/22

A message from Cllr Ian Edwards, Leader of Hillingdon Council



Dear resident,

All local authorities are facing ongoing funding challenges, especially because of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. However residents can be reassured that here in Hillingdon, as a result of the council's strong financial management, we are keeping council tax rises to a minimum while delivering a balanced budget and providing the services you value, as well as investing in improvements and creating new facilities.

The council tax rise will once again be set at 90 per cent of our neighbouring boroughs', with a small increase of 1.8 per cent.

Additionally, due to the exceptional pressures on social care due to the pandemic, the government has, for one year, allowed councils to levy up to 3 per cent (an increase of 1 per cent) as a Social Care Precept.

Residents' bills will also reflect an additional 1 per cent increase as a result of the 9.5 per cent increase in the precept imposed by the Mayor of London.

In effect, the total increase for a Band D property is 5.8 per cent – or £1.70 per week.

The services and award-winning facilities you value will be maintained, including further investment in:



free weekly waste and recycling collections



parks and open spaces



creating new school places



building new homes



refurbishing the borough's libraries



road and pavement resurfacing



town centre improvements to support local high streets



social care support



high quality leisure and community facilities

More information overleaf



For the first time in 14 years, also due to the challenges of the pandemic, council tax will not be frozen for those aged over 65 as the older persons discount scheme will not be applied in 2021/22. However, the council will protect the existing discounts for those already in receipt this discount. In addition, a safety net is in place for the most financially vulnerable through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

For residents, fees and charges on services provided by the council, including parking charges, will also remain at least 10 per cent lower than those charged by neighbouring boroughs.

£10 million has been set aside as a contingency should government grants not be sufficient to alleviate the funding pressures created by COVID-19.

There are still financially challenging times ahead for all local authorities but in Hillingdon we will continue to deliver high quality services and facilities and put you, our residents, first and at the heart of all we do.

Cllr Ian Edwards, Leader of Hillingdon Council

## **Budget in numbers**

The council delivers nearly 800 services. These are funded through a combination of grants from central government, a share of local business rates and your council tax.



Pie chart to show percentage in 2021/22:

- Council tax (54 per cent)
- Business rates (23 per cent)
- Central government grants (22 per cent)
  - Use of reserves (1 per cent)

In 2021/22 your council tax will fund...

£9.7 million

Highways, roads and transport services

**Housing services** 

£40.8 million Cultural, environmental and planning services

(includes waste and recycling collections, street cleaning, libraries, theatres and museums, licensing and anti-social behaviour) £79.4 million
Adult social care





£43.9 million Children's social care





£9.1 million
Capital financing
costs

For further information on council tax and our council tax guide visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax