

**South Hams**

# What do I get for my money?

How your money is spent on local services

**South Hams District Council** **Devon County Council**  
**Devon & Cornwall Police Authority** **Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority**



# Working save you

## Providing better-value quality services

All public services have to make big savings over the next few years. At the same time we must continue to provide vital local services and support the most vulnerable in our communities.

This means working harder than ever to cut costs and get the most from every penny we spend. By working together in partnership, we can use our budgets more effectively and deliver better value for money for everyone.

This booklet explains what services we provide and how much they cost.

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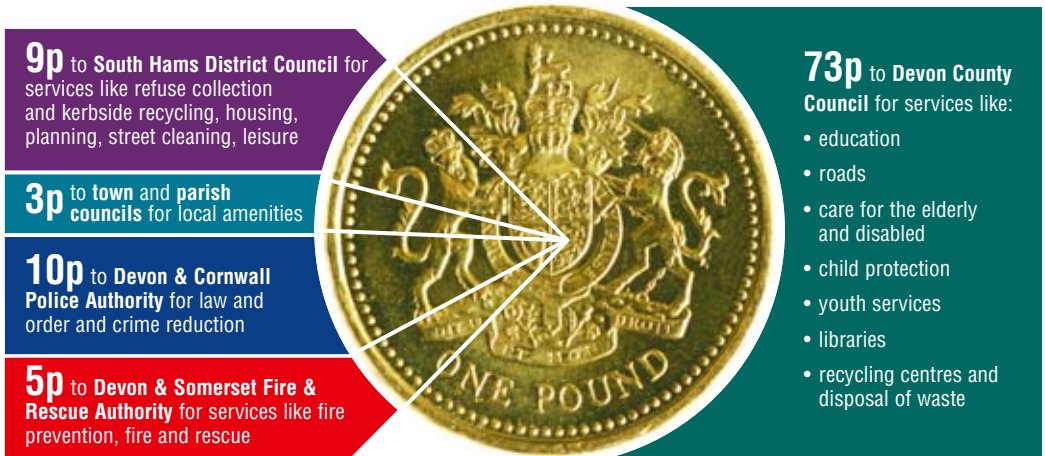
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# together to money



Every £1 of council tax you pay is shared in the following way for services:



This year for an average band D property your council tax will be £1,529.50. It is divided up like this:

Who gets your money? Your bill is divided up like this (band D)	Council tax £ (subject to rounding)	Increase this year
Devon County Council	1,116.36	0%
South Hams District Council	137.88	2.5%
Devon & Cornwall Police Authority	159.73	2%
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority	73.92	3%
Town/parish councils *	41.61	3.1%

\*The figure for the town/parish council is an average. What you pay will depend on your own town or parish council precept.

# Council tax help and advice

Are you paying too much council tax? Don't pay more than you have to!

## Discounts and exemptions

A full council tax bill is calculated on the assumption that there are two people over the age of 18 living in the property. If you are the only adult living in the home then the bill will be reduced by a quarter (25%).

Even if you do not live on your own, you may still be entitled to a discount because some people living with you may be exempt, for example full time students, patients resident in hospital or people being looked after in care homes.

If either you or someone who lives with you has a disability, and your home has been adapted to meet this need, you may qualify for a reduction in your council tax bill.

In some circumstances, council tax may not be payable at all. These include properties where ALL occupiers are students or have a severe mental impairment or are under the age of 18. Also if your property is unoccupied and unfurnished, it may qualify for up to six months exemption.

If you need further advice, please contact us on **01803 861275**.

## Aged 60 or over?

**Care Direct** can also provide advice on whether you are receiving the help you are entitled to. Contact them on **0845 155 1007**.

## On a low income or you have children?

Your bill may be reduced if you have a low income. To find out if you qualify and how we can help please call us or visit our website, see box below.

If you have children you might be eligible for tax credits. To find out more contact the tax credit helpline on **0345 300 3900** or visit **hmrc.gov.uk/TAXCREDITS**

## Housing Benefit changes

From January 2012, if you are under 35 and in rented private accommodation (not Housing Association), there are important changes to the amount of benefit that we can pay you.

For more information about the changes and how they may affect you, please contact South Hams District Council's Benefits Team on **01803 861234** or email: **rev.bens@southhams.gov.uk**

## Contact us

Phone: **01803 861275**

Email: **rev.bens@southhams.gov.uk**

Or visit us online: **southhams.gov.uk**



## Working together for local communities

Your councils, police and fire service are working together with local communities to create more efficient services, boost economic regeneration, and care for vulnerable people.

### Investing in faster broadband to boost growth

Devon and Somerset County Councils have won more than £30 million from the government to roll out superfast broadband across the two counties. Devon County Council is contributing capital funds to that sum and is working to secure private sector investment, aiming for an extra £100 million from the industry which will contribute to the infrastructure delivering superfast broadband.

Businesses and communities are being asked to register their interest in receiving improved broadband connectivity, to show the private sector that there is real demand and to secure investment.

This is our one big opportunity to shape the future of our digital communications; it's vital everyone gets involved, registers their interest and helps get us connected and up to speed.

To find out more about getting connected visit: [connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk](http://connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk)  
Or you can call the survey hotline on **0844 4636887**.



## **Voice for our communities**



South Hams District Council has started an innovative project to help local communities have a greater voice in the work of the Council and in the decisions affecting their local area.

Over the last year, the Council has targeted its 'Voice' campaign in three particular areas – the business community, town and parish councils and the voluntary sector. By working with these key groups and listening to their views, we're forging a stronger understanding between us which is helping to influence and shape the work of the Council.

In the coming year, we will be looking at how we can work more effectively with the wider public and young people.

## **South Hams Council's £3.8m play park tonic**

Eighty parks, play areas, sports and recreation facilities have been upgraded in a £3.8 million programme by South Hams District Council in the last three years.

£2 million was spent last year alone on upgrading 50 children's play spaces across the district, making them fit for play and fun for our youngsters. The District Council put in £1 million and a further £1 million was raised by local communities applying for additional funds.

## **Appeal for retained firefighters**

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service is urgently seeking to recruit retained firefighters who will be available during the daytime in Kingsbridge, Totnes and Modbury.

Firefighters are normal people who live or work in the community. They are builders, housewives, postal workers and shopkeepers, in fact they come from every walk of life.

Applicants must be at least 18 and physically fit. They need to be available Monday-Friday and in particular during the daytime. Successful applicants will have a chance to attend first aid courses and LGV driving courses. For more information, contact the Service on **01392 872331**.

### **New 101 number for police**

Devon and Cornwall Police has introduced **101**, a new telephone number for non-urgent crime, as part of an ongoing commitment to make it easier for the public to get in touch.

The public can call **101** when a crime has already happened, to give information about a crime, or to speak to a local officer.

Members of the community who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech



impairment can textphone **18001 101** to contact the police in a non-emergency.

The number, which replaces **08452 777444**, can be called from anywhere in the country.

### **Grant scheme launched for work hubs pilot**

Devon County Council is investing in the development of a work hub pilot scheme in Totnes.

The scheme will offer a work space for home-based workers and micro-enterprises. The development forms part of a strategy to bring forward a network of high quality work hubs across the county.

Work hubs allow people to book a 'hot desk' as and when they need it. This offers a more flexible working pattern for people in rural areas and market towns, staggering the rush hour and providing a better work-life balance and enhancing networking opportunities.

# How your council tax is spent

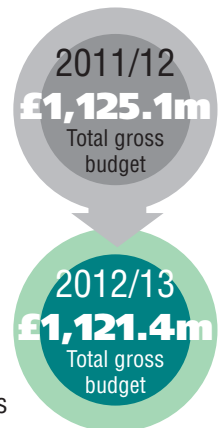
by **Devon County Council 2012/13**

Devon County Council plans to spend £1,121.391m (gross) this year on providing services to over 750,000 people in Devon. £795.202m (£800.974m 2011/12) of this comes from income we receive from government grants, fees and charges which leaves a council tax requirement of £326.189m (£324.1m 2011/12).

Within these figures is £0.282m (£0.256m 2011/12) relating to the Environment Agency Flood Defence Levy. This levy supports gross expenditure of £13.547m (£15.964m 2011/12). The change in the gross expenditure and levy is due to the Government Spending Review and national priorities of some projects. The total Local Levy raised has increased by 10%.

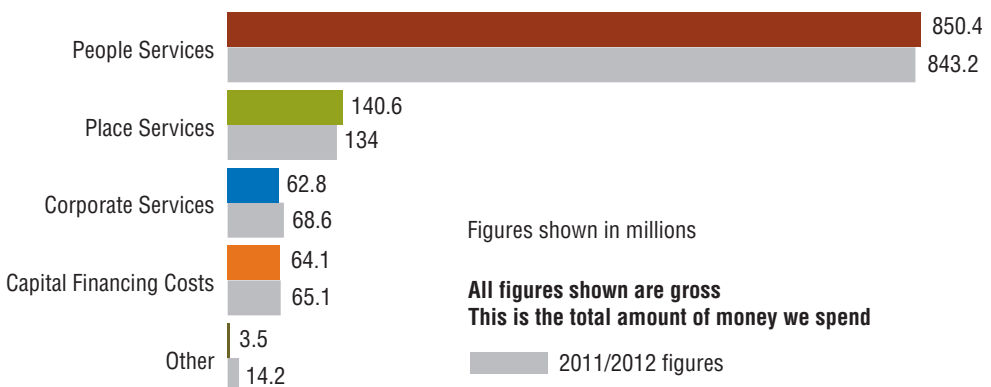
## Changes in spending

The continued reduction in government funding means a further drop in financial resources from last year. However a one-off £8.2m grant from the Government to fund the council tax freeze will allow extra investment in care for the vulnerable and vital road maintenance. The council tax will remain frozen for the second year running which means a 0% rise in council tax and Band D remains unchanged at **£1,116.36**.



## How does this compare to last year?

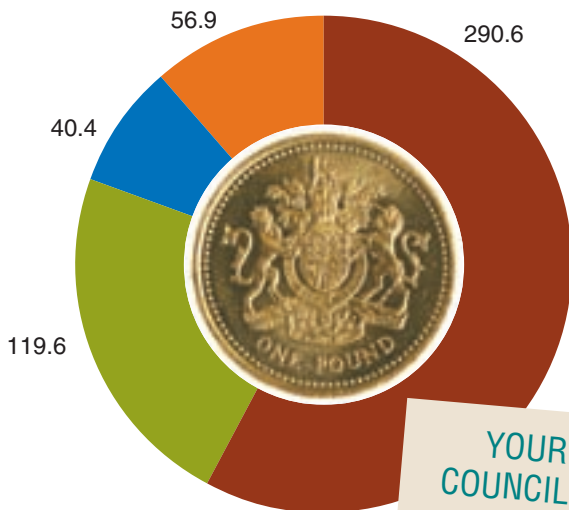
The graph below shows how our gross spending plans for 2012/13 compare to 2011/12.



# Spending plans 2012/13

This page shows how we are planning to spend our budget this year on services covering the whole of Devon.

The chart and receipt below illustrates our spending in net figures. Net figures differ from gross figures because the net budget is the amount we spend, less any income from certain grants, charges and fees.



Figures shown in millions

## The decrease in this year's budget is due to:

- Reduction in funding from government
- Cutting back office and management costs
- Rationalisation of buildings and office space

Item	£M
<b>People Services</b>	£290.6m
Including: education, care for the elderly and disabled, child protection and youth services	
<b>Place Services</b>	£119.6m
Including: libraries, roads, recycling centres and waste disposal	
<b>Corporate Services</b>	£40.4m
<b>Other</b>	£56.9m
<b>Total for services</b>	<b>£507.5</b>

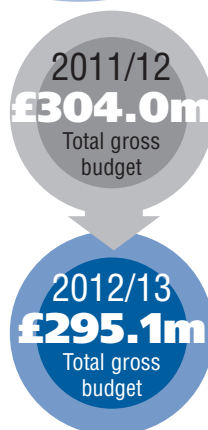
For more details: [devon.gov.uk](http://devon.gov.uk)

# How your council tax is spent

by Devon & Cornwall Police Authority 2012/13

The part of the council tax that covers police services will increase by 2% in 2012/13. As there was no rise in 2011/12, this increase means that, for a Band D property, the police element of the annual council tax bill will increase by £3.13 from £156.60 in 2010/11 to £159.73 in 2012/13. As most properties in Devon are Band C or below the majority of taxpayers will pay no more than £3 extra for policing in 2012/13.

Spending Plans	2011/12 (£ millions)	2012/13 (£ millions)
Gross Expenditure	304.0	295.1
<b>Funding other than council tax</b>		
Central government funding	-203.2	-190.2
Other income	-5.1	-6.6
<b>Council tax requirement</b>	<b>95.7</b>	<b>98.3</b>



2012/13 is the second year of a four year plan to reduce our spending by almost £50 million. This plan is based on a reduction in the number of police officers, as they retire or move to other forces. It also includes significant reductions in overheads and fewer police staff.

For 2012/13 the government offered the Police Authority a one-off grant of £2.9 million, equivalent to a 3% increase in council tax, to allow it to freeze the council tax. However the grant was for one year only.

With the existing requirement to save £50 million in mind, the Authority looked very carefully at the impact of losing this grant in future years. It concluded that it would seriously impact on the Force's ability to respond to calls, investigate crime and carry out local policing across all parts of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

In order to minimise the future impact on policing services provided to local communities the Authority decided to decline the grant and raise the police precept by 2%, which is equivalent to a rise of six pence per week for a Band D property.

On 15 November 2012 you will be able to vote for your first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). This single directly elected individual will replace the Police Authority. Until then the Authority continues to influence the way Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are policed. Find out more about PCCs and the preparation work on our website.

The Local Policing Plan will be available from 31 March on the Police Authority website:  
**[dcpa.police.uk](http://dcpa.police.uk)**

# How your council tax is spent

**by Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority 2012/13**

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority is responsible for the governance arrangements for Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service.

Spending Plans	2011/12 (£ millions)	2012/13 (£ millions)
Gross expenditure	79.6	82.2
Income from specific grants, fees and charges	(3.4)	(3.5)
Council tax freeze grant	(1.1)	(1.1)
Central government funding	(30.9)	(31.5)
<b>Council tax requirement</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>46.1</b>

2012/13  
**£82.2m**  
Total gross budget

2011/12  
**£79.6m**  
Total gross budget

## Changes in spending

In 2012/13 the spending requirement for the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority will be £2.4m more than in 2011/12. These changes are a result of the following:

Classification of Spend	Changes to expenditure (£ millions)	Changes to income (£ millions)
Contractual pay and price increases	1.4	(0.1)
Invest to save incentives & services/essential spending pressures	3.8	-
Budget savings	(1.2)	(0.4)
One-off provisions included in 2011/12 budget	(1.1)	-
<b>Total changes</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>(0.5)</b>

The Authority requires a council tax level of £73.92 for a Band D household. This represents an increase of 3% compared to the 2011/12 figure.

## Changes to the Fire Service

Whilst the Fire Service grant allocation for 2012/13 has seen a small increase, the Government has announced more severe reductions in 2013/14 and 2014/15. For more information on how the Authority intends to deliver significant reductions by those years, view our Draft Corporate Plan at [dsfire.gov.uk](http://dsfire.gov.uk)

# How your council tax is spent

by South Hams District Council  
2012/13

South Hams District Council plans to spend £49.4m (gross) this year on providing services. £44.1m (£44.2m 2011/12) of this comes from income we receive from grants and fees and charges which leaves us with a council tax requirement of £5.3m (£5.1m 2011/12).

## Changes in spending

The Council is increasing its share of the council tax by an extra 6.5 pence per week, for an average band D property, to protect any cuts to frontline services in the future. The Council Tax will be £137.88 a year (band D) for the services provided by the District Council.

**The Council's net budget has decreased from £9.6 million (2011/12) to £9.2 million (2012/13) due to:**

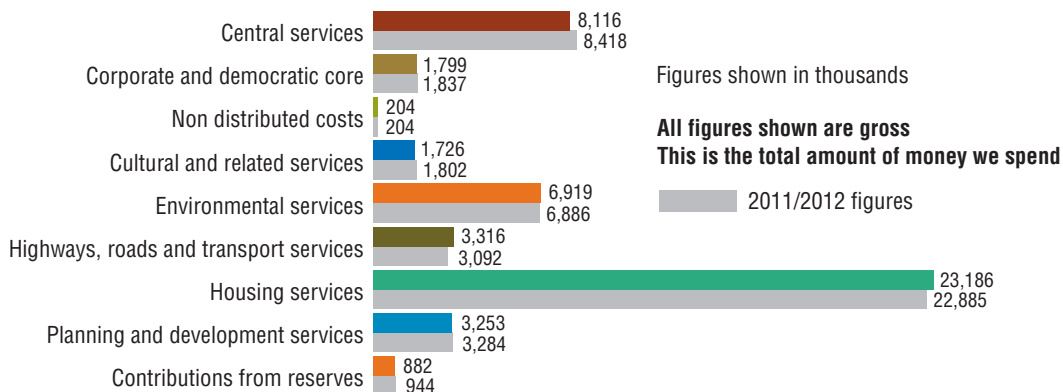
- A £490,000 cut in grant from the Government and inflation costs of more than £315,000, being offset by SHDC achieving £1 million of efficiency savings.
- The Council is saving £600,000 per annum through sharing staff and reducing management costs with West Devon Borough Council.

2012/13  
**£49.4m**  
Total gross budget

2011/12  
**£49.3m**  
Total gross budget

## How does this compare to last year?

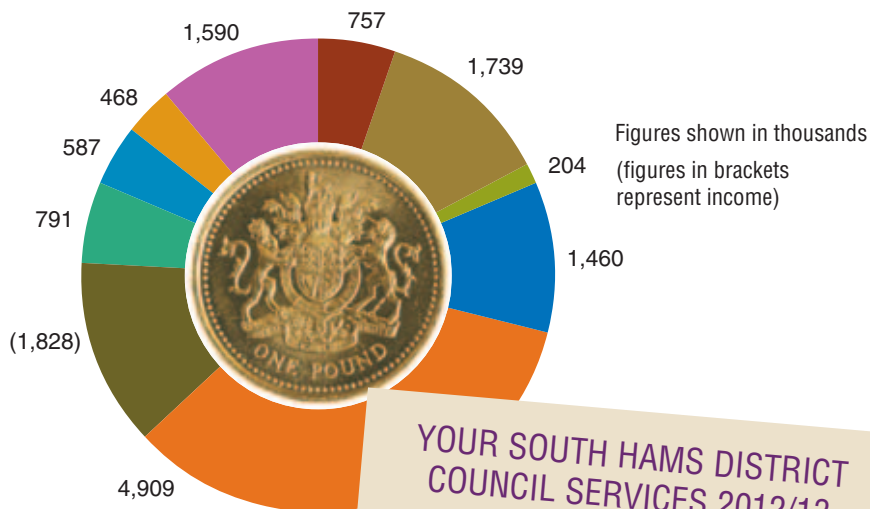
The graph below shows how our gross spending plans for 2012/13 compare to 2011/12.



# Spending plans 2012/13

This page shows how we are planning to spend the budget this year on local services. This includes money we collect for parish and town councils in the area for services they provide.

The chart and receipt below illustrates our spend in net figures. Net figures differ from gross figures because the net budget is the amount we spend, less any income from fees, charges and certain grants.



**YOUR SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL SERVICES 2012/13**

Item	(£000)
Central services	757
Corporate and democratic core	1,739
Non distributed costs	204
Cultural and related services	1,460
Environmental services	4,909
Highways, roads and transport services	(1,828)
Housing services	791
Planning and development services	587
Other income and expenditure	468
Town and parish precepts	1,590
<b>Total for services</b>	<b>10,677</b>

For more details: [southhams.gov.uk](http://southhams.gov.uk)

# Budgets for town councils

## with expenditure of over £140,000

South Hams has 2 large town councils with budgets over £140,000. Below is a table showing how much they intend to spend this year compared to last year.

Ivybridge Town Council	2011/12 Gross Expenditure £000's	2012/13 Gross Expenditure £000's	2011/12 Net Expenditure £000's	2012/13 Net Expenditure £000's
Finance and administration	77	79	71	71
Planning and infrastructure	14	14	14	14
Properties (Town Hall)	75	78	56	59
Parks and open spaces	96	93	62	58
Community and the Watermark	375	362	156	155
Civic and Democratic	27	26	26	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>382</b>

For further details please contact The Town Clerk, Ivybridge Town Council, Ivybridge Town Hall, Erme Court, Leonards Road, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 0SZ Tel. 01752 893815

Totnes Town Council	2011/12 Gross Expenditure £000's	2012/13 Gross Expenditure £000's	2011/12 Net Expenditure £000's	2012/13 Net Expenditure £000's
Finance and administration	110	101	110	101
Properties	98	100	79	85
Cemetery	14	16	7	7
Tourist Information Centre	114	122	60	47
Interest received	-	-	(1)	(1)
Other items	29	13	(15)	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>251</b>

For further details please contact The Town Clerk, Totnes Town Council, The Guildhall Offices, 5 Ramparts Walk, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5QH. Tel. 01803 862147

# Parish precepts and council tax

Parish	2011/12 precept £	2012/13 precept £	2012/13 band D tax £	Parish	2011/12 precept £	2012/13 precept £	2012/13 band D tax £
Ashprington	3,250	4,300	17.40	Kingswear	18,000	21,000	26.22
Aveton Gifford	17,376	18,076	47.19	Littlehempston	2,293	2,293	21.49
Berry Pomeroy	5,400	5,400	13.72	Loddiswell	13,000	14,300	35.21
Bickleigh	65,000	85,000	63.80	Malborough	10,500	11,000	22.31
Bigbury	7,600	7,600	18.98	Marldon	12,055	11,920	13.39
Blackawton	9,660	12,750	37.59	Modbury	23,000	23,000	32.59
Brixton	13,250	13,250	19.68	Newton & Noss	39,245	39,245	35.03
Buckfastleigh West	3,100	3,100	27.16	North Huish	1,500	1,500	7.40
Buckland-Tout-Saints	1,000	3,000	29.59	Rattery	4,000	4,000	19.46
Charleton	4,750	4,750	17.51	Ringmore	3,200	3,500	27.46
Chivelstone	3,125	3,125	17.35	Salcombe	63,900	63,040	34.30
Churchstow	3,500	3,500	15.66	Shaugh Prior	9,600	9,840	33.44
Cornwood	12,374	12,683	29.37	Slapton	8,100	8,474	33.06
Cornworthy	4,500	4,500	24.70	South Brent	39,462	40,835	39.02
Dartington	17,817	17,817	24.12	South Huish	4,250	4,440	9.74
Dartmouth	134,200	134,200	46.85	South Milton	4,500	4,500	18.70
Dean Prior	2,320	2,359	30.20	South Pool	3,100	3,750	34.43
Diptford	5,300	5,470	21.79	Sparkwell	8,329	8,920	19.71
Dittisham	10,000	10,000	29.51	Staverton	10,584	10,849	32.20
East Allington	8,670	8,670	27.87	Stoke Fleming	12,721	13,174	23.17
East Portlemouth	4,750	6,000	36.39	Stoke Gabriel	14,000	14,000	20.37
Ermington	12,500	13,000	33.27	Stokenham	28,925	29,125	27.85
Frogmore & Sherford	6,000	6,300	27.54	Strete	7,183	7,434	25.19
Halwell & Moreleigh	5,000	6,000	31.79	Thurlestone	14,829	15,274	21.14
Harberton	7,250	7,757	14.95	Totnes	239,569	251,054	82.37
Harford	950	990	25.44	Ugborough	12,500	13,000	18.02
Holbeton	6,700	6,700	21.66	Wembury	22,500	23,000	16.25
Holne	5,280	5,280	39.83	West Alvington	3,845	3,930	14.81
Ivybridge	385,392	382,266	95.70	Woodleigh	500	500	5.10
Kingsbridge	102,555	107,478	46.30	Yealmpton	27,000	27,000	29.21
Kingston	6,500	5,000	25.20				


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## South Hams District Council

**01803 861234**

 [customer.services@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@southhams.gov.uk)

 [southhams.gov.uk](http://southhams.gov.uk)


 South Hams District Council,  
Follaton House, Plymouth Road,  
Totnes TQ9 5NE

Out of hours emergency contact number  
**01803 867034**


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## Devon County Council

**0845 155 1015**

 [customer@devon.gov.uk](mailto:customer@devon.gov.uk)

 [devon.gov.uk](http://devon.gov.uk)

 The Information Centre,  
Devon County Council, County Hall,  
Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QD

 Follow us on Twitter  
[twitter.com/devoncc](https://twitter.com/devoncc)

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## Devon & Cornwall Police Authority

Police non-emergency: **101**

(Textphone 18001 101 if you are deaf, hard  
of hearing or speech impaired)


 [devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://devon-cornwall.police.uk)

Spending and budget enquiries:

**01392 225555**

 [dcpa.police.uk](http://dcpa.police.uk)

 [polauth@devonand  
cornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:polauth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

 Devon & Cornwall Police Authority,  
Endeavour House, Woodwater Park,  
Pynes Hill, Exeter, EX2 5WH


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## Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority

**01392 872200**

 [comments@dsfire.gov.uk](mailto:comments@dsfire.gov.uk)

 [dsfire.gov.uk](http://dsfire.gov.uk)

 Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue  
Authority HQ, The Knowle,  
Clyst St George, Exeter EX3 0NW

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