

STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 27 January 2026 at 7.30 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall

Online access to this meeting is available on YouTube: [Link to online broadcast](#)

The members listed below are summoned to attend the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Councillor Neil Dallen (Chair)
Councillor Hannah Dalton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor John Beckett
Councillor Kate Chinn

Councillor James Lawrence
Councillor Jan Mason
Councillor Lucie McIntyre
Councillor Humphrey Reynolds

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive

For further information, please contact democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk or tel: 01372 732000

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

No emergency drill is planned to take place during the meeting. If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions.

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move to the assembly point at Dullshot Green and await further instructions; and
- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.

Public information

Please note that this meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Epsom and will be available to observe live using free YouTube software.

A link to the online address for this meeting is provided on the first page of this agenda. A limited number of seats will be available on a first-come first-served basis in the public gallery at the Town Hall. If you wish to observe the meeting from the public gallery, please arrive at the Town Hall reception before the start of the meeting. A member of staff will show you to the seating area. For further information please contact Democratic Services, email: democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk, telephone: 01372 732000.

Information about the terms of reference and membership of this Committee are available on the [Council's website](#). The website also provides copies of agendas, reports and minutes.

Agendas, reports and minutes for this Committee are also available on the free Modern.Gov app for iPad, Android and Windows devices. For further information on how to access information regarding this Committee, please email us at democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk.

Exclusion of the Press and the Public

There are no matters scheduled to be discussed at this meeting that would appear to disclose confidential or exempt information under the provisions Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). Should any such matters arise during the course of discussion of the below items or should the Chair agree to discuss any other such matters on the grounds of urgency, the Committee may wish to resolve to exclude the press and public by virtue of the private nature of the business to be transacted.

Questions and statements from the Public

Up to 30 minutes will be set aside for questions and statements from members of the public at meetings of this Committee. Any member of the public who lives, works, attends an educational establishment or owns or leases land in the Borough may ask a question or make a statement on matters within the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

All questions must consist of one question only and cannot consist of multiple parts. Questions and statements cannot relate to planning or licensing committees matters, the personal affairs of an individual, or a matter which is exempt from disclosure or confidential under the Local Government Act 1972. Questions which in the view of the Chair are defamatory, offensive, vexatious or frivolous will not be accepted. Each question or statement will be limited to 3 minutes in length.

If you wish to ask a question or make a statement at a meeting of this Committee, please contact Democratic Services at: democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services by noon on the fifth working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Tuesday 20 January 2026**.

A written copy of statements must be received by Democratic Services by noon on the working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Monday 26 January 2026**.

For more information on public speaking protocol at Committees, please see [Annex 4.2](#) of the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Operating Framework.

Filming and recording of meetings

The Council allows filming, recording and photography at its public meetings. By entering the Council Chamber and using the public gallery, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

Members of the Press who wish to film, record or photograph a public meeting should contact the Council's Communications team prior to the meeting by email at: communications@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non-handheld devices, including tripods, will not be allowed.

AGENDA

1. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

To take any questions or statements from members of the Public.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other registrable or non-registrable interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

3. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2026 (Pages 5 - 20)

This report introduces the draft Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Pay Policy Statement for 2026/27 and seeks approval of the Statement prior to its presentation to Full Council and subsequent publication on the Council's website.

4. PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2026-27 (Pages 21 - 36)

This report provides:

- a progress update on the current (previously approved) financial year 2025-26 planned maintenance programme;
- and requests approval for next year's planned maintenance programme for the financial year 2026-27.

5. COUNCIL TAX EMPTY PROPERTY AND SECOND HOME POLICY (Pages 37 - 48)

This report proposes:

(1) The removal of the Council Tax one month empty and unfurnished exemption from 01 April 2026. This means that once a property becomes empty and substantially unfurnished, 100% of the Council Tax will remain payable, from the date the property becomes empty.

(2) Introduction of the 100% Empty Home Premium on properties which have been empty and substantially unfurnished for longer than 1 year, from the 01 April 2026

(3) Introduction of a 100% premium for all second homes from 01 April 2027, in line with the governing legislation.

6. REVENUE BUDGET AND FEES AND CHARGES 2026/27 (Pages 49 - 62)

This report sets out estimates for income and expenditure on services in 2026/27 and recommends fees and charges for which this Committee is responsible, with the new charges being effective from 1 April 2026.

7. EPSOM AND EWELL EMPLOYMENT HUB (Pages 63 - 78)

Consideration of options regarding funding the Epsom and Ewell Employment Hub for 2026/27

8. URGENT DECISIONS (Pages 79 - 82)

To report to the committee decisions taken by the Chief Executive and Directors on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

9. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 83 - 92)

The Committee is asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11 November 2025 (attached) and to authorise the Chair to sign them.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Pages 93 - 94)

The Committee is asked to consider whether it wishes to pass a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.