

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Strategy and Resources Committee on Tuesday, 27 January 2026

This notice was published 29 January 2026.

Decisions will come into force, and may be implemented, on the expiry of 5 clear working days from the date of this notice unless called in by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

NOTE: The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Committee. It is not intended to represent the formal record of the meeting (for which reference should be made to the minutes) but to facilitate the call-in process.

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
1.	Questions and Statements from the Public	There were no questions or statements from the public.
2.	Declarations of Interest	<p>Councillors made the following declarations in relation to items on the agenda:</p> <p>Epsom and Ewell Employment Hub</p> <p>Councillor Chris Ames, Other Interest: Councillor Chris Ames declared that his daughter meets Surrey Choices using the Epsom and Ewell Employment Hub premises.</p> <p>Urgent Decisions</p> <p>Councillor Chris Ames, Other Interest: Councillor Chris Ames declared that he was a member of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.</p>
3.	Pay Policy Statement 2026	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Agree that the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2026/27 is referred to Full Council for approval.</p>

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Agenda Item No	Report Title	Decision
		<p>(2) Nominate and Authorise the Head of People and Organisational Development to include the returning officer fees, when received.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Planned Maintenance Programme 2026-27</p>	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved:</p> <p>(1) To note the progress and anticipated spend at the end of the current year 2025-26 as shown in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>(2) To note the additional emergency works raised and carried out in the 2025-26 planned maintenance programme.</p> <p>(3) To approve the 2026-27 planned maintenance programme at an estimated cost of £757,000 as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, to be funded from planned maintenance budgets and the Planned Maintenance Reserve.</p> <p>(4) To nominate and authorise the Head of Property and Regeneration to make changes within the 2026-27 planned maintenance programme to cover unforeseen matters (such as tender price variances) of up to, but not exceeding £20,000 per change, in accordance with Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders.</p> <p>(5) To agree to transfer the unspent budgets back to the Planned Maintenance Reserve at the end of the 2026-27 financial year.</p>

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5.	Council Tax Empty Property and Second Home Policy	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved:</p> <p>(1) Approve the recommended changes to how Council Tax is levied on Empty properties, as set out in Appendix 1, with effect from the 1 April, 2026.</p> <p>(2) Approve the recommended changes to how Council Tax is levied on Second Homes in the Borough, as set out in Appendix 1, with effect from 1 April, 2027.</p>
6.	Revenue Budget and Fees and Charges 2026/27	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Recommend the 2026/27 service estimates for approval at the budget meeting of Full Council on 10 February 2026, amended since the publication of the draft budget book, as set out in table 4.6;</p> <p>(2) Recommend the 2026/27 fees and charges, as set-out in Appendix 1 to the report, for approval at the budget meeting of Full Council on 10 February 2026;</p> <p>(3) Agree the Council Tax Discount bands for 2026/27, as set-out in section 7.</p>
7.	Epsom and Ewell Employment Hub	<p>Following consideration, the Committee resolved with 6 votes for to:</p> <p>(1) Agree that Option A as set out in section 5 of the report for the financial support of the Epsom and Ewell Employment Hub in 2026/27 was preferred.</p>

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		<p>(2) Agree that the Council continues the delivery arrangements with Surrey Life Long Learning to deliver this initiative.</p> <p>(3) Nominate and authorise the Head of Housing and Community, in consultation with the Director of Environment Housing and Regeneration and the Chair of Community and Wellbeing Committee, to enter into a legal agreement with Surrey Life Long Learning to deliver this initiative.</p>
8.	Urgent Decisions	<p>Following consideration, the Committee resolved with 5 votes for and 2 abstentions to:</p> <p>(1) Note the urgent decision taken since the last meeting of the committee.</p>
9.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	<p>The Committee confirmed as a true record the Minutes and Restricted Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9 December 2025 and the Chair signed them.</p>