

# **DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**



## **A QUICK GUIDE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**2004-05**

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## INTRODUCTION

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Derbyshire County Council is about people.

It's about what we can do to make local life better. It's about making sure you and your family get the services you need, when and where you need them. And it's about making the best possible use of your money.

To make sure we are as efficient and effective as possible, we keep a firm grip on all our spending. We don't spend your money for the sake of it. We question everything. If it doesn't help to make life better locally – we don't do it.

We don't want to burden you with high increases in council tax. For the last three years we've set the lowest increases of any county council in the country. We've kept a close eye on what we spend and are always on the lookout for cheaper and better ways of doing things.

## HOW WE HAVE DONE

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We are the only council in the Midlands to have achieved top performance ratings since they started. Now we're just three points short of the maximum 48-point score for services – the highest of any county council in the country.

According to our 2004/05 assessment by the Audit Commission we have made even better use of our resources – a key part of being an excellent council. Our external auditors KPMG check up on us too. Their most recent reports say:

- “The council continues to perform well.”
- “Services have continued to improve.”

## **WHAT WE HAVE SPENT IN 2004/05**

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Good housekeeping and tight spending controls mean we can keep council tax increases low - but not at the expense of services. At 2.94% - or 38p a week for the average council tax payer – our increase for 2004/05 was the lowest of any county council in the country.

Our budget went up by £37.9 million (6%) to £667.9 million. It still meant we could:

- meet the cost of pay and price rises
- boost school and education budgets by an extra £17 million
- invest an extra £12 million to support vulnerable people.

And it meant there was more money for:

- tackling crime
- improving our roads and pavements
- free and half price travel and discount schemes.

Keeping a firm grip on our purse strings paid off. We spent £14 million (2%) less than we had in the pot. It means we can set around £7 million aside for emergencies – as our external auditors have told us to. The £7 million leftover will fund specific projects during 2005/06.

## WHAT WE ARE DOING NOW

Once again, we set the lowest council tax increase of any county council for 2005/06 at 2.25% - an average increase of 30p a week. Your priorities were protected and after meeting the cost of pay and price rises we could still:

- boost school budgets by an extra £10 million
- invest more than £9 million to support vulnerable people.

In addition, we are working hard to save money and put it back into your services. We've already found £6 million of efficiency savings. And we will be finding the same for the next two years so we can protect your pockets and keep council tax rises low.

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### *The detail for 2004/05*

This is how much it cost to deliver all county council services between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005.

	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Education		378,848
Social Services		167,294
Roads, Transport, Planning and Waste Disposal		65,616
Libraries, Arts and Trading Standards		15,501
Central Costs		12,082
Borrowing Costs		26,865
Less Corporate Income		-12,385
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>653,821</b>
Financed by: Council Tax Payers	221,880	
Government Grant	259,590	
Non Domestic Rates	186,373	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>667,843</b>
<b>Surplus Transferred to Balances and Reserves</b>		<b>14,022</b>

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## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

We're spending more money than ever buying, developing and maintaining our buildings, roads and other assets. Between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005 there were big improvements to our schools, youth centres, older people's homes, roads and pavements.

	£000	£000
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Schools	44,135	
Highways	26,648	
Social Services	7,134	
Reclamation of Derelict Land	6,126	
Change Management	3,929	
Youth and Community Education	3,789	
Other	<u>6,173</u>	
		<b>97,934</b>
<b>Financed by</b>		
Capital Grants and contributions	46,129	
Long Term Loans	43,124	
Capital Receipts & other internal funds	<u>8,681</u>	
		<b>97,934</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2005

<b>Assets</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Land, Buildings and Infrastructure	1,291,131	
Amounts owed to the Council	111,598	
Cash and Temporary Investments	180,287	
Stocks and Work in Progress	5,739	
	<hr/>	1,588,755
<b>Less Liabilities</b>		
Long Term Borrowing	-346,987	
Amounts owed in short term by the Council	-135,126	
Government grants received but not yet used	-73,173	
	<hr/>	-555,286
<b>Net Assets</b>		<hr/> <b>1,033,469</b> <hr/>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Capital Balances and Reserves		935,673
Revenue Balances Reserves		97,796
		<hr/> <b>1,033,469</b> <hr/>

- Our pension liability and reserve is not included.

## **DERBYSHIRE PENSION FUND**

We look after the pension fund for our own employees and also those employed by 84 other local councils and organisations. There are 33,259 people paying in to the fund and 28,174 people receiving a pension from it.

The value of the pension fund goes up and down depending on economic and stock market changes. Markets are currently rising and there's £1.5 billion in the fund. However, like many funds we believe we will need more cash to meet future pension demands. This may have to be raised through bigger contributions.

### **Who pays in and what's paid out.**

	<b>£000</b>
Amounts paid by contributors	98,235
Less Pensions paid	-62,339
Investment Income	45,072
Increase in the value of assets	115,726
Less Administrative and Management Expenses	<u>-2,313</u>
Increase in value of the Fund at 31 March 2005	194,381
<b>Value of the Fund at 31/3/05</b>	<b>1,508,248</b>

## CONTACT US

More information and our full statement of accounts is available from:

- the Derbyshire County Council website [www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)
- Call Derbyshire on 08 456 058 058.

We want you to have the information you want about us. To help us improve the information you receive about us please tell us what you think of this summary.

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Please return to Freepost, Derbyshire County Council, County Hall, Matlock,  
Derbyshire DE4 3AG or email your comments to: [richard.appleby@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:richard.appleby@derbyshire.gov.uk)