**Overview**

* Epsom & Ewell (E&E) is the smallest of Surrey’s boroughs in terms of population and area, but is the most densely populated with a population of 75,100 in 2011. The Borough is surrounded by green belt with Nonsuch Park to the East, Epsom Downs, home to Epsom Racecourse and venue for the Derby, to the South-East, Epsom and Ashtead Commons to the South-West and Horton Country Park and Chessington woodland to the West. Over 56% of the area is green land.
* It is bordered by the London Boroughs of Kingston-upon-Thames and Sutton both of which operate a selective education system which has an impact on Borough schools. Aside from Epsom, there are two smaller shopping centres in Ewell and Stoneleigh.
* Employment in the area is largely in service and retail. The top 4 largest employers in the area by turnover are W S Atkins, Nuffield Health and Brookfield Aviation. Epsom Coaches who operate bus services locally and for TfL are a significant employer. There are two industrial estates on either side of the railway line where a number of car dealerships are based.

**Significant demographic information**

* 2011 Census data indicates that E&E is the fastest growing borough in Surrey showing an increase in population of 11.9% to 75,100.  It is the most densely populated Borough/District in Surrey. It also has the greatest increase in the number of households up 8.8% to 29,800.
* It has high average life expectancy compared to the Surrey average, for women at 85.3 years and for men has 81.6.
* There are two areas of significant deprivation in the wards of Court and Ruxley, centred on the areas of social housing on the Longmead and Watersedge estates. Since these are surrounded by relatively affluent areas the level of deprivation is often masked when ward data is considered. The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation shows that Court has risen to being ranked 5th in Surrey from 23rd in 2007 and 7th in 2010.
* The Borough has the highest level of owner occupied property in Surrey at 76.99% and the lowest amount of public sector housing at 8%. All Borough housing stock was transferred to Rosebery Housing Association in February 1994. Low cost rented housing, or ‘affordable housing’, is provided by a number of different housing associations, the largest of which is Rosebery Housing Association.

**Current Local Issues**

* In the region of £3m of Local Enterprise Partnership funding has been secured for a major highway scheme, which is part of the Borough Councils Plan E. South Street in the town centre has now been converted to two way to allow traffic approaching from the west to be able to join the A24 towards Ashtead without using the current one way system round the town centre. The Borough Council has also provided CIL funding to carry out public realm improvements to enhance the economic development of the town. Work to upgrade the market place is in progress and will continue into early 2020 with work to improve the northern footway in the High Street. Together with other contributions from SCC & EEBC the potential total available for the town centre regeneration is over £3.7 million. Further funding is being sought to address drainage and road condition issues in the remaining area of the High Street which has not been part of this scheme.
* Epsom developed as a spa town and was famous for Epsom Salts. In 2018 the Borough celebrated 400 years of the discovery of Epsom Salts in 1618.
* The Horton estate previously housed 5 hospitals and was the world’s largest cluster of hospitals for the mentally ill. The majority of these have now been converted and redeveloped into housing. Ownership of The Horton Chapel, previously attached to the hospital cluster has been transferred to a charity who have successfully gained funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to convert it to a not for profit arts and heritage centre due to open in 2019.

**The local political structure**

There is one MP who represents Epsom & Ewell (Parliamentary elections May 2017):

* Chris Grayling

**Surrey County Council**

There are 81 member of Surrey County Council. Following the elections in May 2017, 61 are Conservative, 9 Liberal Democrats, 9 Residents’ Association/Independents, 1 Labour and 1 Green. The Leader is Tim Oliver, who leads a [Cabinet of 10 members](https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=120).

There are [5 county councillors](https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1) representing the area of Epsom & Ewell. They will work both with services and committees at a county level, but are also involved in the [Epsom & Ewell Local Committee](https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=197) (a committee of borough and county councillors) which makes decisions on local issues delegated to it and allows residents to engage with their local representatives on a regular basis. The Chairman is County Councillor Tina Mountain and the Vice-Chairman is County Councillor Jan Mason.

**Epsom & Ewell Borough Council**

There are 12 principal Residents Associations (RA) in Epsom & Ewell and they have controlled the Borough Council for over 70 years. Following Borough elections in May 2019, the RA increased its majority, the Borough Council is constituted by 32 RA councillors, three Labour, two liberal democrats and one Conservatives. The next borough elections are in May 2023. The Borough Council operates on a Committee model with a mayor. The current mayor is Cllr John Beckett.

**Parish Councils**

There are no parish councils in the borough of Epsom & Ewell.

**Local Services**

**Children and Young People**

Family services aim to:

• Reduce the number of young people not in education, training and employment
• Reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system
• Deliver more youth work locally

There are two youth centres in the Borough:  The Edge on the Watersedge Estate and The Focus in the town centre. Work is in progress to develop an early help service for those aged 0-19 and this is supported by the Early Help Advisory Board which brings together a partnership in each borough or district invested in developing a coherent local early help offer and manage the successful delivery of this offer. There are currently four Children’s Centres in the Borough, but this is due to reduce to two following recent changes in the provision of services.

**Vulnerable Adults**

The Adult Social Care locality and reablement teams are based in the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Offices to allow them to work with Borough Council staff. The Epsom and Ewell Social Care team provide support for 1241 adults, this includes 141 carers. This is mainly older people (1030 people) and adults with learning disabilities (211 people). They aim to promote peoples independence and wellbeing through providing personalised care and support, ensuring people are safeguarded and working collaboratively with partners. The reablement team provides a short term service up to a maximum of 6 weeks to help people regain their independence and typically support 58 people a month.

The Epsom Wellbeing Centre opened in June 2013 at the Longmead Day Centre.  This is a demonstration centre for telecare and handyman services as well as being able to offer assessments and information to local residents.

**Schools**

The Borough has 4 secondary schools, of these two are single sex schools one for boys (with a mixed sixth form) and one for girls, all are academies. These are the only single sex schools in the County. Two of the secondary schools run academy trusts: The Bourne Education Trust and the Glyn Learning Foundation which manage schools both in Epsom and Ewell and more widely in Surrey and elsewhere. There are also 2 colleges, Nescot and the Epsom centre for the University of the Creative Arts.

There are 3 Infant Schools; 3 Junior Schools; 15 Primary Schools; 1 special school and 1 pupil referral unit.

**Fire Stations**

There is one fire station in the Borough in the town centre. The site has 1 fire engine. Find out more: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/fire-and-rescue/locations/fire-stations

**Libraries**

There are two community run libraries in the Borough at Ewell Court and Stoneleigh and two larger libraries in the Ebbisham Centre in the town centre and at Bourne Hall in Ewell.

**Partnership activity**

1. **East Surrey Community Safety Partnership**

Community safety activity is co-ordinated via the East Surrey Community Safety Partnership. Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead and Tandridge are the other members of the partnership.

