

Your Council Tax and Business Rates 2012-13



Our performance and spending plans



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

For further copies of this booklet please write to:

PO Box 10413, The Town Hall,
Hornton Street, London W8 7WT
Tel: 020 7361 3005, or
Email: counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk

Information from this booklet can be made available in alternative formats and in different languages. If you require further assistance please use the contact details above.

March 2012

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1 A Letter from the Leader of the Council



Dear Resident,

This booklet offers information on your council tax and the Council's performance and spending plans. It also explains how you may be able to pay less council tax by being eligible for a discount or exemption or claim council tax benefit.

In 2012-13 we will see the first financial savings from the Tri-borough collaboration with Westminster City Council and the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham. We will save around £2 million from sharing senior officers and undertaking major procurements with our neighbours. These savings should rise substantially in subsequent years. This will help us to protect most services to residents and even improve some.

Mindful of the many pressures on household budgets, the Council will freeze council tax for a fourth consecutive year and take advantage of a one-year grant from Government. Despite the financial pressures, the Council continues to make the Royal Borough an even better place to live with a new Academy and rebuilt Leisure Centre in North Kensington and a brand new Holland Park School nearing completion.

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There is more information about the Council' s work, our performance and plans and our budget on our website:
www.rbkc.gov.uk.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sir Merrick Cockell'.

Councillor Sir Merrick Cockell
Leader of the Council

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COUNCIL TAX FOR 2012-13

As the local Council, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea provides schools, social services, youth services and libraries, waste collection and street cleaning, leisure services, parks, parking and many other local services. Most of the council tax we collect from you is to pay for services (please see 'what we spend' on page 20). We also collect money on behalf of the Greater London Authority (GLA). This year the GLA is charging £306.72 for each Band D property which includes £20 towards the cost of the 2012 Olympics. The GLA's explanation of its spending and tax can be found on pages 25 to 30. The following table explains how much council tax is payable for each band of property this year. You can read more about bands on page 12. For some properties the Council also collects garden square levies (more details are on pages 4 and 5).

Band	*RBKC Council Tax (£)	GLA Tax (£)	Total Council Tax (£)
A	512.67	204.48	717.15
B	598.11	238.56	836.67
C	683.56	272.64	956.20
D	769.00	306.72	1,075.72
E	939.89	374.88	1,314.77
F	1,110.78	443.04	1,553.82
G	1,281.67	511.20	1,792.87
H	1,538.00	613.44	2,151.44

* Excluding garden square levies



GARDEN SQUARE LEVIES FOR 2012-13

The Council collects garden levies for 46 garden squares within the Royal Borough. These levies are set annually by the garden committees and the Council is required to collect them, as part of the council tax, from those properties that surround the square.

More information about these squares is available at www.rbkc.gov.uk or you can call 020 7361 3276/2598.

The table below shows the levies for the 46 garden squares for 2012-13. It also shows the tax base for each garden, the garden charge at Band D, and the total council tax at Band D including the garden charge.

Garden Square	Levy £	Band D Equiv. Tax Base	Garden Charge Band D £	Band D Tax (incl. Garden) £
Addison Gardens	36,000	130	276.92	1,352.64
Arundel/Ladbroke Gardens	39,500	251	157.37	1,233.09
Avondale Park Gardens	1,600	29	55.17	1,130.89
Barkston Gardens	35,490	254	139.72	1,215.44
Bina Gardens (West)	21,500	189	113.76	1,189.48
Bolton Gardens	35,000	116	301.72	1,377.44
Bramham Gardens	36,000	398	90.45	1,166.17
Brompton Square	17,000	186	91.40	1,167.12
Campden Hill Square	24,000	87	275.86	1,351.58
Campden House Court	26,600	222	119.82	1,195.54
Clarendon Rd/Lansdowne Rd	14,000	52	269.23	1,344.95
Collingham Gardens	28,000	189	148.15	1,223.87
Cornwall Gardens	53,000	654	81.04	1,156.76
Courtfield Gardens (East)	20,000	213	93.90	1,169.62
Courtfield Gardens (West)	60,000	422	142.18	1,217.90
Earls Court Square	25,000	291	85.91	1,161.63
Edwardes Square	54,900	248	221.37	1,297.09
Gledhow Gardens	50,000	261	191.57	1,267.29
Hereford Square	17,000	76	223.68	1,299.40

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Garden Square	Levy £	Band D Equiv.Tax Base	Garden Charge Band D £	Band D Tax (incl. Garden) £
Holland Rd/Russell Rd	21,000	196	107.14	1,182.86
Hornton St/Holland St	12,000	115	104.35	1,180.07
Iverna Court	12,000	221	54.30	1,130.02
Kensington Square	15,000	118	127.12	1,202.84
Lexham Gardens	33,000	298	110.74	1,186.46
Moreton/Cresswell Gardens	16,800	100	168.00	1,243.72
Nevern Square	34,000	302	112.58	1,188.30
Norland Square	24,000	178	134.83	1,210.55
Ovington Square	25,000	173	144.51	1,220.23
Pembridge Square	39,600	203	195.07	1,270.79
Philbeach Gardens	52,800	314	168.15	1,243.87
Royal Crescent	37,000	182	203.30	1,279.02
St James's Gardens	19,550	150	130.33	1,206.05
Stanley Crescent	38,000	187	203.21	1,278.93
Stanley Gardens (North)	30,000	125	240.00	1,315.72
Stanley Gardens (South)	43,040	169	254.67	1,330.39
Sunningdale Gardens	3,000	28	107.14	1,182.86
Wetherby Gardens	75,850	360	210.69	1,286.41
Arundel Gdns/Elgin Crescent	30,000	278	107.91	1,183.63
Blenheim/Elgin Crescent	60,000	265	226.42	1,302.14
Emperor's Gate	8,156	261	31.25	1,106.97
Ladbroke Grove	3,000	54	55.56	1,131.28
Rosmead Gardens	26,160	144	181.67	1,257.39
Lansdowne Gardens	28,000	167	167.66	1,243.38
Hanover Gardens	26,950	147	183.33	1,259.05
Montpelier Gardens	39,000	125	312.00	1,387.72
Notting Hill	7,000	38	184.21	1,259.93



Who pays the council tax?

The council tax is a property and person based charge that results in one bill for each household. Paying the bill is normally the responsibility of the freehold or leasehold owner if he or she lives in the property as his or her main or only home and is over 18.

What happens if the owner does not live in the property?

The responsibility falls to residents in the following order - statutory or secure tenants, people living there under a licence and other residents.

What happens if no-one lives in the property?

If the property is no-one's main or only home, then the owner will normally be liable. This applies, for instance, in the case of second homes.

When are owners liable?

The owners would always be liable in the following circumstances:

- Residential care homes, nursing homes and some hostels.
- Religious communities.
- Houses in multiple-occupation (any property normally occupied by a number of people who do not form a single household, for example nurses' homes and hostels).
- Homes occasionally occupied by an employer whose staff live there as domestic service employees.
- The homes of ministers of religion (Church of England properties are normally the responsibility of the Diocesan Board of Finance).
- Homes provided for asylum seekers under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.



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What happens if more than one person is liable?

Where more than one person has an interest in a property (joint owners, for instance), then both are said to be 'jointly and severally liable', which means that the bill can be sent to either or both of them and either can be held responsible for the full amount. This applies to a husband and wife or common-law partnership even when only one of them owns the property and civil partners or those living together as civil partners. Students are not jointly or severally liable in cases where they live with non-students.

COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS AND EXEMPTIONS

Certain individuals are eligible for council tax discount.

The basic council tax charge is based on two or more adults living in the property. If you are the only resident adult in the property you are eligible for a 25 per cent discount, which should have been applied to your bill if we already know that you live alone.

Your bill will not increase if there are more than two adults living in the property.

Who can receive a discount?

Here is the full list of people who are discounted for council tax purposes:

- Full-time students, student nurses, apprentices and those on Youth Training courses.
- People in hospital.
- People being cared for in residential homes, nursing homes, hospices, mental nursing homes and hostels providing a high level of care.
- People who are severely mentally impaired.
- People kept in hospital under the Mental Health Act 1983.
- People in certain night shelters.
- Monks and nuns.
- Students who are 19 or who have just left school.
- Care workers on low pay and usually working for charity, such as Community Service volunteers.
- People caring for someone with a disability, other than a spouse,

partner or child under 18.

- Convicted prisoners and those on remand, except those who are in jail for not paying fines or council tax.

To find out if a discount applies to your bill, you should count the number of adults who live with you as their main home but who are not in one of the groups listed above. If you are left with two or more people, no discount applies. If there is only one person, the bill may be reduced by 25 per cent.

What if all the residents are discounted?

Then a 50 per cent discount may apply. If you are not sure you should contact the Council.

Empty properties

The discount for properties that are empty but furnished (including second homes) is ten per cent.

Please note that under normal circumstances, if you receive an empty property or second home discount you cannot qualify for a resident's parking permit. There is an exception for disabled residents. To enquire about a disabled person's parking badge or a resident carer's permit, telephone 020 7361 2390.

Properties exempt from council tax

Council tax is not charged on certain properties - 'exempt properties'. The classes of property exempt from council tax are shown below. If you think that your property falls into any of these classes please contact us. You may need to provide us with evidence before we grant the exemption.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Class A | - Empty properties having structural alterations or repairs carried out, for a maximum of 12 months |
| Class B | - Empty properties owned by a registered charity, for a maximum of six months |
| Class C | - Empty properties which are substantially unfurnished and were last lived in less than six months ago. The six month period runs from the date the property first became empty and does not start again on a change in ownership |

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- Class D - Empty properties which were lived in by people now in prison or otherwise legally detained
- Class E - Empty properties which were lived in by people who now permanently live in a hospital or home
- Class F - Empty properties where the only person who lived there has died
- Class G - Empty properties where the law prevents anyone from living there
- Class H - Empty properties held vacant for a Minister of Religion
- Class I - Empty properties which were lived in by people who are now receiving personal care in a place other than a hospital or home
- Class J - Empty properties which were lived in by people who are now living elsewhere for the purpose of providing personal care
- Class K - Empty properties which were lived in by students or people who will become students within six weeks of leaving the property
- Class L - Empty properties which have been repossessed
- Class M - Student halls of residence
- Class N - Properties occupied entirely by full time students
- Class O - Ministry of Defence barracks and married quarters
- Class P - Visiting forces accommodation
- Class Q - Empty properties left by someone who has become bankrupt
- Class R - Empty caravan pitches or boat moorings
- Class S - Properties only lived in by people under the age of 18
- Class T - Empty parts of single properties which cannot be let separately
- Class U - Properties which are lived in only by people who are severely mentally impaired
- Class V - Properties which are only lived in by foreign diplomats
- Class W - Parts of properties which are only lived in by the elderly or disabled relatives of those living in the rest of the property

DISABLED RELIEF SCHEME

You may be able to pay less council tax under the disabled band reduction scheme if your home has had work carried out on it to help you or someone else living there with a disability.

How does the disabled band reduction scheme work?

This scheme reduces the council tax payable by disabled people who live in a larger property than they would have needed if they were not disabled. However, having a disability does not automatically entitle you to a reduction.

Can I qualify for a disabled band reduction?

In summary, the requirements for a reduction are that the property must be the main residence of at least one disabled person and it must have at least one of the following:

- an additional bathroom **or** kitchen,
- any other room (not being a toilet) which is mainly used by the disabled person, or
- enough space for the use of a wheelchair - if the wheelchair is for outdoor use only, this will not count.

The room or the wheelchair must also be essential or of major importance to the disabled person's well-being, due to the nature and extent of their disability.

'Disabled person' in this context means a person who is substantially and permanently disabled. The disabled person can be either an adult or a child and does not have to be responsible for paying the council tax bill.

Please note an extra room does not need to have been specially built, but your home will not qualify for a reduction unless the 'essential or of major importance' test above is met. Simply rearranging rooms (for example, having a bedroom on the ground floor rather than the first floor) is unlikely to make your home eligible for a reduction.



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What happens if my home meets these criteria?

If your home is eligible, your bill will be reduced to that of a property in the next council tax band down. For example, a Band D property will be charged a Band C rate. Even if your property is in Band A (the lowest band) you will still receive a reduction. It will be the same in cash terms as the reductions for homes in Band B, C or D. If you would like further details please contact Council Tax Services.

Paying your council tax

Council tax can be paid yearly, half-yearly, quarterly or in ten monthly instalments between April and January. Instalments are payable on the 15th of each month, but Direct Debit payers can choose from the 7th, 15th, 21st or 28th. You can set up a direct debit at any time by telephoning 020 7368 8906. There are full details of payment options on your bill.

E-Billing

Direct Debit payers can choose to receive their bills by email rather than through the post. To sign up for this service please telephone 020 7361 3005, or email counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk

What if I miss a payment?

If you miss a payment we will send you a reminder. **Please note** that we will not send reminders for all instalments you miss. You must make sure that you pay by the dates set out on your bill. If you do not keep to these dates you will lose the right to pay by instalments. We may also take legal action against you to recover the full amount due for the year plus extra costs.

What if there are changes to my circumstances?

You must tell us about any changes in your circumstances that could affect the amount of council tax you should be paying, for instance if you are claiming a single person discount and someone moves into your home.

What if I do not tell the Council of any changes?

You could face a penalty of up to £70. You could also face a penalty of £70 if you do not respond to a request from the Council asking for information that would help to identify who is responsible for paying the council tax.

Council tax advice and information

Further information and advice on all aspects of council tax can be obtained from Council Tax Services at:

Our website: www.rbkc.gov.uk/counciltax

Email: counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk

Tel: 020 7361 3005

Fax: 020 7368 0303

By post: PO Box 10413, Town Hall, Hornton Street,
London W8 7WT

Visit: The Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX
(8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

We aim to produce council tax information in plain English and in an accessible format for all our residents. If you require further assistance please use the contact details above.

How does the banding system work?

The amount of council tax you pay will depend on the band set for your property by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), part of the Government's Revenue and Customs Department. The bands are based on the market value of your home in 1991, and run from A – H. The band that applies to your property is shown on your bill and can be checked, as can the band of any other council tax property, by visiting www.voa.gov.uk

Can I appeal against my council tax band?

You can only appeal against your council tax band in limited circumstances and these do not include changes in the housing market. Changes in the value of a property which affect its band usually result from building or engineering work, in which case revaluation only takes place after the property is sold and the person appealing against it would normally be the new owner or resident.

If the value is reduced by partial demolition, a change in the surroundings or by being adapted for someone with a physical disability, then revaluation should take place as soon as possible.

An appeal is also possible where a house has been converted to flats, or vice versa, or when the Valuation Officer has changed the property's band, in which case the appeal should be made within six months.

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Who can I contact for making an appeal?

For full details about making an appeal, contact the Valuation Officer at:

Council Tax South

Valuation Office Agency

Second Floor

1 Francis Grove

Wimbledon

London

SW19 4DT

Tel: 03000 501501

Email: ctsouth@voa.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.voa.gov.uk

Please note that you must continue to pay council tax until any appeal is decided.

Other appeals

You may also appeal if you think that you should not be paying council tax, e.g. you are not living in the property, the property should be exempt or the way we have worked out the bill is not correct. If you want to appeal on these or similar grounds please write to us so that we can reconsider the case.

COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT AND HOUSING BENEFIT

These benefits can help you pay your council tax and/or rent, whatever your age and whether or not you own your home.

Nationally about two million people are missing out on council tax benefit that they are entitled to. Unless you have substantial savings or a high income you can probably get your council tax bill reduced.

Either you or your partner can claim and you can also claim on behalf of someone else if, for example, they are elderly or sick. You can also claim benefit based on the income of other adults living in your household, so if your own income or savings are too high to qualify you might still be able to get help (see alternative council tax benefit on page 15).

How do I apply for council tax benefit and housing benefit?

Fill in an application form, which you can get from the Council by telephoning or visiting the Benefits Service at Kensington Town Hall or from our website.

You will need to provide evidence to support your claim. The form tells you what you need to send. If you do not have all the documents we need at the time you can send things on to us later - but send the form in quickly.

What will affect how much benefit I receive?

Your income, your savings and your personal circumstances. You must provide evidence of your income, your partner's income and any money earned by other members of your household. This includes all the money you have coming in, from all sources. If you are in doubt about any income you should declare it.

You also have to provide evidence of your savings. As a general rule, if you have capital valued at more than £16,000, then you will not be entitled to benefit. However, if there is a cost involved in disposing of a capital asset, ten per cent of the value is disregarded. So, for example, someone with stocks and shares worth £17,000 would have £1,700 disregarded and might qualify.

You will need to tell us about your health, age and the details of all the people living in your household. This includes your partner, dependent children, grown up children, lodgers, flat sharers, sub-tenants and friends.

How is benefit calculated?

If you receive Jobseeker's Allowance (income based), Income Support or Pension Credit Guarantee and have no other people living with you, you will probably be entitled to 100 per cent benefit.

If you have other people living with you, such as a working son or daughter, or your income is higher then you will usually get less than the maximum benefit. If you qualify for benefit it will normally be awarded from the week after we receive your claim.

Benefit can be backdated if you would have been entitled to it earlier and can give us a good reason why you did not claim it. If you are over 60, you may be able to get your claim backdated for three months.

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Special rules for students

If you are a student you can only claim benefit if you fall within one of the Government's 'vulnerable groups', which includes single parents, disabled students and pensioners.

Alternative council tax benefit (second adult rebate)

If your income or savings are too high to qualify for benefit you might still be able to get help if you share your home with one or more other people. If you live with someone over 18 who is:

- not paying you rent
- not liable to pay council tax
- not your partner
- on a low income

then you might qualify for benefit based on their income.

Who can I ask for help?

If you need any help or if you would like more information then contact the Benefits Service at:

Our website: www.rbkc.gov.uk/benefits

Email: benefits@rbkc.gov.uk

Tel: 020 7361 3006

Fax: 020 7361 2620

By post: PO Box 22515 Town Hall, Hornton Street,
London W8 7WB

Visit: The Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX (8.30am to
5pm Monday to Friday)

By minicom: 020 7361 3426

Text (SMS): 07976 060332

Help us to fight fraud

To report suspected benefit fraud, please telephone 020 7361 2777 or email investigations@rbkc.gov.uk



BUSINESS RATES FOR 2012-13

National Non-Domestic Rates or business rates, as they are more commonly known, are the Government's tax on business properties. Local authorities collect business rates for the Government and they are then redistributed across the country as part of an annual formula grant settlement. For 2012-13, businesses in Kensington and Chelsea are expected to pay £254.1 million in business rates, of which the Royal Borough will receive £98.9 million.

How is your rates bill calculated?

The gross annual rates bill is calculated by multiplying the rateable value of the property by the appropriate Government set multiplier. For 2012-13 the multiplier is 45.8p (45.0p for businesses that qualify for Small Business Rate Relief). The net rates bill may differ if: you qualify for a relief or exemption; transitional arrangements apply or your property is subject to the Business Rates Supplement (BRS). More information about the BRS can be found on pages 31 and 32.

2010 Revaluation and Transitional Arrangements

The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) reassesses all rateable values every five years. The last revaluation came into effect on 1 April 2010.

Transitional arrangements are designed to phase in the effect of the 2010 revaluation over five years until a new revaluation comes into force. For 2012-13 these arrangements will limit the increases or decreases in bills before adding inflation to:

Properties with a rateable value below £25,500

Maximum increase before inflation	10%
Maximum decrease before inflation	35%

Properties with a rateable of £25,500 or more

Maximum increase before inflation	20%
Maximum decrease before inflation	7%



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How can I appeal against the rateable value?

Appeals against and enquiries about rateable values should be addressed to the Valuation Office Agency at:

Email: ratinglondon@voa.gsi.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 501501

Fax: 03000 500692

Website: www.voa.gov.uk

Please note that you must continue to pay your business rates until any appeal is decided.

E-Billing

Ratepayers who opt to pay their rates by direct debit can receive their rates bill by email. To sign up for e-billing please contact the Rates Office on 020 8315 2082 or by email to rbkcndr@capita.co.uk quoting your business rates account number.

Business rates advice and support

www.businesslink.gov.uk provides impartial advice and support to help you sustain your business. At a local level, Portobello Business Centre (www.pbc.co.uk) offers free advice and confidential guidance from qualified experts and www.rbkc.gov.uk/businessandenterprise provides updates on Council backed initiatives that support businesses.

The Council can grant hardship relief to a ratepayer if paying all or part of the bill would cause hardship. Any ratepayer experiencing hardship can apply but relief is normally only granted in exceptional circumstances. For details on how to apply contact the Rates Office.

Further information

Further information about rates can be found on the explanatory notes accompanying your bill, at www.rbkc.gov.uk or by contacting the Rates Office:

Email: rbkcndr@capita.co.uk

Tel: 020 8315 2082 **Fax:** 020 8315 2087

By post: PO Box 2369, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7ZX

Visit: The Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX

(9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

OUR PERFORMANCE

The Coalition Government has withdrawn the elaborate regime of external assessments and targets that existed under the previous government. The Council has welcomed the reduced reporting burden to central government and has embraced the opportunity to refocus resources on achieving greater transparency in how we account to local people. There are various ways in which the Council measures, reports and publishes performance information to enable our residents to hold us to account.

The annual Report to Taxpayers describes in detail the Council's achievements in 2011-12 – from the successful transformation of Exhibition Road and the restoration of the magnificent Albert Bridge, to ever-improving attainment levels in the borough's schools. The Report to Taxpayers 2011 can be viewed here: www.rbkc.gov.uk/reporttotaxpayers

We regularly publish our performance information in the form of the Kensington and Chelsea Performance Report (KCPR); the statistical companion to the Report to Taxpayers. Of the 176 performance targets set in 2010-11, 69 per cent were met or only narrowly missed. Comparison with performance in 2009-10 was possible for 194 performance indicators, where 64 per cent either matched or showed better performance than a year ago. The KCPR is available on the Council's website: www.rbkc.gov.uk/KCPR

The Council has continued to achieve excellent results in the remaining external assessments of its services. During 2010, four primary schools were inspected; two were graded as 'outstanding' and two as 'good'. In the most recent Children's Services annual rating Kensington and Chelsea was rated by Ofsted as 'performing excellently', the highest grade possible. And in adult social care, over 95 per cent of service users are living in care homes rated by the regulators as either 'good' or 'excellent'.

The Royal Borough is recognised as a high performing Council not only by the regulators and auditors who inspect us, but also by the residents whom we serve. Trust in the Council remains high; in this year's Annual

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Survey of Londoners, eight out of ten residents said that they were satisfied with the way the Council runs things. Similarly our recent user experience survey of adult social care found that 84 per cent of service users are satisfied with the care and support services they receive.

The Royal Borough supports the Government's ambition to be fully transparent and has adopted a balanced and proportionate approach to publishing good quality data that is timely, accurate, easy to understand and meaningful to our residents. The transparency pages on our website provide a central hub of data where information on senior managers' salaries, Council contracts, items of spend over £500, and other key data-sets are made easily accessible. Most of these data-sets are available for re-use under the Open Government License; this means that residents and other interested parties are able to use and re-use the data freely and flexibly. The Council's transparency webpage contains more information: www.rbkc.gov.uk/councilanddemocracy/transparencyinthecouncil.aspx

We are interested to know what data and information residents would like to be able to access through the Council's transparency web pages. You can make a suggestion by emailing the Council's Service Improvement Team at: Service.improvement@rbkc.gov.uk

The Council, along with the rest of the public sector, is facing a tough financial future. However, despite the challenges that lie ahead, we are committed to continuing to provide good and sustainable services. One way the Council is seeking to achieve this is through Tri-borough working, where we are joining up services with our neighbours, Westminster and Hammersmith and Fulham, to improve services and make the money from the taxpayer go further.



WHAT WE SPEND

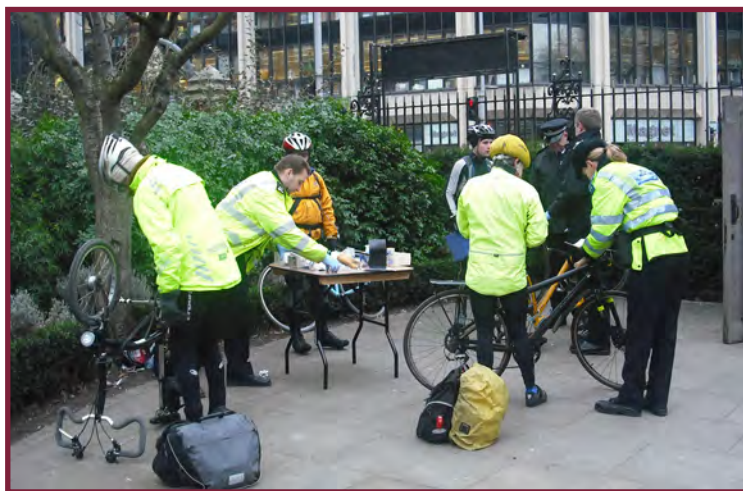
The Council will spend £567 million in 2012-13 on a wide range of local services such as schools, social services, highways and waste collection excluding housing and council tax benefits paid.

Our council tax requirement after taking into account all income and Government funding is £78 million.

The Council also collects nearly £31 million on behalf of the Greater London Authority to pay for London wide services, such as the Metropolitan Police. More details can be found on pages 25 to 30.

Year-on-Year Budget Change

	£m
Council Tax Requirement 2011-12	77.886
Pay and price inflation	2.457
Financing and other budget changes	-0.784
Formula Grant loss	9.334
Council Tax Freeze Grant 2012-13	-1.947
Less net savings	-12.924
Transfer to reserves	4.000
Council Tax Requirement 2012-13	78.022



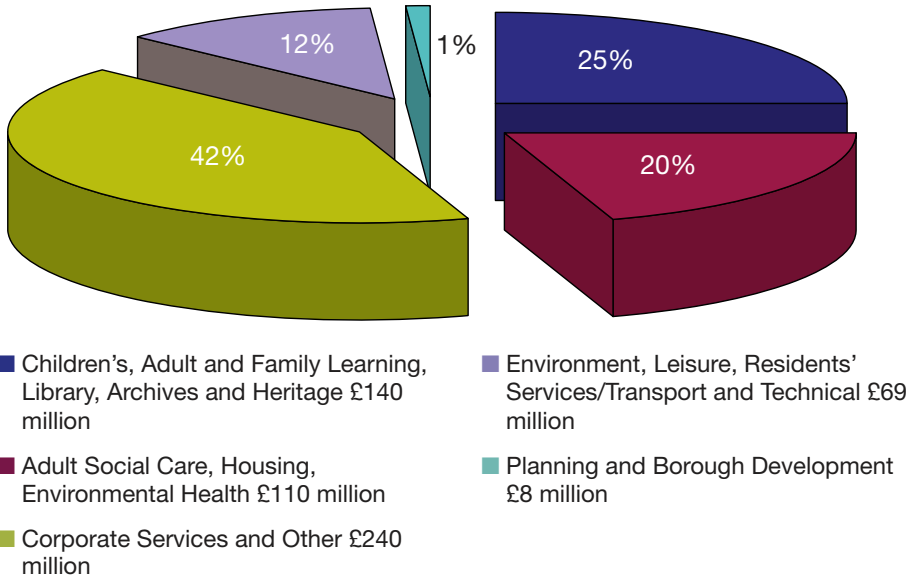
21 Our performance and spending plans

Budgeted Spending and Funding				
2011-12 Budget		2012-13 Budget		
Services	Net £'000	Spending £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
Adult Social Care	48,836	68,604	(15,279)	53,326
Central Services	13,816	66,455	(54,065)	12,390
Children's and Educational Services	44,678	133,625	(93,875)	39,750
Cultural and Related Services	14,192	17,689	(2,653)	15,035
Environmental and Regulatory Services	30,720	38,068	(6,080)	31,988
Highways and Transport Services	590	37,962	(39,998)	(2,036)
Housing Services	23,022	181,296	(166,142)	15,153
Planning Services	4,782	12,120	(7,425)	4,696
Total Service Budgets	180,636	555,819	(385,517)	170,302
Other e.g. financing changes	4,050	7,774	(500)	7,274
Council Tax Freeze Grant	(1,947)		(1,947)	(1,947)
Levies including Garden Squares	3,263	3,239		3,239
Government Formula Grant	(108,267)		(100,880)	(100,880)
Surplus (-) or deficit (+) on Collection Fund	151	34		34
Royal Borough Budget Requirement	77,886	566,866	(488,844)	78,022
Divide by tax base	99,526			99,699
Equals Royal Borough Band D Council Tax	£783			£783
Add Greater London Authority Precept	30,835			30,580
Total Council Tax Requirement	108,721			108,602
Divide by tax base	99,526			99,699
Equals Total Band D Council Tax	£1,092			£1,089

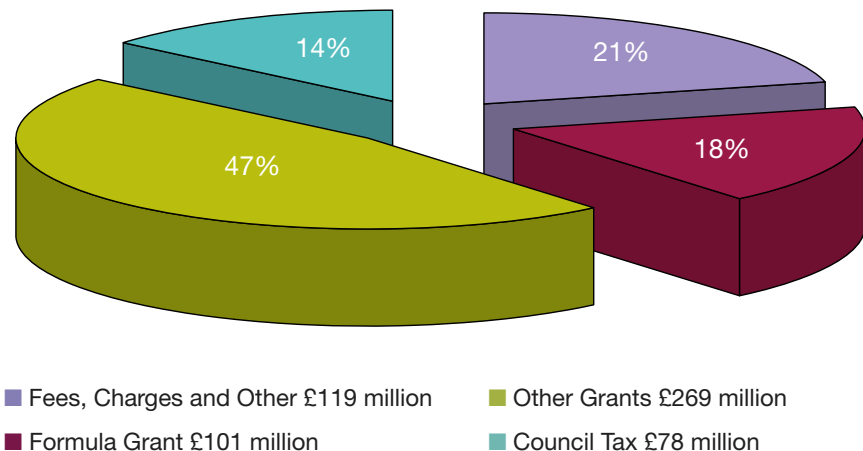
Please note this total spend includes £163 million of housing and council tax benefit payments

The total Royal Borough budget of £567 million is made up and funded as follows:

Royal Borough Gross Spending by Service 2012-13 (£567 million)



Royal Borough Gross Funding 2012-13 (£567 million)



23 Our performance and spending plans

THE COUNCIL'S SERVICES – a snapshot:

Children's Services, Adult and Family Learning, Library, Archives and Heritage

- 1,437 three and 1,267 four year-olds attending nursery settings
- 6,928 places in primary schools
- 3,833 places in five secondary schools (including the new Chelsea Academy)
- Educating 386 children with special educational needs resident in the borough and 74 pupils who attend two special schools
- Educating 132 pupils attending non-maintained schools (including 25 pupils in the Pupil Referral Unit)
- Being a corporate parent to 156 children looked after
- Eight children's centres and support for 75 private, voluntary and community organisations and 50 childminders
- Support for 174 young people leaving care
- Kensington Central Library and five branch libraries, with nearly 1.2 million visits
- 9,838 enrolments and 6,348 adult learners
- 220 young people supported by the Youth Offending Team
- 6,100 young people attending youth support services

Adult Social Care, Housing and Environmental Health

- 301 older people in residential and nursing homes and 81 people in supported accommodation
- 819 older people receiving home care
- 400 service users with direct payments
- 236 people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, sensory impairment or mental health needs in residential and supported care
- 254 people supported to overcome drug or alcohol problems, and 20 people with HIV/AIDS
- 159 users of 'Supporting People' services
- 27,270 people issued with a Freedom Pass
- 2,948 members of the Taxicard service
- 2,838 people issued with a Blue Disabled Parking Badge
- 1,130 households in temporary accommodation
- 2,563 users of 'Supporting People' services
- 1,114 food safety inspections
- 14,490 pest control inspections/visits
- 9,135 service requests to the Noise and Nuisance Service

Planning and Borough Development

- Processing 1,250 building regulation applications and over 4,000 planning applications annually
- Handling 1,200 enforcement cases
- 5,000 full searches of the local land charges register and 2,000 personal searches
- Producing the Local Development Framework
- Caring for 7,000 trees on the Royal Borough's streets

Environment, Leisure and Residents' Services, Transport and Technical Services

- Cleaning of 460 km of pavements and roads
- Collecting about 56,500 tonnes of refuse from 86,000 homes, approximately 30 per cent of which is recycled
- Issuing and monitoring of 330 street trading licences, 59 traders stores and 1,000 licensed premises
- Issuing around 38,000 residents parking permits and 19,000 parking bay suspensions
- Two major bridges – Albert Bridge and Chelsea Bridge
- Four museums and galleries with over 30,000 visits
- Two cemeteries – Gunnersbury and Hanwell
- Opera Holland Park, with 46,500 tickets sold at 47 performances
- Operating and maintaining 13,500 lighting points, including street lights, illuminated signs and bollards
- Managing eight major parks and many smaller open spaces
- Two leisure centres with over 650,000 visits
- Maintaining over 200km of footways

Corporate Services

- Providing 60+ Police Community Support Officers
- Collecting Council Tax of £96 million from 87,000 dwellings and £260 million of Business Rates and Business Rates Supplement
- Payment of over £130 million of Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit
- Managing 270 properties in the commercial portfolio with over 315 leases
- Payroll and human resources services for 4,317 employees
- Promoting local employment
- Support for over 600 official meetings a year
- Managing Council buildings
- Over £2 million of support for a range of voluntary organisations in the Royal Borough

The text on pages 25 to 35 has been supplied by the named external bodies.

GREATERLONDONAUTHORITY



Introduction

Boris Johnson’s fourth budget continues to deliver on his priority to keep the cost of living down and protect front line services. **For the first time in the history of the GLA, this year the Mayor is cutting his element of the Council Tax by 1 per cent.** This means that since the beginning of the current Mayoral term his precept has fallen by 16 per cent in real terms.

In the current economic climate the public sector must do more with less, delivering improved public services for no extra cost. The Mayor will continue to invest in his priorities by increasing police numbers to 1,000 more than he inherited in 2008, improving public transport, protecting the 24 hour Freedom Pass, investing in delivering more homes for London families, working to increase young people’s opportunities and ensuring the 2012 Olympic Games leave a lasting legacy.

Council Tax and Budget Information

The Greater London Authority’s (GLA) share of the Council Tax for a typical Band D property has been reduced to £306.72. The table below shows how this is allocated. The increase in precept share for the core GLA primarily arises due to a revised accounting treatment for the £23.4m reward grant which the Mayor received from the Government for freezing his council tax last year.

Council Tax	2011-12	Change	2012-13
MOPC (Police)	227.95	+0.15	228.10
LFEPa (Fire Brigade)	52.20	-12.66	39.54
Core GLA & Olympics	27.68	+9.43	37.11
TfL (Transport)	1.99	-0.02	1.97
Total (£)	309.82	-3.10	306.72

Despite the reduction in your bill the share of the council tax allocated to support front line policing will increase. A Band D Council Tax payer in the City of London, which has its own police force, will pay £78.62.

Controlling Costs at City Hall (Core GLA)

The Mayor has put value for money at the very heart of his administration and has controlled costs tightly as well as ruthlessly cutting out waste. London's government has been streamlined with a reduction of almost 40 per cent in staffing at City Hall to deliver services to Londoners more efficiently and effectively.

These back office savings delivered have allowed the Mayor to keep the cost of living down for Londoners as well as releasing money to deliver his key priorities including: supporting four Rape Crisis Centres; delivering more affordable homes for London families (50,000) than in any other single Mayoral term and supporting the creation of up to 100,000 apprenticeships for young people to provide them with the opportunity to enter the employment market. The GLA is also co-ordinating £221 million of investment in regeneration across the capital, boosting local high streets in outer London and supporting those areas most badly affected by the August 2011 disturbances, so communities emerge from the current downturn stronger.

Metropolitan Police

The Mayor's first priority is to make London safer. This budget enables the new Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC) and the Metropolitan Police Service to continue to drive down crime, which has fallen by over 10 per cent since 2008.

He has secured an additional £90m of government funding which will provide sufficient resources to ensure that there will be 1,000 more warranted police officers at the end of his term than at the beginning. Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams in each ward in London will continue to be supported to maintain a constant visible police presence.

Transport for London (TfL)

In the face of a challenging public spending round, the Mayor has secured funding from the Government to improve and expand London's transport system and to support directly 32,000 jobs.

All existing free and concessionary travel schemes, including the 24 hour Freedom Pass for older and disabled Londoners, free bus travel for those under 16 and half price bus travel for Londoners who are on income related benefits have been protected.

The Mayor is investing £22 billion in London's transport infrastructure on projects including:

- The financing of the main construction works for the Crossrail project, which will increase London's rail capacity by over 10%;
- The completion of the upgrade of the Tube network – with work to increase capacity on the Victoria and Northern lines work being undertaken during 2012;
- Completing the roll out of new air conditioned trains for the District, Circle, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines;
- Opening the London Overground extension to Clapham Junction during 2012 to complete London's orbital railway and adding capacity on Tramlink in south London;
- Expanding the successful Barclays Cycle Hire scheme and delivering eight new cycle superhighways across London by 2013;
- Maintaining existing bus mileage and introducing the Mayor's new 'Bus for London'.

The Mayor's roadworks permit scheme has led to a 40 per cent decrease in serious disruption on the roads he controls. He is also working with London boroughs to deliver improvements to the road network and road safety.

2012 Olympics and Paralympics

The amount to be raised through the Council Tax for the Games (within the GLA budget) remains at £20 – or 38p a week - for a Band D household. This delivers on the Mayor's commitment that it would not

increase. The GLA will seek to ensure the benefits of this year’s Games are seen London-wide and leave a lasting legacy.

London Fire Brigade

The budget for the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA) will protect front line services in the London Fire Brigade. The Authority is building on its recent successes in reducing fires, fire deaths, arson attacks and hoax calls.

Summary of GLA Group Budget

The tables below provide information on the key funding sources for the GLA, including Council Tax and the reasons for the changes in the overall budget since last year.

How the budget is funded	£m
Gross Expenditure (net of intra group spend)	13,655
Fares, charges and other income	-6,603
General and specific Government grants	-6,300
Net transfer to/from reserves	193
Surplus in council tax collection funds	-10
Amount met by council tax payers	935

The change in gross expenditure reflects the impact of the phasing of transport investment and savings within the GLA Group.

29 Greater London Authority and other services

Changes in spending	£m
2011-12 Council tax requirement	935
Inflation	92
Efficiencies and other savings	-272
Growth for existing services and new initiatives	157
Other changes (including income growth)	23
2012-13 Council tax requirement	935

The table on page 30 compares the GLA group's expenditure for the Metropolitan Police (MOPC), London Fire Brigade (LFEPA) and Other Services (including transport and the Olympics) in 2012-13 with 2011-12. The council requirement is effectively unchanged although the Band D precept has been cut by £3.10. More information on the budget is available on the GLA website at www.london.gov.uk (tel: 020 7983 4000).

Summary of Spending and Income £m	Police (MOPC)		Fire (LFEPA)		Other Services (including GLA, Olympics and TfL)		GLA Group Total	
	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13
(Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding)								
Gross expenditure (net of intra group spend)	3,572.3	3,566.4	459.6	448.1	9,768.6	9,640.5	13,800.5	13,655.0
Government grants	-2,542.2	-2,555.4	-263.4	-270.0	-3,607.0	-3,474.2	-6,412.6	-6,299.6
Other income (incl. fares and charges)	-307.8	-292.5	-19.2	-27.3	-5,832.1	-6,293.3	-6,159.1	-6,613.1
Net expenditure	722.3	718.5	177.0	150.7	329.5	-127.0	1,228.8	742.3
Change to Level of Reserves	-34.8	-23.5	-19.3	-30.0	-239.9	246.3	-294.0	192.8
Council tax requirement (income)	687.5	695.0	157.7	120.7	89.6	119.4	934.8	935.1

CROSSRAIL BUSINESS RATE SUPPLEMENT

The Greater London Authority (GLA) introduced a business rate supplement (BRS) in April 2010 to finance £4.1 billion of the costs of the £15.9 billion Crossrail project.

What is Crossrail and how will it benefit your business?

Crossrail will provide a new modern railway across London connecting the outer suburbs and Heathrow to the West End, the City and Canary Wharf. It is key to the future growth of London's economy and the increased earnings - from new employment opportunities and transport time savings - will benefit businesses right across London. It will be by far the largest single investment in London's infrastructure for a generation or more employing up to 14,000 people at the peak of construction. Crossrail services are due to commence on the Shenfield to Liverpool Street section in 2017 and through central London in 2018 followed by a phased introduction of services on the rest of the route.

Crossrail Ltd is committed to engaging regularly with local communities and business sectors to ensure that business' voice is heard. Further information on Crossrail can be found at www.crossrail.co.uk, by calling the Crossrail 24 hr Helpdesk on 0345 602 3813 or visiting Crossrail's Visitor Information Centres at 16-18 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LN and the Idea Store, 321 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BU.

Developments in the construction and financing of Crossrail

The Mayor of London agreed a settlement with the Government in October 2010 which will allow Crossrail to be built on its agreed route and secure investment for the upgrade of the Tube. Crossrail is now under construction at all its central station sites across London and tunnelling works are due to commence in 2012.

In April 2012 the Mayor is also due to introduce a community infrastructure planning (CIL) levy on new developments in London to finance Crossrail. This will be paid by the developer. Further information can be found on the GLA website at www.london.gov.uk

How will London's businesses help to fund Crossrail?

The Crossrail BRS will be used to finance £3.5 billion worth of borrowing by the GLA and the repayment of this sum after the end of the Crossrail construction works. A further £0.6 billion of BRS revenues will be used to finance the construction works directly. The GLA will have contributed £1.9 billion by March 2012 towards the project using revenues financed by the BRS. It expects the Crossrail BRS will run for a period of between 24 and 31 years until its borrowing is repaid.

Does my business have to pay the Crossrail BRS?

The Crossrail BRS is applied only to assessments (e.g. business and other non domestic premises) on the local rating lists of the 32 London boroughs and the City of London Corporation which have a rateable value of more than £55,000. Over 80 per cent of non domestic properties in London will therefore be exempt from the BRS. Your rates bill makes clear if you are liable to pay the BRS.

How much do I pay if my property's rateable value is above £55,000?

The Crossrail BRS multiplier for 2012-13 is 2p per pound of rateable value. Reliefs for the Crossrail BRS will apply on the same basis and at the same percentage rate as for your National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) bill although no transitional relief is provided for the BRS.

Keeping you informed

We will continue to provide updates on the Crossrail BRS over its lifetime with your annual rates bills. Further information on the Crossrail BRS can be obtained by contacting the GLA or viewing our website:

Greater London Authority, Finance Division, 6th Floor, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA. Tel: 020 7983 4100.

Email: crossrail-brs@london.gov.uk

www: www.london.gov.uk/crossrail-brs

WESTERN RIVERSIDE WASTE AUTHORITY

Western Riverside Waste Authority is the statutory waste disposal authority for the London Boroughs of Hammersmith & Fulham, Lambeth and Wandsworth and for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The Authority’s waste management policies are led by the waste hierarchy principles of waste reduction, reuse and recycling, with the balance of residual waste being transported from the Authority’s two transfer stations via the River Thames to a new Energy from Waste Facility on the Thames at Belvedere, which became fully operational during 2011-12. The Authority has therefore already achieved the Mayor of London’s 2025 target of zero municipal waste direct to landfill.

The Authority and its constituent councils agreed on a new basis of cost apportionment from 2009-10. Under the agreement, intended to run for eight years, the Authority recovers the costs of waste delivered by its constituent councils at a rate per tonne according to the nature of the waste recycled or disposed of. There is a residual annual levy, apportioned on the basis of council tax-base, for overheads and civic amenity waste.

The estimated costs to constituent councils for 2012-13 compared to the original budgeted cost in 2011-12 are shown in the table below.

Council	2012-13 Direct costs £'000	2012-13 Levy £'000	2012-13 Total costs £'000	2011-12 Total costs £'000	Increase £'000	Increase %
Hammersmith and Fulham	9,111	809	9,920	9,729	191	1.97
Kensington and Chelsea	9,413	1,007	10,420	10,304	116	1.13
Lambeth	14,295	1,096	15,391	15,585	-194	-1.24
Wandsworth	12,111	1,297	13,408	13,179	229	1.74
Total	44,930	4,209	49,139	48,797	342	0.70

Total net costs have increased by 0.7% compared to the original budget for 2011-12. This is due to increased contract costs as all waste is sent to the new Energy from Waste Facility, capital financing costs for the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), and general inflation, which are offset by decreases in the volume of waste managed and adjustments for inflation allowances on charges and the Levy using a contribution from the General Reserve. The increase is not uniform for all four boroughs, however, mainly because each has experienced different decreases in their budgeted waste streams between the two financial years.

For more information on Western Riverside Waste Authority visit www.wrwa.gov.uk

LONDON PENSIONS FUND AUTHORITY (LPFA)

The London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA) raises a levy each year to meet expenditure on premature retirement compensation and outstanding personnel matters for which LPFA is responsible and cannot charge to the pension fund. These payments relate to former employees of the Greater London Council (GLC), the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) and the London Residuary Body (LRB).

For 2012-13, the income to be raised by levies is set out below. The Greater London levy is payable in all boroughs, the Inner London levy only in Inner London Boroughs (including the City of London). The figures show the total to be raised and, in brackets, the percentage change on the previous year.

• Inner London	£13,065,000	(0%)
• Greater London	£10,318,000	(0%)
• Total	£23,383,000	(0%)

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The Environment Agency is a levying body for its Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Functions under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Environment Agency (Levies) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Environment Agency has powers in respect of flood and coastal erosion risk management for 5,200 kilometres of main river and along tidal and sea defences in the area of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. Money is spent on the construction of new flood defence schemes, the maintenance of the river system and existing flood defences together with the operation of a flood warning system and management of the risk of coastal erosion. The financial details are:

Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee		
	2011-12	2012-13
	'000	'000
Gross Expenditure	£86,484	£86,484
Levies Raised	£10,000	£10,000
Total Council Tax Base	5,082	5,081

The majority of funding for flood defence comes directly from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). However, under the new Partnership Funding rule not all schemes will attract full central funding. To provide ‘matching’ funding the Agency may seek funding from County and Metropolitan Councils, Unitary Authorities and London Boroughs in the form of a Local Levy. The Local Levy is shared on the basis of Band D Equivalents between all contributing bodies within the Committee Area.

Changes in the Gross Budgeted expenditure between the years reflect the impact of the Government Spending Review and national prioritisation of capital projects.

The total Local Levy raised has remained the same in 2012-13 as 2011-12 at £10,000,000.





THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Contacting the Council

www.rbkc.gov.uk

You can contact our main services directly by using these phone numbers and email addresses

Streetline	020 7361 3001	streetline@rbkc.gov.uk
Environmental Healthline	020 7361 3002	environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk
Arts and Leisureline	020 7361 3003	artsandleisure@rbkc.gov.uk
Parkingline	020 7361 3004	parking@rbkc.gov.uk
Council Taxline	020 7361 3005	counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk
Benefitsline	020 7361 3006	benefits@rbkc.gov.uk
Paymentsline	020 7361 3007	www.rbkc.gov.uk/onlinepayments
Housingline	020 7361 3008	housing@rbkc.gov.uk
Educationline	020 7361 3009	education@rbkc.gov.uk
Librariesline	020 7361 3010	libraries@rbkc.gov.uk
Recruitmentline	020 7361 3011	recruitment@rbkc.gov.uk
Planningline	020 7361 3012	planning@rbkc.gov.uk
Social Servicesline	020 7361 3013	socialservices@rbkc.gov.uk
Fraudline	020 7361 2777	investigations@rbkc.gov.uk

For other enquiries please contact

Enquiryline	020 7361 3000	information@rbkc.gov.uk
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Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes.