



## Soham Town Council

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### SOHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S 2020-21 DOMESTIC RATES EXPLAINED

Each year Soham Town Council (STC) reviews the cost of running the town council and in undertaking new and ongoing community projects. It has to ensure there is sufficient money to meet its legal obligations and fund those projects it thinks most important to the community.

This current year has been difficult with increased health and safety regulations having to be met, resolution of outstanding legal matters, staff training, attention to a number of assets and major repairs including the removal of asbestos from our Grade 2 listed South Chapel in Fordham Road Cemetery.

To meet these challenges, STC agreed at its December meeting, to increase the Precept (its element of domestic rates) from £322,500 to £412,000 for the coming year. This does not include rates charged by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC), Police, Fire, and rescue services. The requested amount by STC is used solely in benefit to and for Soham residents.

*The table below shows the current and 2020-21 charges with yearly, monthly and weekly increases applicable to each property band (excluding any subsidies). It also excludes any charges made currently or any future rate rises applied by CCC, ECDC, Police, Fire or rescue services.*

PROPERTY BAND RATE	NUMBER OF HOUSES IN EACH BAND	CURRENT CHARGE	NEW 2020-21 CHARGE	YEARLY INCREASE	MONTHLY INCREASE	WEEKLY INCREASE
A	939	£58.80	£73.22	+ £14.42	+ £1.20	+ £0.28
B	2181	£68.60	£85.42	+ £16.82	+ £1.40	+ £0.32
C	952	£78.40	£97.62	+ £19.22	+ £1.60	+ £0.37
D	813	£88.20	£109.82	+ £21.62	+ £1.80	+ £0.42
E	313	£107.8	£134.23	+ £26.34	+ £2.20	+ £0.51
F	75	£127.4	£158.63	+ £34.23	+ £2.60	+ £0.60
G	24	£147	£183.04	+ £36.04	+ £3.00	+ £0.69
H	1	£176.40	£219.65	+ £43.25	+ £3.60	+ £0.83

STC employs staff, accounting and legal services to your town councillors and maintain community assets and property. In addition, this year STC has taken on managing the town's CCTV system, legal support for the Shade Common, resolution of the vandalised Adizone facilities, installation of electric gates at Fordham road cemetery, changes to Policing policy as well as new Health and Safety regulations. STC now has to provide and pay for traffic control at the annual Remembrance Sunday parade and providing Christmas lights in the town.

In the next financial year, STC will consider its strategic plans to enable it to deliver long(er) term amenity and infrastructure improvements, together with those additional activities and responsibilities that are no longer undertaken or funded by Higher Tier or other Statutory Authorities; but remain important to the local community.

Charles Warner  
Soham Town Council Chairman