



Croydon Constitutionalists

Bringing Classical Liberalism to South London

Contact Michael Swadling

Email CroydonConstitutionalists@gmail.com

Website croydonconstitutionalists.uk

Facebook facebook.com/CroydonConstitutionalists

Twitter twitter.com/CroydonConst

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOWN HALL RICH LIST - HIGHLIGHTS FROM CROYDON COUNCIL

TPA Town Hall Rich List reveals increase in number of £100K+ salaries paid to fat cats at Croydon council.



The TaxPayers' Alliance's annual Town Hall Rich List has been released. This shows council employees who received total remuneration in excess of £100,000. Councils talk of austerity and keep ramping up council tax rises. In Croydon the report shows 23 people who earned over £100,000 last year and 3 who earned more than the Prime Minister. This is up from the 19 people who earned over £100K the previous year. The London Borough of Barnet, which is

about the same size as Croydon makes do with just 7 staff on over £100K and only 1 earning more than the Prime Minister. Neighbouring us, Sutton has just 11, Merton 9, Lambeth 16, Bromley 20, Tandridge 1, and Reigate and Banstead 4, on more than £100K.

If the council isn't splashing the cash on highly paid executives they are spending it on cultural events and local community groups. Many of these are good causes some less so. The council publishes their spending over £500. We've reviewed the spend in 2019 and found some particular lowlights like the £105,666 spent on Consultancy Fees for a cost called 'Brick by Brick Overheads and Admin'. In total £333,364 was dished out by local councillors in 2019 in amounts over £500 as part of their 'Community Ward Budgets'. Much of this goes to local residents' associations and clubs, many very worthy, but are these the core services we pay our Council Tax for?

We don't think you should pay for our weekend fun, or for that matter we should pay for yours. We like Croydon's Pride event, but would rather you aren't forced to fund politicians' or anyone's day out. In 2019 a total of £59,360 was paid out to Croydon Pride between 'Community Ward Budgets' and the 'Culture Growth Fund', a huge amount of money for a 1 day event! Where does it all go? The 'Culture Growth Fund' payments over £500 totalled £754,669 of which, £160,000 went to pay for the expensively priced Boxbark, and Dance Umbrella (no we hadn't heard of them either) received £29,000 of your taxes. Croydon with Talent Ltd received £20,000 and once again The Oval Tavern received £5,000 for we assume a very expensive round.

Council Tax is regressive, it has little correlation to peoples' ability to pay. We say Croydon's Labour Council are all too often not spending our hard earned money paid in taxes wisely, but it's not just Labour. The Conservative councillors voted for the 2019 and 2020 budgets and hold joint responsibility for this waste. We ask them all not to take the people of Croydon for granted and treat our money with respect.

Further details in our article at <http://croydonconstitutionalists.uk/pitch-for-as-much-as-they-think-they-can-get-away-with-and-then-think-what-to-spend-it-on-highlights-from-croydon-council/>.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Michael Swadling or email at CroydonConstitutionalists@gmail.com.

