**2020 Budget Consultation Results**

314 responses

The Council’s on-line and paper consultation, giving residents, businesses and organisation a chance to have their say on our budget proposals for the next financial year, this year attracted 314 responses, an increase of 27% on the previous year.

The six week consultation was promoted via media release, social media activity and the consultation mailing list of 3,454 subscribers, directing respondents to an on-line questionnaire on the budget challenges facing the authority. The survey included sections where residents and businesses could indicate how much they supported specific functions on a scale of 1-10, 1 being least supported and 10 being most supported.

As well as the increase in responses, it also resulted in more than 2,500 pageviews on the ‘have your say’ webpage and over 11,000 online survey views. In addition, regular messages were circulated via our corporate social media. This reached nearly 6,000 people via Facebook and Twitter.

Those taking part highlighted adult social care as the area they most supported, displacing bins, waste and recycling from the top priority spot, and the least supported area was planning for the second year in a row.

Some areas increase in the public’s priority ranking. The emerging issues were prevention and wellbeing services, moving up seven places in the priority ranking, private sector housing moving up five places and home options and housing related support up four. Services ranked from one to 27.

The areas that faded in priority include cemeteries and crematorium down six places, libraries and leisure, and neighbourhood and countryside services both down five places and street and grounds cleaning, and school improvement services both down four.

|  | **2020** | **2020** | **2019** | **2019** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Mean** | **Rank** | **Mean** | **Rank** | **Rise/fall in rank** |
| Adult Social Care | 8.4 | 1 | 7.7 | 2 | +1 |
| Bins, Waste and Recycling Service | 8.1 | 2 | 8.2 | 1 | -1 |
| Child Protection  | 8.0 | 3 | 7.5 | 4 | +1 |
| Economy and Regeneration | 7.9 | 4 | 7.2 | 5 | +1 |
| Safeguarding | 7.8 | 5 | 7.1 | 8 | +3 |
| Enforcement and Safer Communities | 7.8 | 6 | 7.2 | 6 |  0 |
| Street and Grounds Cleaning | 7.5 | 7 | 7.6 | 3 | **-4** |
| Through Care and Disability | 7.3 | 8 | 6.9 | 10 | +2 |
| Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) & specialist services | 7.3 | 9 | 6.8 | 11 | +2 |
| Highways, Transport, Street Lighting and Car Parks | 7.2 | 10 | 7.1 | 7 | -3 |
| Children’s health | 7.1 | 11 | 6.6 | 13 | +2 |
| Home Options and Housing Related Support | 7.1 | 12 | 6.2 | 16 | **+4** |
| Young and Safe | 7.0 | 13 | 6.7 | 12 | -1 |
| Libraries and Leisure | 7.0 | 14 | 6.9 | 9 | **-5** |
| Prevention and Wellbeing Services | 7.0 | 15 | 5.6 | 22 | **+7** |
| Flooding | 6.7 | 16 | 6.3 | 15 | -1 |
| Family Hubs | 6.6 | 17 | 6.0 | 19 | +2 |
| School improvement services | 6.5 | 18 | 6.5 | 14 | **-4** |
| Access and inclusion services | 6.5 | 19 | 6.0 | 18 | -1 |
| Private Sector Housing | 6.3 | 20 | 5.3 | 25 | **+5** |
| Drug and Alcohol Recovery | 6.3 | 21 | 5.4 | 23 | +2 |
| Neighbourhood and Countryside Services | 6.2 | 22 | 6.1 | 17 | **-5** |
| Tourism and Visitor Offer | 6.2 | 23 | 5.8 | 21 | -2 |
| Corporate and Democratic services | 6.1 | 24 | 5.2 | 26 | +2 |
| Sexual Health | 6.0 | 25 | 5.4 | 24 | -1 |
| Cemeteries and Crematorium | 5.8 | 26 | 5.8 | 20 | **-6** |
| Planning | 5.2 | 27 | 5.0 | 27 |  0 |

**Internal Improvement** means improving the way we do things internally as a council.

**Support services** means putting more support into any service whether that be funding or using the services we already have to carry out our functions.