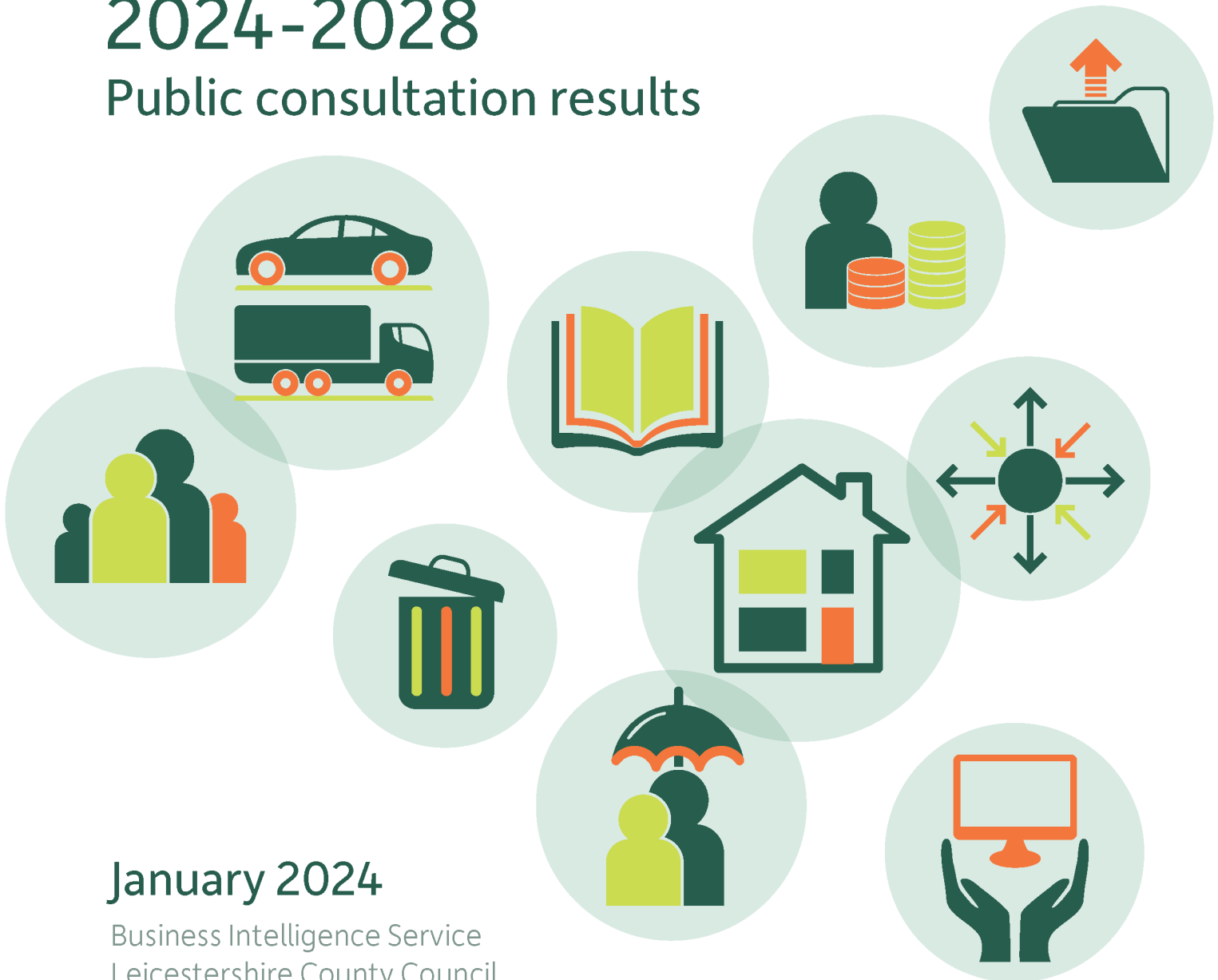




Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-2028

Public consultation results



January 2024

Business Intelligence Service
Leicestershire County Council

Jo Miller
Head of Business Intelligence Service

Nicole Brown
Research and Insight Manager

Business Intelligence Service
Leicestershire County Council
County Hall, Glenfield
Leicester LE3 8RA

Tel 0116 305 7341
Email jo.miller@leics.gov.uk

Produced by the Business Intelligence Service at Leicestershire County Council.

With support from:

- Communications Team, Leicestershire County Council
- Policy Team, Leicestershire County Council
- Strategic Finance, Leicestershire County Council

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this report, Leicestershire County Council cannot be held responsible for any errors or omission relating to the data contained within the report.

CONTENTS

	Page
Key findings	4
Background	6
Methodology	6
Communication	7
Questions	7
Analysis	7
Results	
Role of Respondent	8
Core Council Tax increase (excluding adult social care precept)	10
Adult Social Care Precept	12
Total Council Tax increase	14
Impact of a 5% increase in Council Tax	18
Growth and savings allocation	23
Open-ended questions	24
Funding Reform	33
Other comments on the council's budget proposals	34
Communications	37
Appendices	
Appendix 1 - Questionnaire	38
Appendix 2 - Respondent profile	45
Appendix 3 - Open comment codes	47
Appendix 4 - Statistical Analysis	52

Key findings

In total, 447 responses were received to the consultation survey, of which 61% were residents of Leicestershire and 59% were employees of Leicestershire County Council (LCC) (multiple-choice question).

Council Tax

Excluding any adult social care precept, over a fifth respondents (22%) said they would be prepared to pay a core Council Tax increase of above 3% to fund County Council services and almost a third (30%) said they would be prepared to pay an increase of 3%. Around a sixth said they would be prepared to pay an increase of 2% or 1% (17% and 15%, respectively). Roughly an eighth (12%) did not want to pay any increase in core Council Tax, whilst a small proportion (5%) said they thought core Council Tax should be reduced.

Over a sixth of respondents (17%) said they would be prepared to pay an increase of above 2% in Council Tax to specifically fund adult social care in Leicestershire (the adult social care precept). A similar proportion said they would be prepared to pay an increase of 2% or 1% (29% and 28%, respectively). Just over a quarter (26%) were opposed to paying any adult social care precept.

By combining the responses to the questions about core Council Tax and the adult social care precept, over a third (35%) said they would be prepared to pay a 5% increase or above in overall Council Tax (including the adult social care precept). A tenth of respondents (10%) said they would not be prepared to pay any increase in any Council Tax and 4% said they thought all Council Tax should be reduced.

Respondents were asked what impact an overall 5% increase in Council Tax (the proposed total of core Council Tax and adult social care precept) would have on their household finances. The same proportion of respondents said this would have a significant impact (28%) or a moderate impact (28%). A third (33%) said this would have a slight impact. Just over a tenth (11%) said this would have no impact on their household.

When asked why an overall 5% increase in Council Tax would have an impact on their household finances, most respondents expressed concerns about further increases in Council Tax during the current cost of living crisis. Respondents were particularly worried about how this increase, combined with other increases in bills, would affect their household. Several respondents said this increase would impact their essential household costs, whilst some were concerned about struggling to afford this as a single or fixed-income household. Although most comments raised concerns or highlighted issues, many respondents said they understood the need for this increase to protect essential council services and said that they could afford the 5% with little or no impact to their household finances.

Growth and Savings

When respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with how the growth and savings had been allocated across services, 39% agreed and 24% disagreed (36% neither agreed nor disagreed).

Open Comments

Open comments regarding service reductions highlighted some key areas of concern, particularly service cuts to social care. Some respondents disagreed with savings to Environment and Transport services, specifically mentioning Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS). Others disagreed with savings that would impact on services that support residents with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Several respondents made suggestions that efficiencies and savings could be made in certain areas, including staffing and management. Despite a clear opposition to savings generally, many supported the savings outlined in the strategy or said that they seemed sensible.

Respondents were asked whether there were any other areas where the council could make further savings. Suggestions for making efficiencies in staffing was the most common theme. There were many references to reducing the number of staff and management levels within departments, and reducing the number of councillors, agency staff and external consultants. Other respondents highlighted savings that could be made in Environment and Transport services, including street lighting and recycling and household waste. A notable proportion also mentioned efficiencies that could be made in office space, suggesting the closure of council buildings and making energy savings.

When asked about the areas identified for growth or capital investment, many suggested that the council should invest more in services such as libraries and mental health support. Others suggested ways for the council to increase income, including more investment in public transport and ensuring Council Tax is collected from all residents. Several expressed concerns regarding the areas identified for growth, with some raising issues with the cost of building new roads and houses. A number of respondents were positive about the proposals and agreed with the council's plans to invest in specific areas.

When asked to provide any further comments or suggestions about the council's budget proposals, most respondents provided suggestions regarding the proposals or ways for the council to generate additional income. Others made suggestions in relation to staffing, management or departmental re-organisation. A notable proportion of respondents criticised or had concerns regarding the council's proposals to make further cuts to services. Council Tax increases was another reoccurring criticism, with several respondents raising concerns about paying additional increases during a cost of living crisis. There were many mentions of Leicestershire being unfairly underfunded. Some of these respondents recognised the difficulty the council faces, whilst others criticised the council's efforts to lobby central Government for fairer funding. Some respondents felt they needed further information to provide a meaningful response or asked specific questions around the council's budget plans. Positive responses reflected general support for the council's proposals and the identified areas for growth.

Funding Reform

With regards to fairer funding, the majority of respondents (93%) agreed that the council should continue lobbying Government to review the way funding is distributed between councils.

Background

Leicestershire County Council, alongside councils across the country, is facing its toughest ever budget challenge.

Spiralling social care prices, growing service demand and inflation are driving up costs for councils across the country. This means that for the first time, it has planned to use up to £12m of reserves to help balance the books next year. This gap is set to rise to £85m by 2028.

The council's proposals include £127m more to support vulnerable people. This is to cover increased demand and complexity of need across adults and children's social care, paying for more placements, home and residential care, and supporting people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health needs. Also, an extra £113m is required to cover inflation and the National Living Wage increase.

The proposals also include £36m of efficiency savings, including redesigning services and reducing back-office support by maximising digital technology and smarter procurement. However, further savings will need to be identified in addition to those already planned, which means the council will need to deliver many of its services differently going forwards.

The council also has a £445m four-year capital programme for the cost of building roads, schools, and other one-off projects linked to new homes being built across Leicestershire.

The proposals outline a proposed 3% increase on core Council Tax in 2024/25, generating an additional £11m for front-line services. A further £7m would be raised from a 2% increase in the adult social care precept. These are the maximum percentage increases allowed by the Government without a local referendum. A decision on core Council Tax and the adult social care precept will be taken each year for any future increases.

The consultation exercise on the budget plan provided an opportunity for residents, staff, businesses, community groups, and other stakeholders to have their views heard and taken into account when the budget plan is considered and finalised by the County Council.

Methodology

Following the publication of the detailed budget proposals, a consultation summary and survey form were made available on the County Council's website for the duration of the consultation period of 20th December 2023 to 17th January 2024.

This provided the opportunity for residents and other stakeholders to have their say. Paper copies of the survey and copies in alternative formats (including easy read) were available on request.

Communication

A range of communications activity was used throughout the consultation period to encourage people to have their say, including: newsletters, online content, social media (X, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Next Door), intranet content, staff briefings, Yammer posts, media releases and direct emails to residents, staff, parish councils, businesses and other stakeholders. This generated engagement across social media platforms and wide-ranging press coverage in print, online and broadcast media and ultimately helped to generate 447 responses.

Questions

The survey asked respondents about Council Tax levels (including the Government's proposed adult social care precept) and the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with how the budget had been allocated across services. It also asked a number of open-ended questions about the budget and the way the council works. These are listed below:

- What impact, if any, would an overall 5% increase in Council Tax have on your household finances? Why do you say this?
- Are there any savings you disagree with?
- Are there any areas where you think we could make further savings?
- Do you have any comments about the areas identified for growth or capital investment?
- Do you have any other comments about our draft budget proposals?

For each question, all comments were read by analysts, and a coding frame was devised. The comments were then re-read and thematically coded using the coding frame. All comments have been passed on to the council's Finance Department, in full, for further consideration. See Appendix 3 for a full list of codes for each open-ended question.

A range of demographic questions were also asked, namely: gender, gender the same as sex registered at birth, age, disability, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, postcode, whether the respondents are parents or carers of a young person aged 17 or under, or a carer of a person aged 18 or over. See Appendix 1 for the full questionnaire.

Analysis

Graphs and tables have been used to assist explanation and analysis. Question results have been reported based on those who provided a valid response, i.e. taking out the "don't know" responses and no replies where relevant.

The responses of different demographic groups were analysed and statistically significant differences are highlighted within the relevant sections of this report. See Appendix 4 for the full statistical analysis.

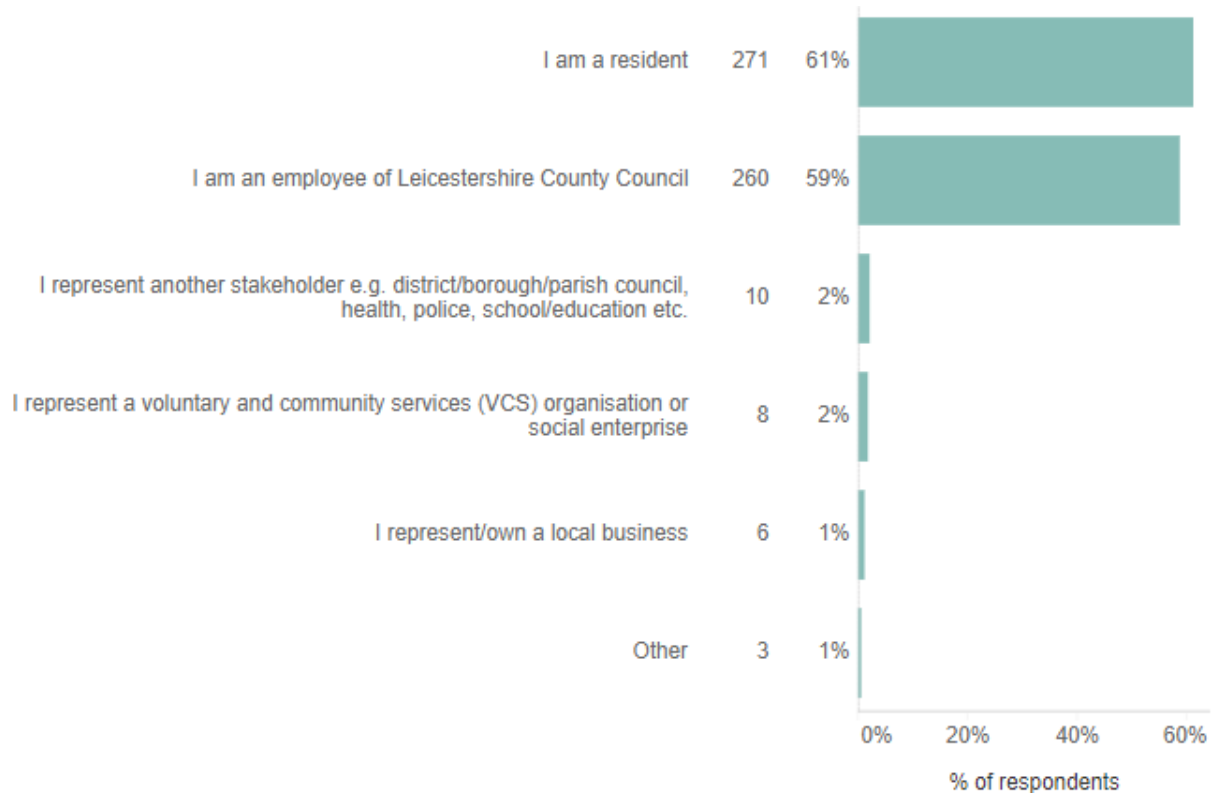
Results

In total, 447 responses to the survey were received. A full respondent profile can be found in Appendix 2.

Question 1 - Role of Respondent

Respondents were asked in what capacity they were responding to the survey. Chart 1 shows that 61% of people who completed the survey were responding as residents and 59% were employees of Leicestershire County Council (LCC). This question was multiple choice.

Chart 1 - Role of Respondent (multiple response)

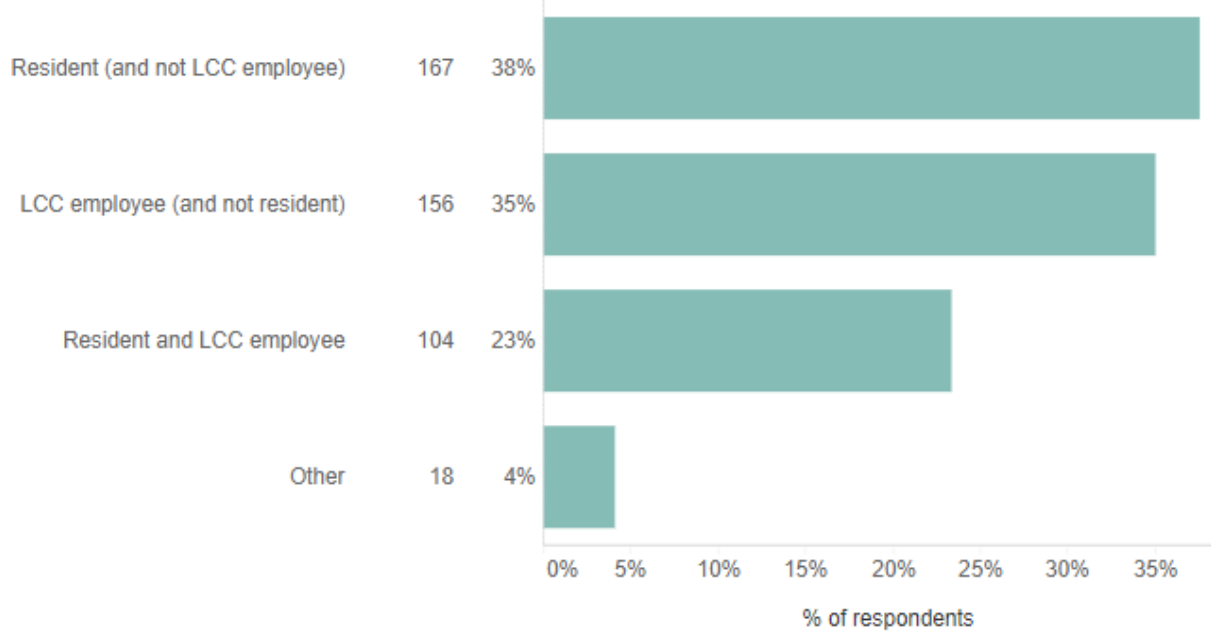


Base = 443

Chart 2 shows 38% were residents and not employees of LCC, 35% were LCC employees and not residents, and 23% were both.

Throughout the analysis that follows, a comparison has been made between the views of residents who are not LCC employees (167 respondents) and the views from LCC employees (260 respondents).

Chart 2 - Role of Respondent (single response)



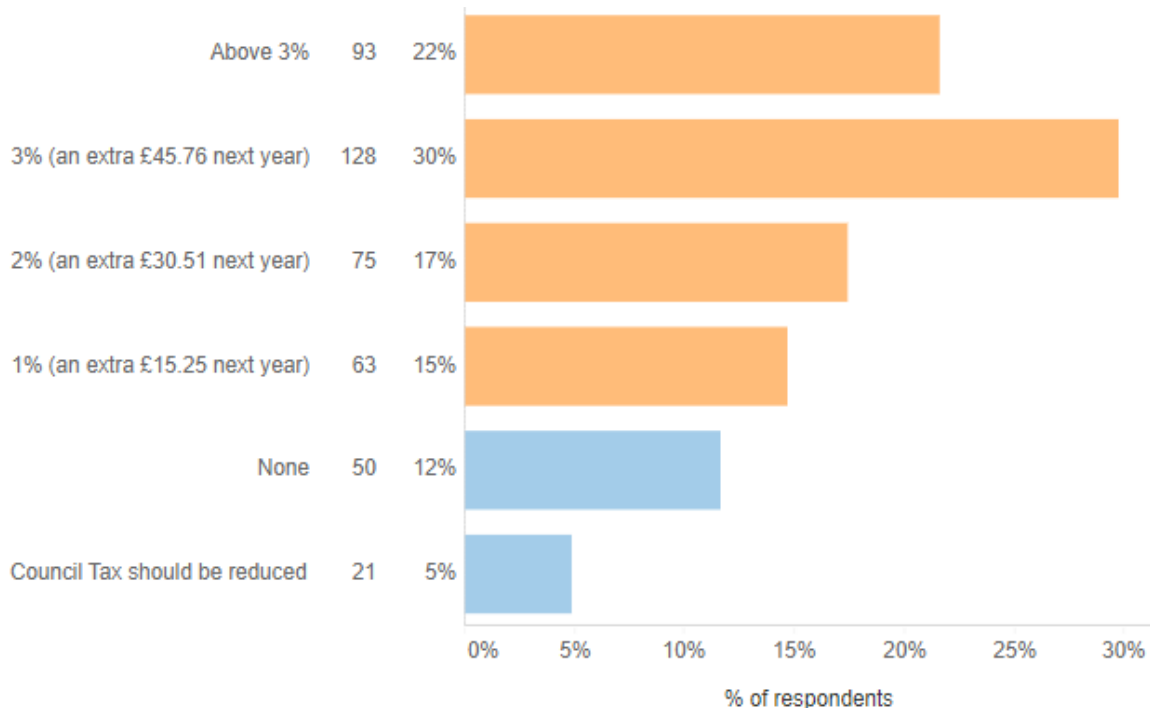
Base = 445

Question 4 - Core Council Tax increase (excluding any adult social care precept)

Respondents were asked what core Council Tax increase they would be prepared to pay to fund County Council services, excluding any adult social care precept.

Chart 3 shows just over a fifth of respondents (22%) were prepared to pay an increase of above 3% and almost a third (30%) were prepared to pay an increase of 3% (the current proposal). Around a sixth were prepared to pay an increase of 2% or 1% (17% and 15%, respectively). Roughly an eighth (12%) thought Council Tax should not be increased and a small proportion (5%) thought it should be reduced.

Chart 3 - Core Council Tax increase (excluding any adult social care precept)



Base = 430

Statistical analysis showed that male respondents (34%) were significantly more likely and female respondents (15%) were significantly less likely to be prepared to pay a core Council Tax increase of above 3% when compared to the average (22%). Respondents who said they lived in Blaby (33%) were also significantly more likely to be prepared to pay this amount, when compared to the average (22%).

Respondents who identified with a White ethnic group (32%) or those who said they lived in North West Leicestershire (47%) were significantly more likely to be in favour of a core Council Tax increase of 3% when compared to the average (30%).

When compared to the average (17%), female respondents (21%) were significantly more likely to be prepared to pay an increase of 2%.

Female respondents (20%) or respondents that said they lived in Melton (27%) were significantly more likely to be prepared to pay an increase of 1%, compared to the average (15%).

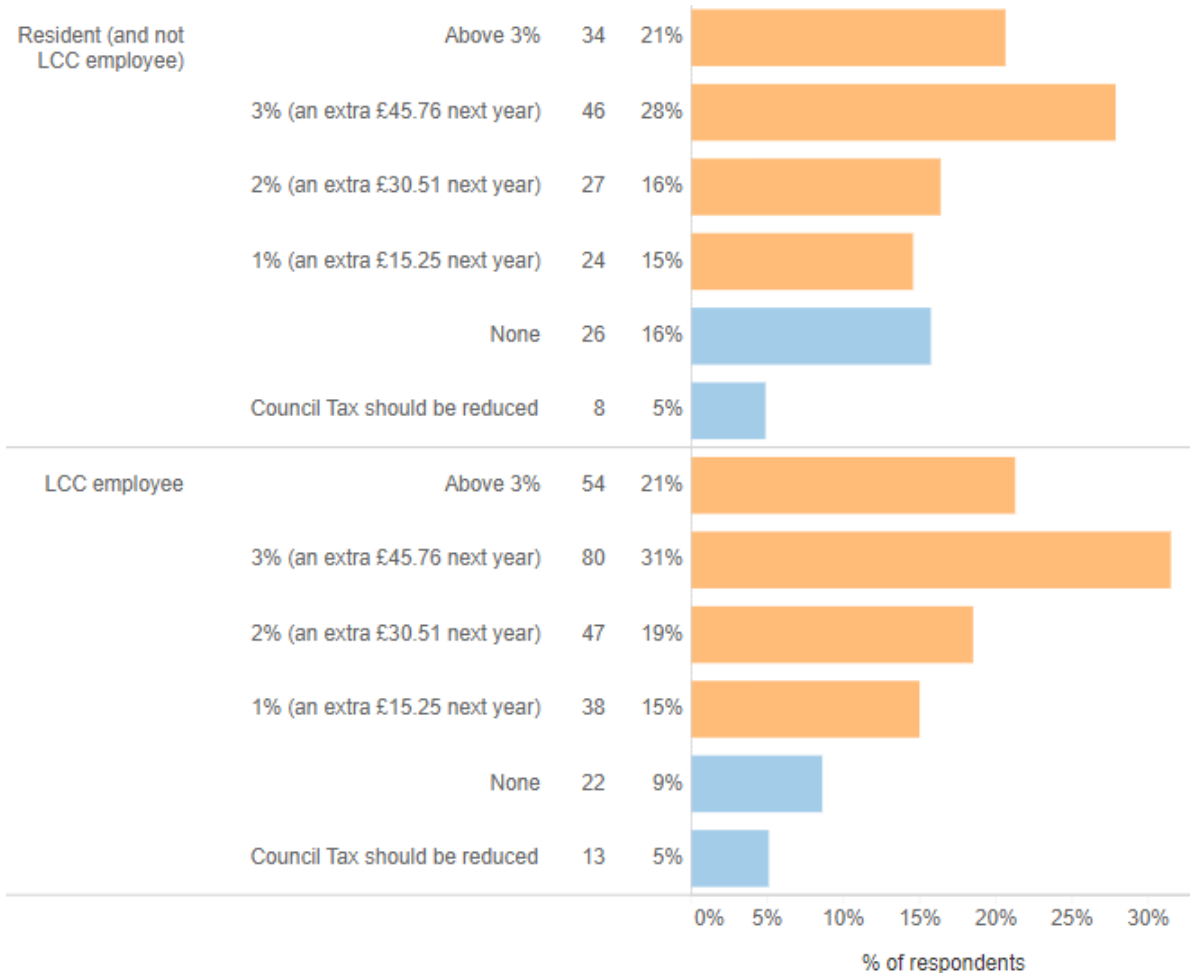
Those who were residents (16%) were significantly more likely to say they did not want an increase in core Council Tax compared to the average (12%). Respondents that identified with a Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) group (20%) or those that lived in urban areas (7%) were significantly more likely to say they wanted Council Tax to be reduced, when compared to the average (5%).

Chart 4 shows a comparison between residents and LCC employees. The same proportion of LCC employees and residents said they were prepared to pay an increase of above 3% in core Council Tax (21%).

Slightly more LCC employees said they would be prepared to pay a 3% increase (31%) or 2% increase (19%) in core Council Tax than residents (28% and 16%, respectively).

A larger percentage of residents said they thought core Council Tax should not be increased (16%) compared to LCC employees (9%). The same proportion of LCC employees (5%) and residents (5%) said they thought corer Council Tax should be reduced.

Chart 4 - Core Council Tax increase (excluding any adult social care precept) - by role



Resident base = 165
LCC employee base = 254

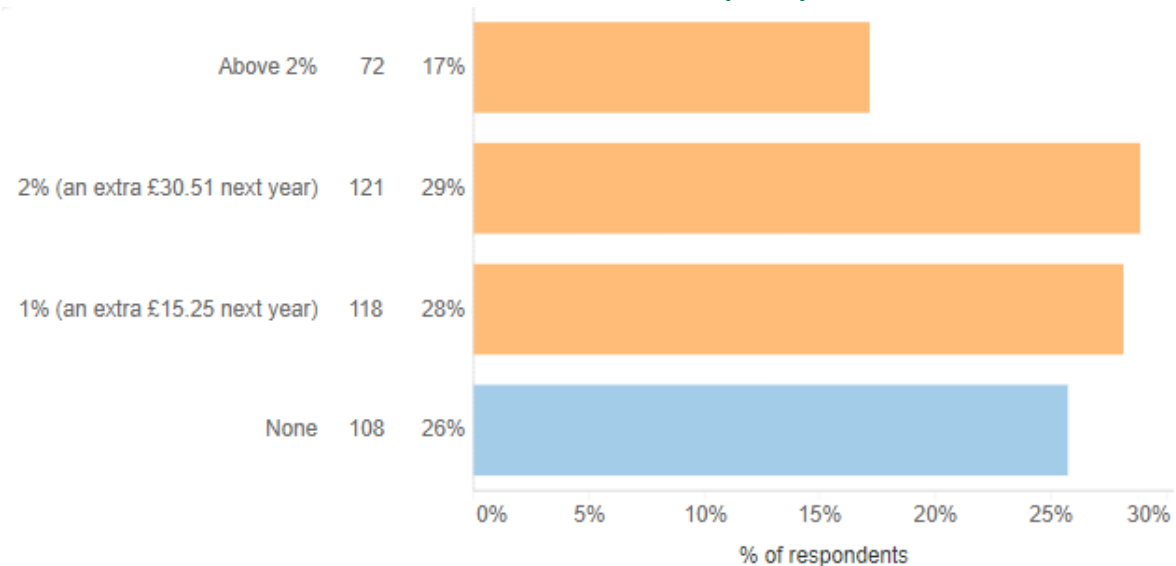
Question 5 - Additional adult social care precept

Respondents were asked whether they would be prepared to pay an additional increase in Council Tax as a separate social care precept to be used exclusively for the funding of adult social care in Leicestershire.

Chart 5 shows that the majority (74%) would be prepared to pay an additional increase, but just over a quarter of respondents (26%) did not want any additional increase in Council Tax for this purpose.

Overall, 17% said they would be prepared to pay above 2%, 29% said they would be prepared to pay 2% (the current proposal) and 28% said they would be prepared to pay 1%.

Chart 5 - Council Tax increase for the adult social care precept



Base = 419

Statistical analysis showed that male respondents (26%) were significantly more likely and female respondents (11%) were significantly less likely to be prepared to pay an adult social care precept increase of above 2%, when compared to the average (17%).

Respondents who lived in an urban area (13%) were also significantly less likely to be prepared to pay this increase, when compared to the average (17%).

Respondents that identified with a White ethnic group (33%) or said they were over 55 years old (38%) were significantly more likely to be prepared to pay an increase of 2%, than the average (29%).

When compared to the average (28%), female respondents (37%) or those who said they lived in Charnwood (42%) were significantly more likely to be prepared to pay an adult social care precept increase of 1%.

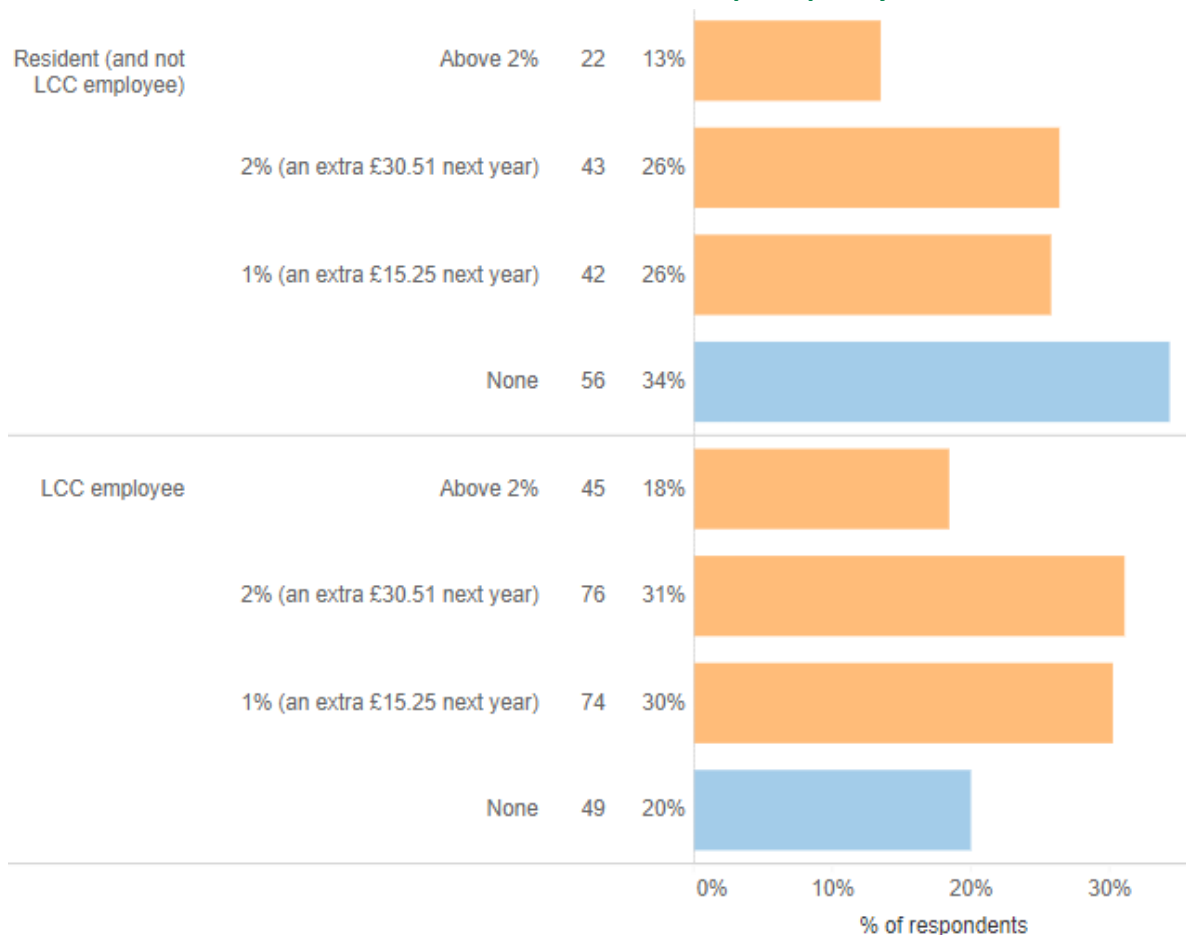
Residents (34%) were significantly more likely and LCC employees (20%) were less likely to say they did not want an increase in Council Tax for the adult social care precept when compared to the average (26%). Male respondents (32%) or respondents aged under 35 (40%) were also significantly more likely than the average (26%) to say they did not want this increase.

Chart 6 shows a comparison between residents and LCC employees. A higher proportion of LCC employees (18%) said they would be prepared to pay an increase of above 2% in Council Tax for the adult social care precept, compared to residents (13%).

Under a third of LCC employees said they would be prepared to pay a 2% increase (31%) or a 1% increase (30%) compared to residents (26% and 26%, respectively).

A notably larger proportion of residents said they would not be prepared to pay any increase in Council Tax for the adult social care precept (34%) compared to LCC employees (20%).

Chart 6 - Council Tax increase for the adult social care precept - by role



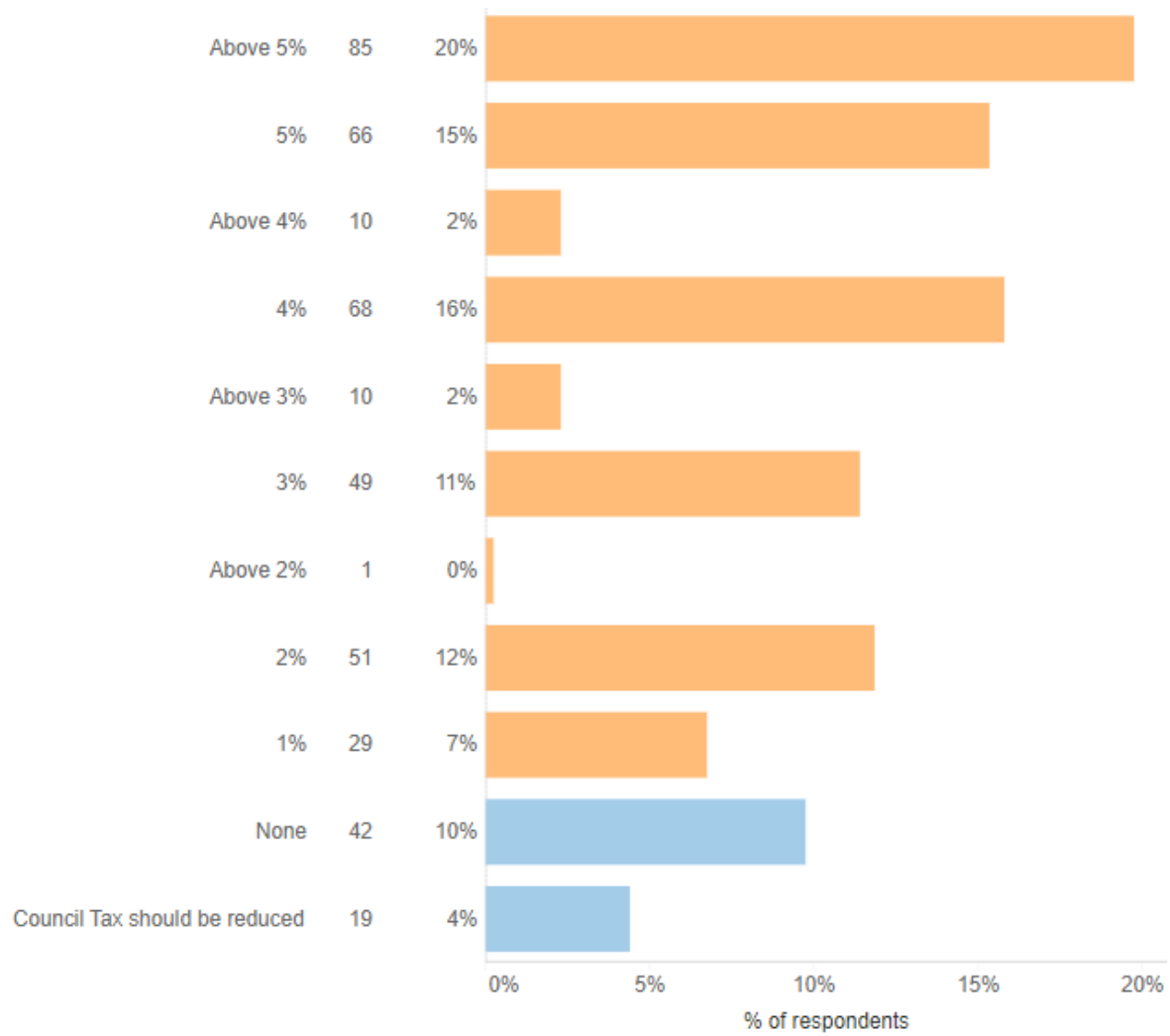
Resident base = 163
LCC employee base = 244

Total Council Tax increase

By combining the responses to the questions about core Council Tax and the adult social care precept, Chart 7 (which is a summary of Table 1 on page 15) shows that 83% were prepared to pay an increase in Council Tax (including any adult social care precept). Over a third of respondents (35%) were prepared to pay an overall increase of 5% or above.

A tenth of respondents (10%) said they did not want any increase in Council Tax and a smaller proportion (4%) said they thought Council Tax should be reduced.

Chart 7 - Total Council Tax increase (including any adult social care precept)



Base = 430

Note this chart excludes 2 cases where people indicated they wanted core Council Tax to reduce but an increase in social care precept.

Table 1 - Question 2 by Question 3 - Total Council Tax increase (including any adult social care precept)

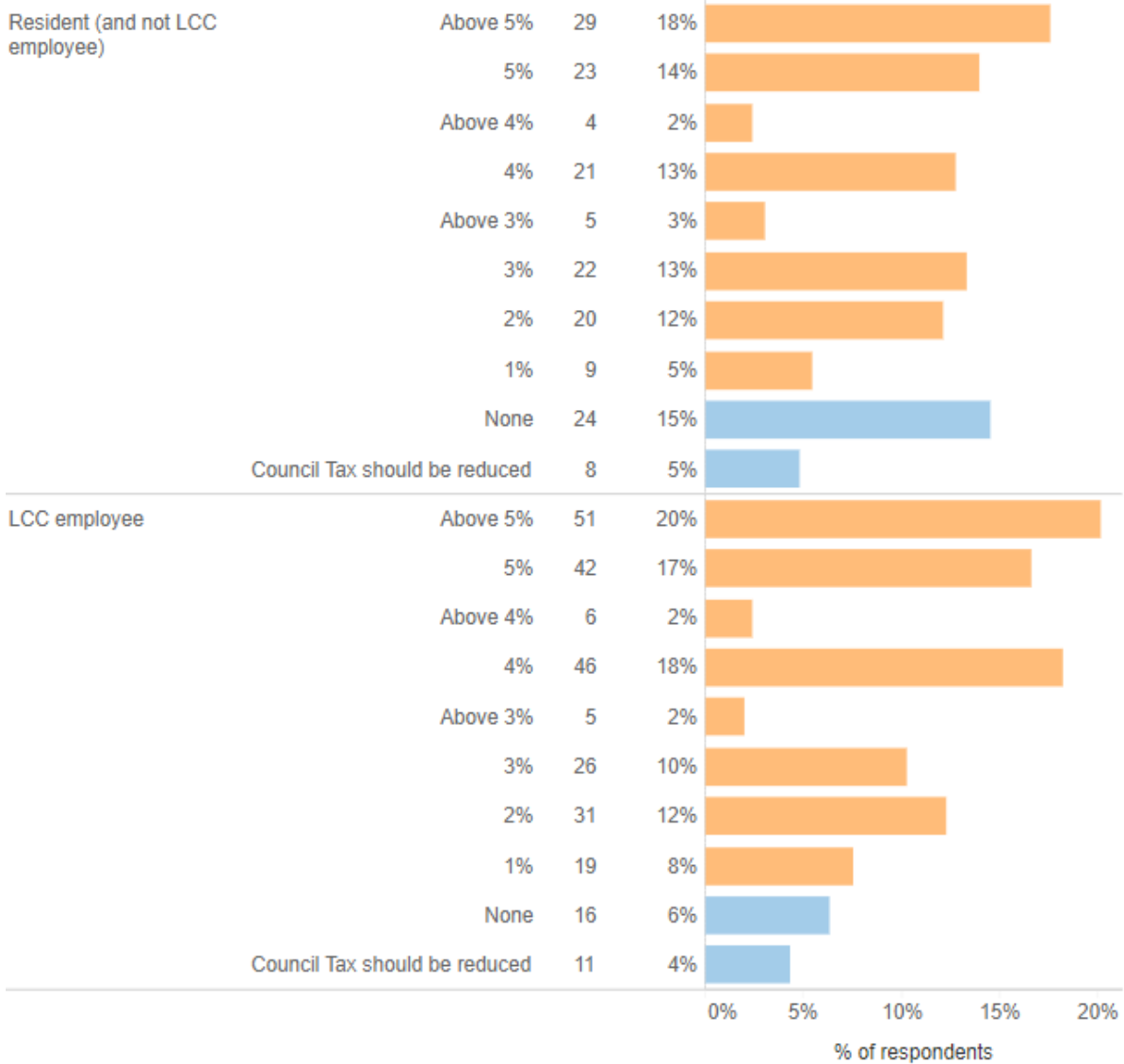
Core Council Tax increase (excluding any adult social care precept)	Adult social care precept increase				
	Above 2%	2% (an extra £30.51 next year)	1% (an extra £15.25 next year)	None	Don't know
Above 3%	58 13%	21 5%	6 1%	7 2%	1 0%
3% (an extra £45.76 next year)	6 1%	66 15%	39 9%	14 3%	3 1%
2% (an extra £30.51 next year)	4 1%	29 7%	29 7%	10 2%	2 0%
1% (an extra £15.25 next year)	2 0%	3 1%	36 8%	19 4%	3 1%
None		2 0%	6 1%	42 10%	
Council Tax should be reduced	1 0%		1 0%	16 4%	3 1%
Don't know	1 0%		1 0%		11 2%

Base = 442

Chart 8 shows the comparison of responses between residents and LCC employees for a total increase in Council Tax (including any adult social care precept). A higher proportion of LCC employees were prepared to pay a total Council Tax increase of 5% or above (37%) compared to residents (32%).

A larger proportion of residents were not prepared to pay any increase in Council Tax (15%) or thought Council Tax should be reduced (5%) compared to LCC employees (6% and 4%, respectively).

Chart 8 - Total Council Tax increase (including any adult social care precept) - by role



Resident base = 165
LCC employee base = 253

Note this chart excludes 2 cases where people indicated they wanted core Council Tax to reduce but also wanted an increase in adult social care precept.

Statistical analysis showed that male respondents (28%) were significantly more likely and female respondents (15%) were significantly less likely to agree with a total Council Tax increase of above 5%, when compared to the average (20%).

Those who resided in Melton (12%) were significantly more likely to agree to a total Council Tax increase of above 3%, compared to the average (2%).

When compared to the average (12%), female respondents (17%) or respondents aged under 35 (25%) were significantly more likely to agree to a total Council Tax increase of 2%.

Those aged 45-54 (14%) were significantly more likely to agree with a total Council Tax increase of 1%, compared to the average (7%).

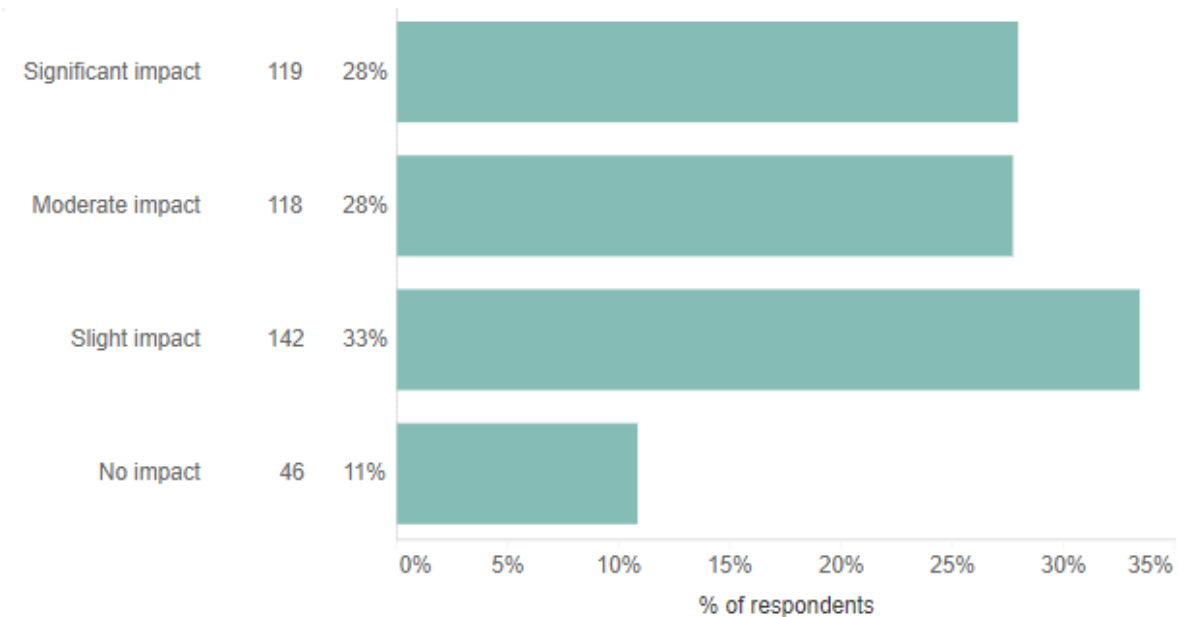
When compared to the average (10%), residents (15%) were significantly more likely to be in favour of no increase in Council Tax. Respondents that identified with a Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) group (17%) were significantly more likely to be in favour of reducing Council Tax, than the average (4%).

Question 6 - Impact of an overall 5% increase in Council Tax on household finances

Respondents were asked what impact an overall 5% increase in Council Tax (the proposed total of core Council Tax and an adult social care precept) would have on their household finances.

Chart 9 shows that the same proportion of respondents said this would have a significant impact (28%) or moderate impact (28%) on their household finances. A third (33%) said this would have a slight impact. Just over a tenth (11%) said this would have no impact.

Chart 9 - Impact of an overall 5% increase in Council Tax on household finances



Base = 425

Statistical analysis shows residents (38%) were significantly more likely and LCC employees were significantly less likely (21%) to say that an overall 5% increase in Council Tax would have a significant impact on their household finances, compared to the average (28%).

Those living within an area categorised as the least deprived IMD Quintile (20%) were significantly less likely to say that this overall increase would have a moderate impact on their household finances, compared to the average (28%).

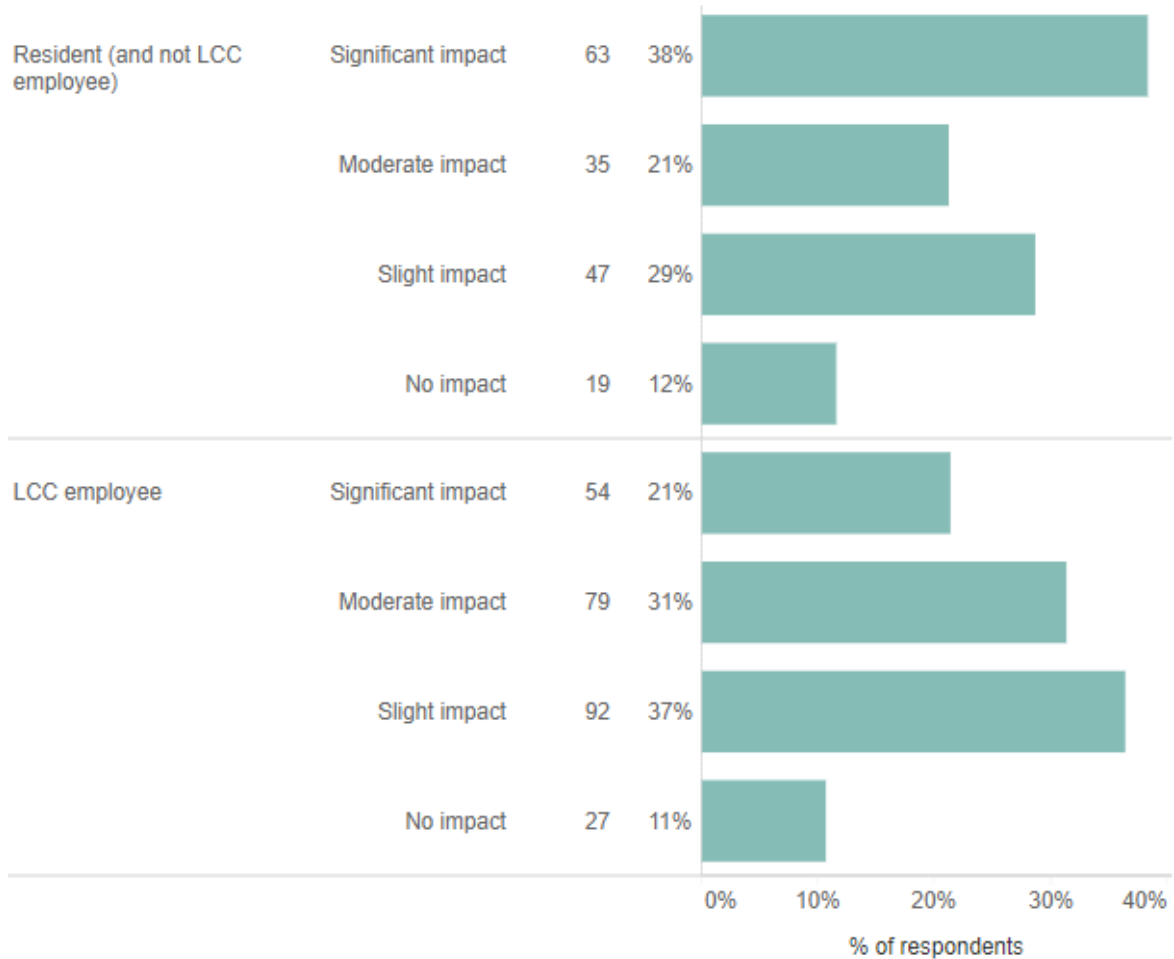
Respondents aged between 35-44 (46%) were significantly more likely to say that an overall increase of 5% would have a slight impact on their household finances, when compared to the average (33%).

Statistical analysis shows that respondents who identified with a White ethnic group (13%) or those that lived in a rural area (21%) were significantly more likely to say that this increase would have no impact on their household finances, compared to the average (11%). Those who said they had a long-standing disability, illness or infirmity (5%) were significantly less likely to say that an overall 5% increase in Council Tax would have no impact on their household, than the average (11%).

Chart 10 shows a comparison between residents and LCC employees. Nearly two-fifths (38%) of residents said an overall 5% increase in Council Tax (the proposed total of core Council Tax and adult social care precept) would have a significant impact on their household finances compared to LCC employees (21%).

A higher proportion of LCC employees said a 5% increase would have a moderate impact (31%) or slight impact (37%), compared to residents (21 and 29%, respectively).

Chart 10 - Impact of an overall 5% increase in Council Tax on household finances - by role



Resident base = 164
LCC employee base = 252

Question 6a - Why do you say this?

Respondents were then asked why an overall 5% increase in Council Tax would make this impact on their household finances. In total, 243 answered this question (54%). Chart 11 shows the top 10 codes from the qualitative analysis of this question (see Appendix 3 for a full list of codes).

Respondents highlighted many reasons why an overall 5% increase in Council Tax would negatively impact their finances. Most respondents expressed general concerns about this increase. Some acknowledged that they may not have been impacted negatively if Council Tax was the only bill that was rising. However, as all bills seem to be rising, the increase in Council Tax would financially impact them and they would need to budget by reducing expenditure elsewhere. This theme was closely linked to the current cost of living crisis, with respondents stating that they were already struggling with increased costs, including essentials such as food and fuel bills. Some respondents stated that they would have to cut back on essentials to afford the increase in Council Tax. Linked to this response, were respondents who indicated that they were already struggling to cover their current bills. Several respondents used phrases to describe their financial situation as 'stretched' or 'tight', communicating that they were barely getting by and would not be able to cover this additional increase in Council Tax.

Many respondents mentioned that they were from a single-income or low-income household and felt that this increase would be unaffordable for them. Circumstances varied, including single parent households, couples living on one pension or couples who had retired, in addition to working individuals living on their own. Some respondents suggested that they would not be able to pay the increase, whilst others felt worried about how this increase would impact their household. Others that mentioned a lower or fixed-income also said they understood why the increase was needed to fund council services. Some referenced they were aware how this increase would impact on others within low or single-income households.

A notable number of respondents mentioned that their wages had not increased in line with inflation. Some said that this was the reason they could not afford an increase of 5% in Council Tax, with others stating that their wages had not increased for a number of years and said that their income did not match the increases in the cost of living.

Many responses reflected an understanding that an increase of 5% to Council Tax was necessary for council services to be maintained. Whilst in some cases, respondents stated that they would need to budget and reduce expenditure elsewhere, others said that the increase would have no impact. In both circumstances, respondents valued the services provided by the council. Some respondents understood the reason for the proposed increase but were concerned that this should contribute to certain services for the public, such as social care, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), libraries and community services.

Others made complaints and criticised the increase of Council Tax and also the council in general. Others commented that they thought the council wasted money and were critical that Council Tax could increase in the future.

Negative comments also centred around those who felt services were declining and not providing value for money. Some felt that they were not benefiting from the services provided by the council, whilst others said they did not benefit enough from what they pay in Council Tax, despite it increasing. A few suggested that not all of the population contributed to Council Tax whilst many paid too much.

Comments from those who were struggling and concerned contrasted with those who said that the increase would have little or no impact to their household finances. In some cases, specific circumstances were given as to why the increase in Council Tax would not impact them, examples included earning a good wage, living in a household with a dual income or having surplus money to pay for additional increases. Some respondents referenced that an increase in Council Tax was necessary to maintain council services, others answered that they could cover the cost and were willing to do so as they believed in funding public services.

"The additional charge would have to come from the core household budget, but it still represents value for money. It is also noted that other costs are increasing such as gas, electricity and water"

"It takes money away that is allocated for food, everything is going up including rent, it is becoming tough to pay all the bills and eat a balanced diet"

"Cost of living is rising and to find increase would need to cut elsewhere"

"Because my salary isn't being increased to reflect the extra money to put aside for this, utility costs continue to rise, Insurances—car—home and contents continue to rise. Food isn't coming down. Other costs such as internet and mobile phones cost increase, therefore always in debt"

"Although I understand why tax increases are required, so I am willing to pay to fund services, my family income is already stretched. We would have to be very careful with our expenses, hope for pay increases or look at higher paid jobs"

"It's not a huge amount of money but people's/household's finances are already stretched to the limit through the cost of living crisis. Any additional pressures risk pushing more people over the brink"

"We live hand to mouth as is, I work for the council and haven't had a real increase in wages for over 10 years. It's never in line with inflation and a very bear minimum. Where am I meant to find an extra 5% from?"

"Already struggling with money"

"I am already struggling to pay fuel and council tax bills"

"We are struggling to make ends meet each month, this would mean cutting food even more and reducing the heating more in our house. No extra school clubs or trips for the children"

"On a fixed income rent council tax energy rises where do you think I will get the extra?"

"I am on a fixed income. I work-part time. You don't seem to care about how people will find the money to pay their council tax bills. Council Tax is a large proportion of my monthly budget. I live on my own so I have no one with whom to share my bills"

"I am a pensioner with limited income, however I would be prepared to pay more council tax to help with the shortfall, especially for children with educational special needs and social care"

"My wages are low, cost of living is rising, expenses are going up and my house needs lots of repairs, due to it being terrible. A rise would be an extra layer of difficulty for me"

"I am a pensioner and my income is thus limited, that said I want to do my bit for the community where I live"

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

"For my household, it would only have a slight impact but for some of my friends, who are already living pay-check to pay-check due to wages not meeting the rise in cost of living, this would have a significant impact"

"Wages aren't going up as fast as everything else"

"Already having to cope with inflation, increased energy costs, petrol prices, food costs etc. Wage rises do not keep pace. Where do Leicestershire County Council expect us to find the extra money from?"

"My concern is not the actual increase, but what saving the council can make and steps it will introduce to improve efficiency and reduce waste on some absurd projects. Planting trees at a time of 'no affordability' is mad, not to mention the ongoing cost of maintenance. Schemes such as cycle lanes whilst they MAY be desirable are not essential and should be shelved"

"Unnecessary further burden on taxpayers. Services are provided for a minority of the population"

"It's an increase that provides me with no benefits, and basic services such as road and town maintenance is reduced"

"Whilst any increase is always viewed as a negative, services still have to be paid for. I personally believe that we should contribute what it costs to deliver those services in a cost-efficient manner"

"Any increase will have an impact but I would rather this helped sustain good quality services"

"My husband and I have gained new roles with larger salaries and could therefore absorb this increase with little detriment"

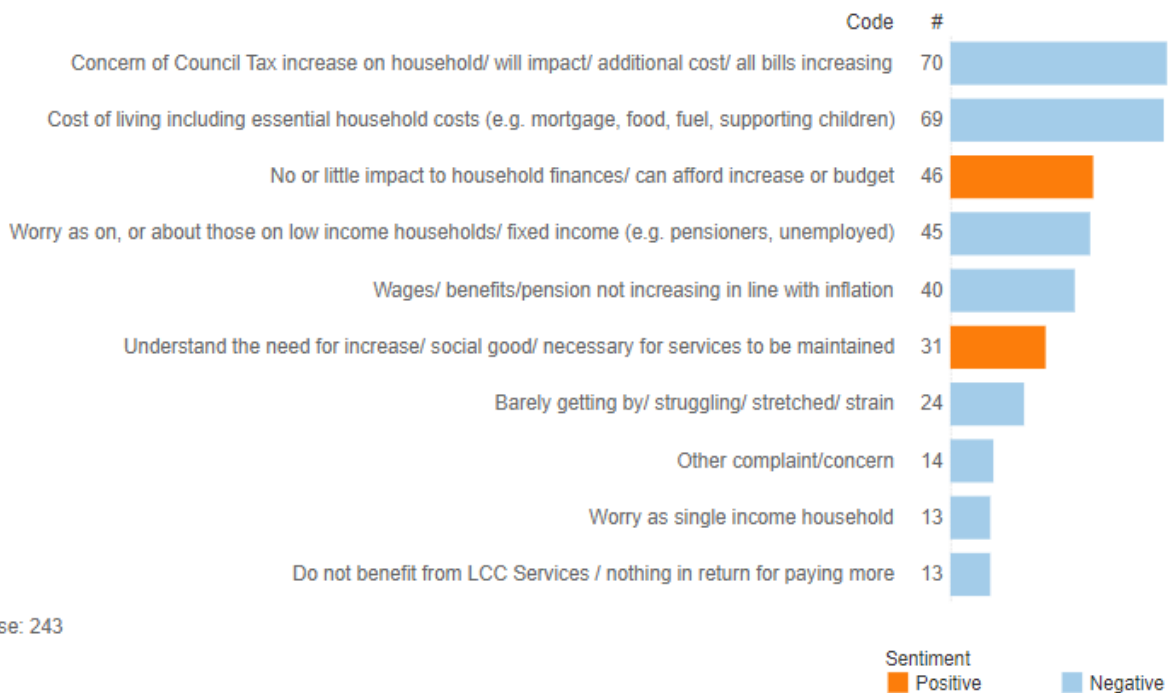
"We are in the fortunate position that we could afford the extra amount"

"It's a small monthly increase"

"We would cover it if required to"

"It wouldn't make much difference to us as we don't have to watch every penny. It is a much smaller increase than our mortgage and utility bills, for example and at least we know the money will be serving our local community rather than lining the pockets of the big bosses"

Chart 11 - Increase of 5% on household finances - Why do you say this?



Question 7 - Growth and savings allocation

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with how the growth and savings had been allocated across services. Chart 12 shows 39% agreed, 24% disagreed and a notable proportion of respondents neither agreed nor disagreed (36%).

Chart 13 shows 26% of residents agreed with how growth and savings had been allocated across services, 39% disagreed and 35% neither agreed nor disagreed.

Almost half of LCC employees (49%) agreed with how growth and savings had been allocated across services, 14% disagreed and 36% neither agreed nor disagreed (see Chart 14).

Chart 12 - Growth and savings allocation - All Respondents

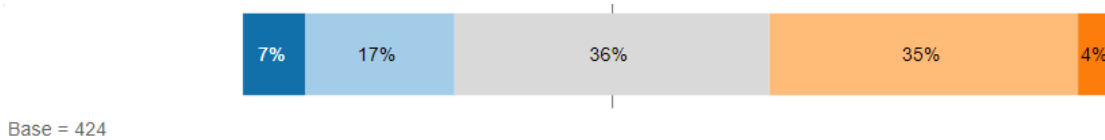
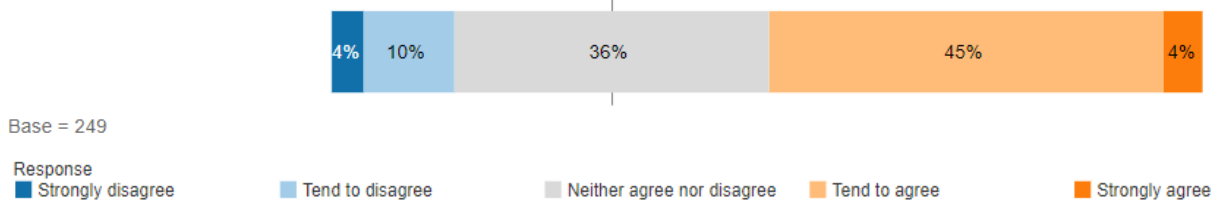


Chart 13 - Growth and savings allocation - Residents only



Chart 14 - Growth and savings allocation - LCC employees



Statistical analysis shows that LCC employees (50%) were significantly more likely to agree with how growth and savings had been allocated across council services, compared to the average (40%). Residents (26%) and those who said they lived in Melton (23%) were significantly less likely to agree than the average (40%).

Residents (39%) and those that lived in Melton (42%) were significantly more likely to disagree with how growth and savings had been allocated than the average (24%).

When compared to the average (24%), LCC employees (14%) and those that lived in North West Leicestershire (9%) were less likely to disagree with how growth and savings had been allocated across council services.

Open-ended questions

This section of the consultation survey included four open-ended questions. These are listed below:

- Are there any savings you disagree with?
- Are there any areas where you think we could make further savings?
- Do you have any comments about the areas identified for growth or capital investment?
- Do you have any other comments about our draft budget proposals?

Question 8 - Disagreement with specific savings

Respondents were asked whether there were any savings they disagreed with. In total, 195 respondents provided a response to this question (44%). Chart 15 lists the top 10 codes (see Appendix 3 for a full list of codes).

Although a notable proportion of respondents answered “No” or “N/A”, there were comments where respondents disagreed with or raised concerns about specific savings being proposed. Most comments disagreed with the proposed savings in social care, opposing any savings that would further reduce funding to adults’ or children’s social care. Respondents felt that both areas of social care should be protected from any cuts and instead be areas that require more funding. Some feared that this would cause increased pressure for those who provide and receive care.

Others made suggestions that efficiencies and savings could be made in specific areas, which were closely related to other themes identified. Most comments that focused on staffing suggested reducing agency workers or external consultants, and reducing the number of higher paid roles and management pay levels. Some respondents felt that these could be reduced to lessen the impact of any savings within social care or front-line services. Others made specific suggestions, including reducing the hospitality budget available to councillors, allowing staff to reduce their hours and charging for parking at County Hall. Some respondents made comments about bringing outsourced services in-house.

Those who disagreed with savings to Environment and Transport services mainly did so as they did not want recycling and household waste sites (RHWS) to close. These respondents were concerned that fly tipping may increase because of reduced access, and some made the argument that this would cost the council more in the long-term, as litter would need to be cleared at a cost. Specific sites were mentioned, including Market Harborough, Loughborough, Shepshed and Somerby.

Many disagreed with savings that would impact on services for residents that have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND), particularly with reference to SEND transportation, specialist provisions for children or funding for this area. Some respondents criticised the savings proposed within community or library services. Others were critical of funding cuts for those facing homelessness, with a few making reference to the Falcon Centre and the removal of face-to-face homelessness support.

Other concerns or criticisms about the savings included those who felt the proposals needed to be considered more, or that they were counterproductive, as there could be consequences that would cost the council more in the future. Others made negative comments expressing their general views on the budget or related political topics, such as the need for a referendum.

Despite clear opposition to savings, many supported the savings outlined in the strategy, and in some cases, communicating that more reductions and cuts should be made or that the current plan was not enough to make sufficient savings. A small number thought some services, including social care, were not the responsibility of the local authority, and therefore suggested these services should be reduced. A few respondents said the planned savings seemed sensible, acknowledged that the council was in a difficult position or said they understood that savings had to be made due to the current financial climate.

There were some respondents that had questions or queried specific parts of the budget and others who said they felt they needed more information on the proposals before passing judgement or making meaningful comments.

Cutting funding to adults and communities while asking them to take on more responsibilities

"Cuts to adult social care—the department in which I work. We work with supporting disabled, sick and vulnerable people—the impact of trying to reduce support packages or at least not increasing them can be significant for people and often then places even greater pressure on their carers"

"Social care savings, these areas have had a lack of resource services will lead to higher costs as families reach crisis as the support isn't what it was. There are fewer charities to support families and post Covid a higher level of mental health and seeing children not at the developmental level or social level they should be, this is impacting an already struggling resource"

"Savings all seem to target front-line services and seem to skirt around the numbers of management and supervisory level staff that in my opinion look to be very 'top heavy'."

"You [put] a great deal of things out to tender or subcontractors, why not have them back 'in house' where you would have more control over costs of things"

"Back office needs to be streamlined"

"Streetlights put daytime solar panels on each light and they will pay for themselves, many countries are way ahead of the UK in that"

"I'm not really sure what is being cut back on to create savings. Hopefully its costly consultants. I think a lot of money is spent of agency workers, departments need to be properly staffed to be able to carry out the work for vulnerable people"

"You need to reduce adult social care costs and special needs costs -it is unfair that everyone has to pay for this, yet is unlikely to receive any future benefit"

"Closing waste sites as this leads to more costs incurred due to fly tipping. Social costs must increase"

**Closing Shepshed tip would be very damaging. Shepshed is growing rapidly and while at the moment might seem expensive, it is vital to local residents and fly tipping would only increase which in turn ends up costing a lot more in the long-run"*

"Really concerned about the lack of specialist school provision including the numbers without a school place"

"Disagree with reduction of SEND transport support for families"

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

"Making savings always costs more in the long-run"

"No—it is all taking from one to give to another. Things other than children and the elderly also need to be considered in more detail"

"More money should be put into libraries to support the community as safe spaces, warm spaces, places for community and local groups to convene....Libraries are integral to the community, and money should be put into them, not cut"

"Yes, the removal of a face-to-face homeless support contract at £300k. The proposals will end up costing more under the new scheme delivered through Local Area Coordinators"

"No, I think the council are doing a great job"

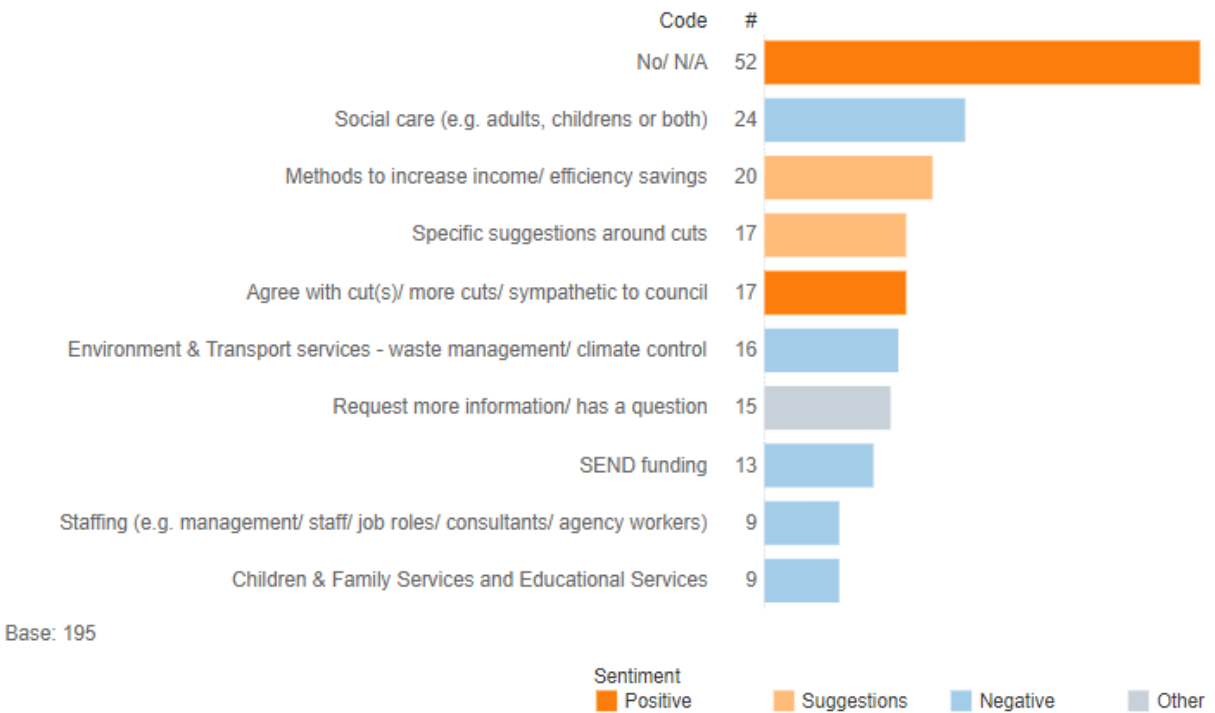
"No I agree with all savings, some need to be more severe"

"It all seems sensible given the financial difficulty"

"It is hard to understand how some of the cross-cutting savings will be implemented and how they will affect current provision. More detail is needed"

"It is impossible to say from your document. It is very opaque.... I understand why savings need to be made (hopefully we will get a Government soon which understands the importance of local government services) but it's impossible to meaningfully engage with your document as there are no meaningful details"

Chart 15 - Disagreement with specific savings - Top 10



Question 9 - Suggested areas for further savings

Respondents were asked whether there were any areas where the council could make further savings. In total, 250 respondents provided a response for this question (56%). Chart 16 lists the top 10 codes (see Appendix 3 for a full list of codes).

Suggestions for making efficiencies in staffing was the most common theme, with many references to reviewing or reducing the number of staff and management levels, across both the organisation as a whole and in specific areas or departments. Comments referenced certain roles viewed as less essential, reduced/condensed working hours and redundancies. Recruitment processes also featured amongst the suggestions, including a recruitment freeze, reviewing terms and conditions, and more focus on school leavers and/or apprenticeships. Pay cuts or reviews, including the removal of market premia were also suggested. Related to this theme were a number of comments suggesting a need to reduce the use of agency staff and/or external consultants. These included concerns regarding long-term use, quality, duplication and that work should be carried out in-house.

A notable proportion of respondents suggested efficiencies in office spaces and other buildings. These included the closure, sale, rental or subletting of council buildings, including County Hall. A number of respondents suggested that energy savings could be made, particularly in heating and lighting. Other comments regarding property included suggestions to consolidate buildings and stop office refurbishments.

Efficiencies and savings in Environment and Transport services was another key theme highlighted amongst comments, with several suggesting efficiencies in street lighting by reducing, dimming or switching off lights in certain areas. Others referenced efficiencies in highways operations, including road maintenance, winter services and other highways projects, including resource and personnel management. Some suggestions referenced the use of developers in infrastructure projects, enforcement of planning regulations and penalising contractors for poor quality work. Others felt that savings could be made in transport services, including vehicle hire and fleet maintenance, whilst the usage of park and ride services was also queried along with a suggestion to promote it more. Environmental services was highlighted as a potential area for savings or efficiencies, with respondents mentioning electric vehicle charging schemes and efficiencies around recycling and household waste.

Respondents felt that efficiencies could be made in social care, both for adults and children. Comments under this theme included transport efficiencies related to social care (including eligibility criteria and transport specifically to support those with SEND). A number of respondents suggested efficiencies in adoption, fostering and services for children in care (including in-house residential provision and reviewing independent services). Comments included suggestions for efficiencies in direct payments, financial procedures, placements, homecare, staffing, and a focus on preventative services. Others suggested the need for more joint working and better contract management.

Savings and efficiencies in central services were identified as another key theme amongst responses. Whilst a number made broad reference to support or back office functions and the general use of resources, several respondents mentioned specific areas such as

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

communications, finance, printing, hospitality, expenses, occupational health, and pension contributions. Savings related to information technology and phone usage were also highlighted.

In addition to efficiencies in central services, respondents highlighted more general efficiencies across the authority, in particular ensuring value for money, focusing on quality and prevention, streamlining processes, and partnership working between services. Other suggestions under this theme included a review of running costs, more accountability for management, tighter oversight of budgets and less restructuring.

Several respondents made particular reference to democratic processes, in particular councillors. These suggestions included a reduction in the number of councillors, savings in expenses and allowances (including hospitality), and streamlining of meetings.

Some respondents suggested that the council should stop paying for and providing services that were viewed, by some, as unnecessary or inefficient, including services related to health and infrastructure projects. Support for shared services and partnerships with other organisations (including local councils) was also noted, in particular support for pursuing unitary status for Leicestershire.

"Cut back levels of management"

"Adapting recruitment/retention policies so council-employed professionals can fulfil work as overtime instead of outsourcing to costly external agencies. Current policy does not allow council-based employees to be paid at the same rate so it is not cost-beneficial to existing council-employed professionals (who know the clients, systems etc.) to complete the work."

"As a County Council employee, I am of the view that long-term recruitment of consultancy (agency workers) should not be permitted other than for mitigating circumstances. Many consultancy workers have been with the authority over 5 years at a higher daily rates than full time employees"

"Reduce corporate mobile phones. Stop moving to external providers for IT and applications. Reduce Chief Officer's pay. Reducing lighting at County Hall overnight and at weekends"

"Sell/rent council buildings"

"Heating of council buildings. For instance some rooms in [County Hall] CH can be too hot, and Wigston library has some rooms that are much too cold in winter (so expensive electric heaters need to be used) and others that are so hot, even in winter, that the aircon is used to cool them down whilst warm air is still being blown in by the heating system!"

"Street lighting—reducing brightness and turning off earlier/not turning on so soon. Investment in renewable energy ways"

"Reducing the number of different groups required to complete a job. E.g. holes in the roads seem to need different people to do every job"

"Re-organise Adult Social Care department's processes"

"SEND, travel to schools and placements for children in care—find foster carers"

"Transport of service users, especially those that go in just one taxi then another goes to the same placement in a separate taxi. Plus utilise the fleet buses better"

"There needs to be a really long and hard look at what services have the most impact to vulnerable people and the quality of life of others and these should be prioritised. Provide fewer services of good quality rather than lots of services at minimum levels of quality"

"Streamline processes to reduce duplication and form filling as this takes time and costs"

"Do we really need as many councillors as we have, maybe we need to cut back on that. Do not have wasted projects and consultants to come in and tell us things we could have done ourselves, complete waste of money."

"Reduce the number of County Councillors. Reduce the amounts Councillors can claim as expenses and other payments to Councillors"

"Get back to basics only providing services which are mandatory"

"Stop wasting money on TV ads telling us what to put in our recycling bins. Stop building white elephants, putting in cycle lanes hardly anyone ever uses"

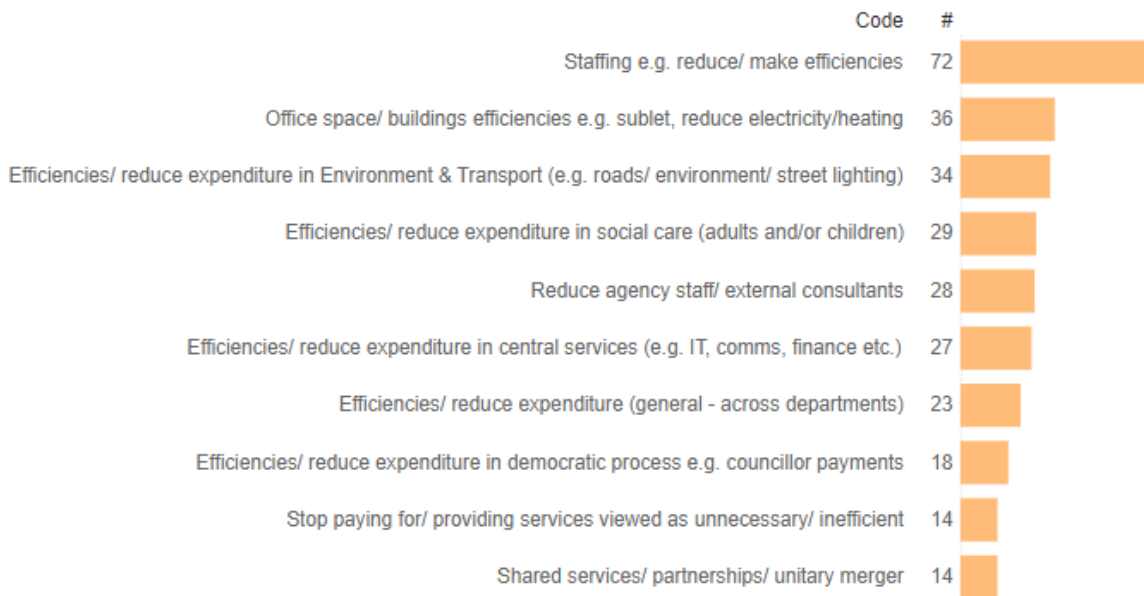
"Sharing resources with other organisations"

"Heating [County Hall] CH when the offices are empty. Unitary council -prevent duplication of services and make councils (including districts) more efficient"

"Councillor allowances and wages. Efficiency through a unitary authority. Create capacity in mainstream schools for SEND and create [Designated Specialist Provisions] DSPs. Review all admin level jobs and reduce. Close County Hall and move to smaller accommodation or centralised offices and registration venues"

"Reconsider unitary status. We ceased the translation/interpretation services many years ago. Yet the demand within social care for such services is growing and therefore would there be any cost benefit to bring back in-house, but also offer to other [Local Authorities] LAs to breakeven our costs?"

Chart 16 - Suggested areas for further savings - Top 10



Base: 250

Sentiment
■ Suggestions

Question 10 - Comments about the areas identified for growth or capital investment

Respondents were asked whether they had any other comments about the areas identified for growth or capital investment. In total, 138 respondents provided a response to this question (31%). Chart 17 lists the top 10 codes (see Appendix 3 for a full list of codes).

Apart from “No”, “None” or “N/A” responses, the most common response were suggestions around other areas for growth or investment. These respondents suggested that the council should invest more in areas such as libraries, doctor’s surgeries, waste and recycling services and mental health support. New cafés at country parks and wind turbines were also identified as potential areas for growth and investment.

Other suggestions mentioned various ways that the council could increase income, including ensuring that Council Tax is collected from all households and more investment in public transport to boost the local economy. Several respondents felt that County Hall could be better utilised to generate additional income, by renting the office spaces to other organisations or renting the larger areas of the building for events and conferences.

Respondents also suggested that investment in roads and transport should be a significant focus. Keeping the roads in good condition by repairing potholes, drains, pavements and the general maintenance of roads was suggested. Improving transport links, such as bus routes and having safer bike routes were also mentioned by respondents. One respondent suggested that investment in transport infrastructure would be welcomed by the business community, as it is essential for businesses to be able to transport goods effectively and efficiently across the country.

Several respondents also expressed concerns and criticisms regarding the council’s proposals and decisions. These concerns included one respondent who mentioned that they have read all the council’s plans before and nothing has been achieved and another who felt that the council should have more realistic ideas. Another respondent believed that despite the ongoing construction of new housing, developers often fail to adequately fund essential infrastructure (such as schools, doctor’s surgeries and roads), and this results in overpopulated schools and strain on healthcare services.

Some respondents raised issues with the specific growth areas identified in the budget plans. They mentioned concerns about the cost of major road building schemes, not having enough infrastructure to support the growth in housing and requested that caution should be taken when buildings or land is being sold, as this has long-term consequences for people living in the area. Others suggested that new projects should be put on hold if the council is having to use money from reserves.

There were several respondents that felt that they would need more information to be able to comment about the areas identified for growth or capital investment. Some felt that the proposals lacked detail about the budget plans, whilst others raised questions about what cost savings will be made, what corporate growth refers to and if the funding will be used in a way that is the best value for money.

A notable proportion of respondents were positive about the proposals and agreed with the council's plans to support and invest in housing, schools, special educational needs, social care, mental health support and local transport.

"Investment into libraries, invest more"

"Fully support plans to invest in a cafe at Watermead Country Park, a good 'invest to save' initiative. I see 300 runners at Watermead every Saturday morning, a significant potential captive audience. Our country parks would thrive with the right investment - quality play equipment, visitor centre, walking, running and cycling routes, cafes, maybe even a tourist train. This would then justify higher car park charges."

"Renewable energy - wind turbines and the cabling to ensure they can run everyday and produce electricity across the county daily."

"Hospital in Melton it would save people having to travel to Leicester, Loughborough, Oakham why???? Doctors surgery you keep building houses but those people now all want a doctor there's not enough to go round who is making these ridiculous decisions"

"More waste collection services for recycling. Try on demand transport as most people are on [Personal Independence Payment] PIP or [Disability Living Allowance] DLA using these services and could pay."

"In my view Schools, Social Care, Community Services such as Libraries, and Active Travel infrastructure should be the priorities."

"Fill up [County Hall] CH with other agencies so that there is an income from this massive building. Ensure that council tax is collected as there are lots that do not pay"

"Continue to review County Hall shared spaces and how we can benefit from renting/selling parts of it. There are so many office spaces that are empty. Large floors/office spaces to be made into function rooms that can be internally and externally rented for events and conferences. These events could be catered by our LCC catering service to create an even bigger return on investment"

"Roads need more investment they are only getting worse and many will need significant investment soon if we don't start investing more now"

"More roads just generate more cars. There should be more investment in public transport and active travel. Investment in public transport has opportunities for income generation and boosts local economy."

"Cut back on social services. Roads and transport should be a significant focus, they're not bad but they're not good. Most of the roadside drains are blocked and/or clogged for example and there are a fair number of potholes."

"More funding needed from central Government to support services"

"As stated think the wrong areas are being looked at and staffing numbers (particularly higher level management) should be scrutinised more."

"Staff pay is consuming more and more of your budget and we get less and less services, this isn't right!"

"Not really because I've read it all before and nothing was achieved"

"Ethics and sustainability of investments should also be considered, as well as their cost."

"Less red tape and more straightforward policies and actions"

"Everything appears to be about support and reactivity to events. Preventative measures will always beat out reactive ones. We need to plan, schedule and resource better, not afterthoughts"

"I think big projects should be put on hold if you are having to use money from reserves"

"There is insufficient detail about where the County Council invests and at what rates of return to gauge the soundness of existing measures against potential market developments. Our Council has seen a significant benefit in ensuring the bare minimum is kept in non-interest-bearing current accounts and ensuring the best value is obtained by investing in high-return savings accounts and investments, which are all extremely ethical, with spending possible through a planned approach to investment. Considering the balances the County Council must have in reserves, a better approach must exist to maximise interest-earning potential."

"It's not clear to me what Corporate Growth refers to, or why it is so large compared with the other areas. I support increased spending in the other proposed areas."

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

"It needs to be questioned where there are LCC contributions to capital whether using funding in that way is the best value for money when considering the impact of service cuts. Growth needs to be reflective of need and increases in demand should not automatically be a call for additional funding"

"I don't understand the question"

"You need to publish the full list so that everyone is aware of what you plan for growth and capital investment"

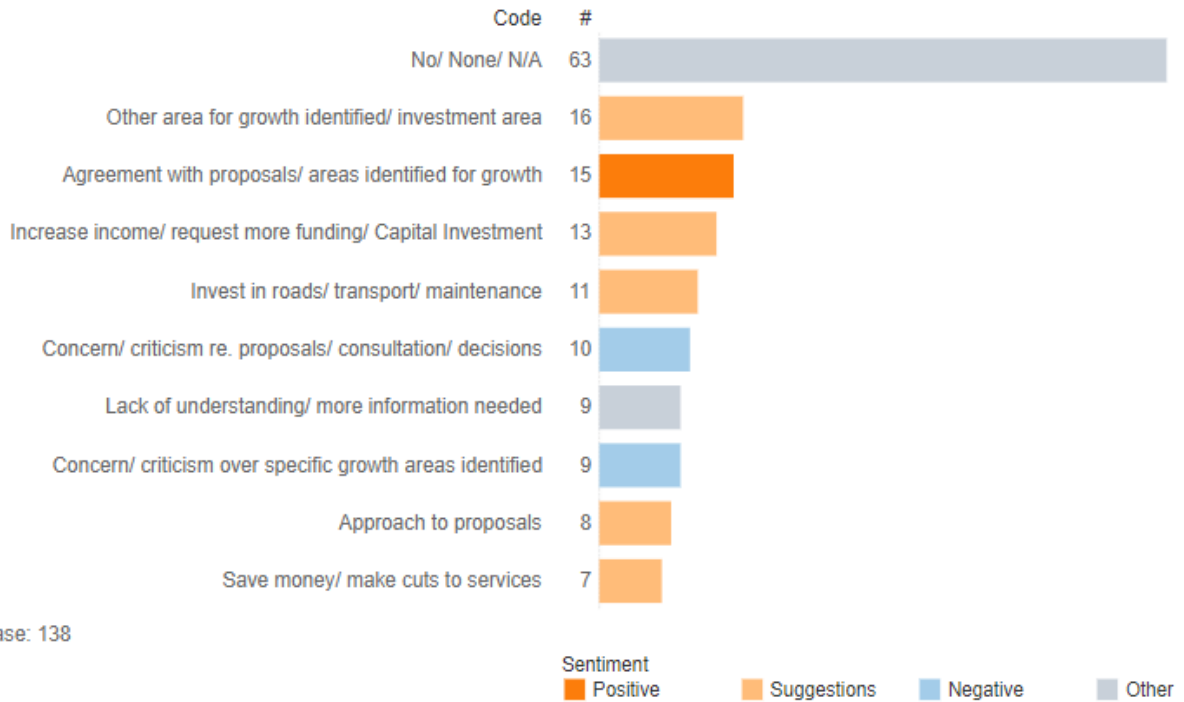
"I agree that adult social care & special educational needs are key priority areas"

"Yes, we really applaud them. We think spending on SEND, social care, mental health support is crucial as the council should be leading in these areas for some of the most vulnerable members of our community. (On a personal note as a parent of a child in the special ed system, I would put a plea in for better mainstream support for SEND and mental health issues, including access to [Occupational Therapy] OT services as standard in mainstream schools, as [Neurodevelopmental Disorder] ND/sensory needs are foundation sitting underneath many mental health conditions)."

"We definitely need more housing for low income families. I see lots of housing being built but not much for smaller families or those starting on the property ladder. schools definitely need more investment - we should not be fundraising for books"

"Agree with investment in social care"

Chart 17 - Comments about the areas identified for growth - Top 10



Funding Reform

The questionnaire explained that Leicestershire remains the lowest-funded county in the country and that Council Tax levels are unfair for Leicestershire residents, when compared to other local authority areas. It was also stated that although faced with an ongoing challenging financial situation, the council is continuing to lead calls for funding reform and to look for opportunities to work more efficiently and effectively.

Question 11 - Council continue lobbying Government for fairer funding

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that the council should continue lobbying Government to review the way funding is distributed between councils. Chart 18 shows that the majority of respondents agreed (93%), 3% disagreed and 4% neither agreed nor disagreed.

The majority of residents (90%) agreed that the council should continue lobbying Government, 5% disagreed and 5% neither agreed nor disagreed (see Chart 19).

Chart 20 shows a higher proportion of LCC employees (95%) agreed with this, 3% disagreed and 3% neither agreed nor disagreed.

Chart 18 - Reviewing the funding distributed between councils - All Respondents



Base = 439

Chart 19 - Reviewing the funding distributed between councils - Residents only



Base = 165

Chart 20 - Reviewing the funding distributed between councils - LCC employees



Base = 258

Response
 ■ Strongly disagree ■ Tend to disagree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Tend to agree ■ Strongly agree

Statistical analysis shows respondents living in Melton were significantly less likely to agree (85%) and more likely to disagree (12%) that the council should continue lobbying Government to review the way funding is distributed between councils, when compared to the average (93% and 3%, respectively).

Question 12 - Other comments on the council's budget proposals

Respondents were asked to provide any other comments they had about the council's draft budget proposals. In total, 150 respondents provided a response to this question (34%). Chart 21 shows the top 10 codes (see Appendix 3 for a full list of codes).

Apart from those who responded "No", "None" or "N/A", the response to this question was mixed. Most respondents provided suggestions regarding the council's budget plans. These respondents highlighted a need for better budgeting, particularly for the council to be more realistic and sensible when deciding what to spend money on. Some of these comments were in relation to spending necessary money on essential services rather than building more roads or houses. Other respondents suggested ways to generate additional income, including private sector investment and charging business rates on council properties and land. Some suggested improved ways to lobby central Government for Fairer Funding, such as joining with district councils or other councils in the same financial position.

Several suggestions were in relation to staffing, management and departments. Many of these respondents felt that there were too many managers, or highly paid managers. Some suggested ideas for managing staff, such as removing unproductive employees or paying staff based on performance. Others felt that agency staff, external consultants and councillor costs needed to be reduced in order to save money. There were other suggestions in relation to this, including more joined up working between departments and speaking directly to front-line staff before making further cuts.

A notable proportion of respondents criticised or had concerns regarding the council's proposals. There were several comments where respondents expressed concerns about how additional service cuts would impact essential services, particularly those for vulnerable residents. Some respondents questioned how council services could run efficiently if further reductions were made, as they had already been cut to the bone in previous years. Whilst many felt there should not be further cuts to social care, others felt too much money was being spent in this area.

Respondents also mentioned that they did not want to see further cuts to support services for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS), libraries, museums and parks. Although the budget plans stated that Leicestershire County Council is not facing a financial crisis yet, there were some concerns about the council dipping into reserves and the proposals to deliver services differently.

There were many mentions of Leicestershire being unfairly underfunded. A number of respondents indicated that they agreed that the council should continue lobbying central Government for more funding. These comments included those that acknowledged that this was a national issue, appreciated the difficult financial situation that the council is in and expressed frustration that there has not been much improvement made to secure fairer funding for Leicestershire. Whilst there were some respondents that recognised the council's challenges, several were critical of the council's efforts to lobby Government and stated that fairer funding is outlined in the budget plans every year however there have not been any positive results.

Other respondents acknowledged that Leicestershire is underfunded and has been for years, whilst others said that central Government does not seem to be listening and the council should do more to fight for fairer funding.

Council Tax increases was another recurring criticism. Many respondents pleaded with the council to not further increase Council Tax, as they felt residents have already been stretched with continuous rises in inflation and general living costs. Others criticised the proposed rise in Council Tax, or felt they were being asked to pay more for reduced services.

Several respondents said they needed further information or detail to provide a meaningful response, whilst others asked questions around specific areas outlined in the budget plans. A few respondents felt that the council needed to be more transparent about the proposals. Similarly, some respondents highlighted issues with the survey or supporting documents. These respondents felt that the survey appeared to be a 'tick box exercise' or that the information around the consultation or the survey itself could have been more accessible.

Positive responses reflected a general support for the council's proposals and the identified areas for growth outlined in the budget plans. Some respondents said they understood the responsibility and difficulty that the council faces due to underfunding from central Government during such a difficult financial time.

"Consider very carefully how you propose to spend any money and the devastating impacts any rises will have on residents. If not you may find people simply cannot pay and therefore creating a false economy."

"Protect front line services. Stop building major roads that just add to our environmental, health and congestion issues. I do think there is inefficiency in the two tier system - that needs reviewing."

"Manage expectations for the public and staff. While it is good that LCC says they're not in crisis yet, dipping into reserves seems like a quite drastic step before huge savings need to be made."

"More private sector investment should be generated for projects such as roads and house building."

"Better budgeting needed from here on-in"

"The Council should consider lobbying the Government together with Rutland and the District Councils to force Leicester City Council in forming a Combined Authority with an Elected Mayor as examples from across the country show this is working. The opportunities particularly for a strategic approach to housing, investment, transport and growth are too big to allow one organisation to have a veto - it should be put to the public for them to decide as we do with the [Police and Crime Commissioner] PCC."

"I think that with other Council's in your position you should lobby the present Government regarding the differences in funding."

"You've been lobbying central government for years to address fairer funding for Leicestershire with zero positive results- how would continuing this result in any other outcome- why is Leicestershire overlooked?"

"The government isn't listening to you, fair funding is a pipe dream."

"I am glad you are looking at funding and doing more to lobby the government. It is so unfair that more affluent areas get more than Leicestershire and pay less council tax."

"There are still unnecessary items"

"Please consider all those in society that are disadvantaged before any thoughts about new roads or other infrastructure projects."

"Again disagree with certain reductions with RHWS operations"

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

"Look into the problem of management staffing. Too many for one job."

"Remove unproductive staff and pay productive staff based on performance including cost savings they identify"

"There is still a lot of waste and top heavy management ,for instance, paperwork sent out shiny brochures a lot of which can be done online ,and look at expenses too many councillors ,Too many courses for staff by overpaid consultants which could be done in house"

"You can't win whatever you do, but please consider not raising council tax too much as people are really struggling"

"If we are already paying the highest council tax in the Country it's not really fair to increase it further."

"You should look to use more of your reserves in the short term to offset the need for council tax rises at a time when people are really struggling financially."

"Although prepared to pay the increased council tax, is it right that we are paying more money for reduced services?"

"Publish the full budget so that people make educated comments and bits"

"I couldn't find the draft proposal, not sure where to download it or read it. Is it just the one page on your website?"

"Not enough detail to be able to give any meaningful comments"

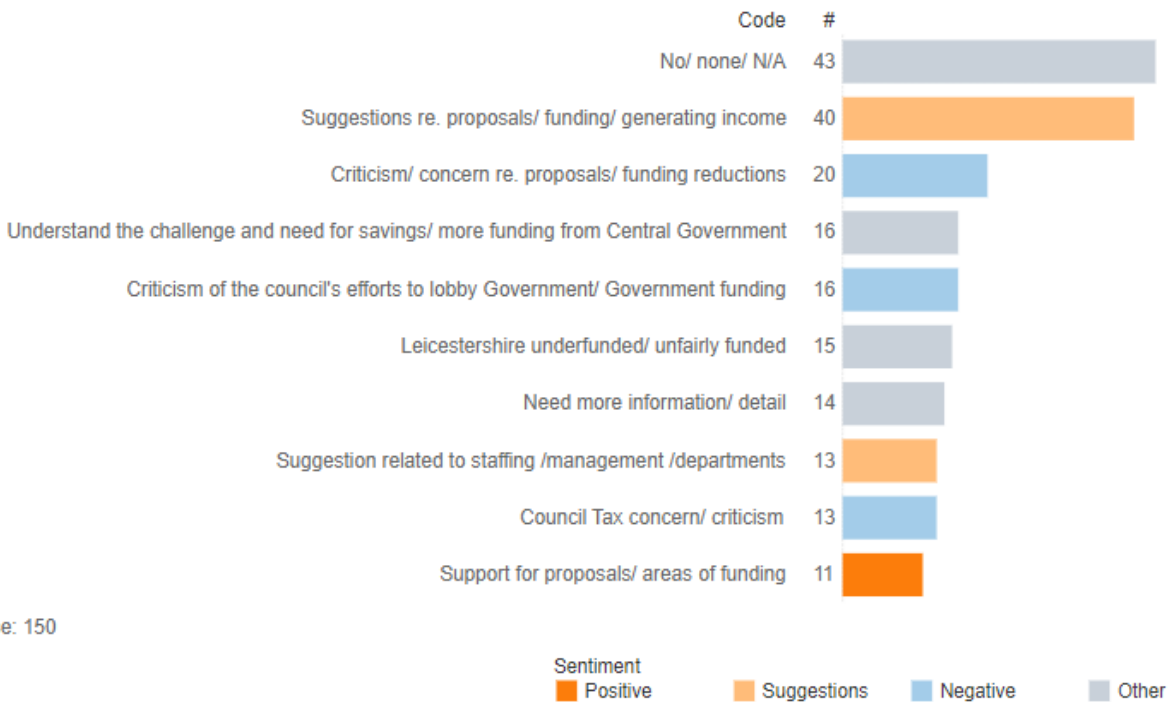
"It is not possible to answer most of the questions on this survey as they are appropriate for a household and not for an organisation like a Parish Council"

"They are well thought through and are aimed at providing the best possible solutions in current circumstances"

"No, I think there are proportionate and fair"

"We are the lowest funded local authority but in a much better place financially than others as we manage our finances better than most"

Chart 21 - Other comments on the council's budget proposals - Top 10



Communications

Question 13 - How the respondents found out about the consultation

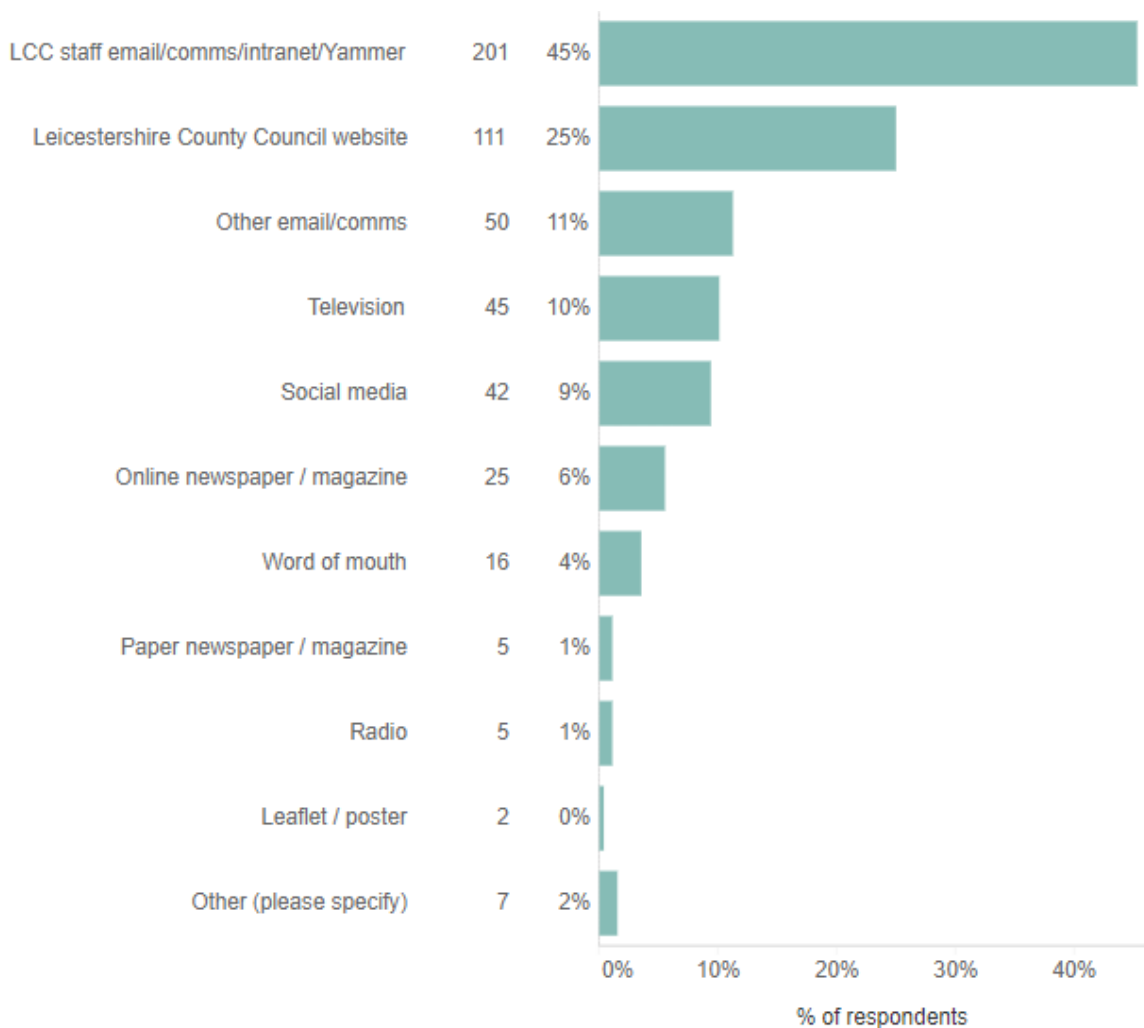
The questionnaire asked respondents how they found out about this consultation.

Chart 22 shows under half (45%) of respondents said they found out about the consultation through LCC staff email/comms/intranet/Yammer and a quarter (25%) found out through the Leicestershire County Council website.

Around a tenth of respondents said they found out about the consultation through other emails or communications (11%), television (10%) or social media (9%). A smaller proportion said they found out through online or paper newspaper/magazine, word of mouth, radio or a leaflet/poster.

Some respondents said they found out about the consultation through other sources, including information shared by county councillors, voluntary groups or district councils.

Chart 22 - How respondents found out about the consultation (multiple response)



Base = 443

Appendix 1 - Questionnaire



Have your say on our draft budget plans 2024- 2028

Background

Councils across the country are facing unprecedented challenges as spiralling social care prices, growing service demand and inflation drive up costs.

Economic forecasts indicate that it is unlikely future Government funding will be sufficient to compensate for these challenges.

You may have seen that nearby councils, such as Nottingham and Birmingham Cities, have declared that they do not have enough resources to continue to deliver services by issuing a section 114 notice.

We are not in crisis territory – but we do have a significant budget gap. Our four-year draft budget, known as the medium term financial strategy, shows that we have a gap of £12m next year for which we will have to dip into reserves.

This gap rises to £85m by 2028, and that is after plans for a further £77m of savings. These savings are mostly efficiency and include further reductions in back office costs, reviewing and simplifying processes and maximising the use of technology. However, further savings will need to be identified on top of those already planned, and this means that we will need to deliver many of our services differently.

Our four-year budget proposals include investing £127m more to meet growing demand, mainly in social care, and an extra £113m to cover inflation and the National Living Wage increase.

We also have a four-year capital programme totaling £445m - for the cost of building roads, schools and other one-off projects linked to new homes being built across Leicestershire.

A three per cent Council Tax increase for our core services is planned for next year, generating £11m for front line services and adding 88p per week to the bill of a Band D property. A further £7m would be raised from a two per cent increase in the adult social care precept adding 58p per week. Those are maximum percentage increases allowed by the Government.

We have published our 2024-2028 spending plans for consultation. These plans assume a proposed three per cent increase on core Council Tax for 2024/25 and incorporate an additional two per cent 'social care precept' increase. Increases of five per cent for 2025/26 and three per cent for 2026/27 and 2027/28 have been assumed. Decisions on future years' Council Tax levels, including the adult social care precept, will be taken prior the start of each year.

If you have any comments about the draft budget proposals, we would like to hear from you. Your views will be taken into consideration when the council finalises its spending plans.

We would encourage you to read the **budget proposals web page** before completing the survey.

Consultations on individual proposals will be brought forward in due course.

The closing date for this consultation is **midnight 17 January 2024**.

Thank you for your assistance. Your views are important to us.

If completing on a phone or tablet do not use the back button on your device as you may lose your response.

Please note: Your responses to the main part of the survey (including your comments) may be released to the general public in full under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any responses to the questions in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire will be held securely and will not be subject to release under Freedom of Information legislation, nor passed on to any third party.

Your role

Q1 In which role(s) are you responding to this consultation? Please tick all applicable.

- I am a resident
- I represent/own a local business
- I represent a voluntary and community services (VCS) organisation or social enterprise
- I represent another stakeholder e.g. district/borough/parish council, health, police, school/education etc.
- I am an employee of Leicestershire County Council
- Other

Please specify 'other' below

Q2 If you indicated that you represent an organisation, business, community group, school/other educational establishment, please provide your details.

Name:

Organisation:

Q3 Are you providing your organisations official response to the consultation?

- Yes
- No

Our proposals

Growing demand for county council services - plus general price rises (inflation) - are increasing the cost of delivering services. Council Tax is the county council's main source of income and annual increases contribute towards covering these costs.

We have published our 2024-2028 spending plans for consultation. These plans assume a proposed 3% increase on core Council Tax and an additional 2% 'social care precept' increase in 2024/25.

The Council Tax bill for county council services in 2023/24 is currently £1,525 per year for a band D property. Every 1% increase in Council Tax generates an additional £3.7m of income each year and reduces the need to make savings. Every 1% increase costs a household in a band D property an additional £15.25 per year (or £1.27 per month) on their Council Tax bill. Figures for the other Council Tax bands can found on the website.

Q4 What core Council Tax increase would you be prepared to pay next year to fund county council services (excluding any 'social care precept')?

The figures in brackets show what this increase would be next year for a household in a band D property.

- Above 3%
- 3% (an extra £45.76 next year)
- 2% (an extra £30.51 next year)
- 1% (an extra £15.25 next year)
- None
- Council Tax should be reduced
- Don't know

Q5 What, if any, additional increase would you be prepared to pay next year as a separate 'social care precept' to be used exclusively for the funding of adult social care?

The figures in brackets show what this increase would be next year for a household in a band D property.

- Above 2%
- 2% (an extra £30.51 next year)
- 1% (an extra £15.25 next year)
- None
- Don't know

Q6 What impact, if any, would an overall 5% increase in Council Tax (the proposed total of core Council Tax and precept) have on your household finances?

A 5% increase would be an extra £76.27 next year or £6.36 per month in a band D property.

- Significant impact
- Moderate impact
- Slight impact
- No impact
- Don't know

Why do you say this?

Q7 Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with how the growth and savings have been allocated across our services?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Strongly
agree | Tend to
agree | Neither
agree nor
disagree | Tend to
disagree | Strongly
disagree | Don't know |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Q8 Are there any savings you disagree with?

Q9 Are there any areas where you think we could make further savings?

Q10 Do you have any comments about the areas identified for growth or capital investment?

Funding Reform

Leicestershire remains the lowest-funded county in the country. If it was funded at the same level as Surrey, it would be £125 million per year better off, or £547 million if compared to Kensington and Chelsea. Council Tax levels are unfair too – the average Leicestershire resident (band C) pays more Council Tax than a resident living in the most expensive properties (band H) in Westminster in London. Faced with an extremely challenging financial situation, we're continuing to lead calls for funding reform and look for opportunities to work more efficiently and effectively.

Q11 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the council should continue lobbying Government to review the way funding is distributed between councils?

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any other comments

Q12 Do you have any other comments about our draft budget proposals?

Q13 How did you find out about this consultation? Please tick all applicable.

- Leicestershire County Council website
- Word of mouth
- Leaflet / poster
- Online newspaper / magazine
- Paper newspaper / magazine
- Social media
- Television
- Radio
- LCC staff email/comms/intranet/Yammer
- Other email/comms
- Other (please specify)

Please specify 'Other' below

About you

Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its services, policies, and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice, address the needs of all sections of the community and promote and advance equality of opportunity.

Many people face discrimination in society because of their personal circumstances and for this reason we have decided to ask these monitoring questions.

We would therefore be grateful if you would answer the following questions. You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you did.

Q14 What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- I use another term

Q15 Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

- Yes
- No

Q16 What was your age on your last birthday? (Please enter your age in numbers not words)

Q17 What is your postcode? This will help us understand views in different areas.

Q18 Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged 17 or under?

- Yes
- No

Q19 Are you a carer of a person aged 18 or over?

- Yes
- No

A carer is someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help.

Q20 Do you have a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?

- Yes
- No

Q21 What is your ethnic group? Please tick one box only.

- White
- Mixed
- Asian or Asian British
- Black or Black British
- Other ethnic group

Q22 What is your religion or belief?

- No religion
- Christian (all denominations)
- Buddhist
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Any other religion or belief

Q23 What is your sexual orientation?

- Bi
- Gay or Lesbian
- Straight/ Heterosexual
- I use another term

Please click the 'submit' button below to send us your response.

Thank you for your time. Your views will be considered before the budget is finalised in February 2024.

Data Protection: Personal data supplied on this form will be held on computer and will be used in accordance with current Data Protection Legislation. The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision of services by the county council and its partners. Leicestershire County Council will not share any personal information collected in this survey with its partners. The information will be held in accordance with the council's records management and retention policy. Information which is not in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Appendix 2 - Respondent profile

Age	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census (15+)
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Under 15	0	0.0	0.0	16.4
15-24	10	2.6	2.2	11.7
25-34	41	10.8	9.2	12.0
35-44	79	20.8	17.7	12.1
45-54	92	24.2	20.6	13.7
55-64	111	29.2	24.8	13.3
65-74	33	8.7	7.4	11.2
75-84	14	3.7	3.1	7.0
85 or above	0	0.0	0.0	2.6
No reply	67		15:0	

*This includes one respondent who entered '0'

Gender	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Male	153	61.0	54.6	49.4
Female	244	38.3	34.2	50.6
I use another term	3	0.8	0.7	
No reply	47		10.5	

Do you have a long-standing illness or disability?*	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Yes	89	22.2	19.9	16.2
No	312	77.8	69.8	83.8
No reply	46		10.3	

*2021 Census asks if respondents day-to-day activities are limited a lot

Ethnicity	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
White	359	92.1	80.3	87.5
Mixed	9	2.3	2.0	2.2
Asian or Asian British	15	3.8	3.4	8.2
Black or Black British	2	0.5	0.4	1.1
Other ethnic group	5	1.3	1.1	1.0
No reply	57		12.8	

Sexual orientation	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Bi	14	3.7	3.1	1.0
Gay or Lesbian	9	2.4	2.0	1.2
Straight/Heterosexual	343	90.0	76.7	91.1
I use another term	15	3.9	3.4	0.2
No reply	66		14.8	6.5

Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28

What is your religion?	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
No religion	188	48.5	42.1	40.3
Christian (All denominations)	172	44.3	38.5	45.8
Buddhist	2	0.5	0.4	0.3
Hindu	6	1.5	1.3	3.7
Jewish	1	0.3	0.2	0.1
Muslim	7	1.8	1.6	2.3
Sikh	1	0.3	0.2	1.7
Any other religion or belief	11	2.8	2.5	0.5
No reply	59		13.2	5.5

Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged 17 or under?	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Yes	121	29.7	27.1	(Census data includes all people cared for regardless of age)
No	286	70.3	64.0	
No reply	40		8.9	

Are you a carer of a person aged 18 or over?	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
Yes	62	15.4	13.9	(Census data includes all people cared for regardless of age)
No	341	84.6	76.3	
No reply	44		9.8	

District	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex M/O [#]	% Inc M/O [#]	%
Blaby	55	17.5	12.3	14.5
Charnwood	82	26.1	18.3	25.8
Harborough	39	12.4	8.7	13.7
Hinckley & Bosworth	46	14.6	10.3	16.0
Melton	33	10.5	7.4	7.3
North West Leicestershire	34	10.8	7.6	14.7
Oadby & Wigston	25	8.0	5.6	8.1
Missing/ Invalid/ Non-LLR Postcode	133		29.8	

National IMD quintile 2019	447	Survey Responses		2021 Census
		% Ex NR*	% Inc NR*	%
1 (most deprived)	8	2.4	1.8	1.6
2	26	7.9	5.8	10.7
3	48	14.5	10.7	16.6
4	114	34.5	25.5	33.5
5 (least deprived)	134	40.6	30.0	37.6
No reply	117		26.2	

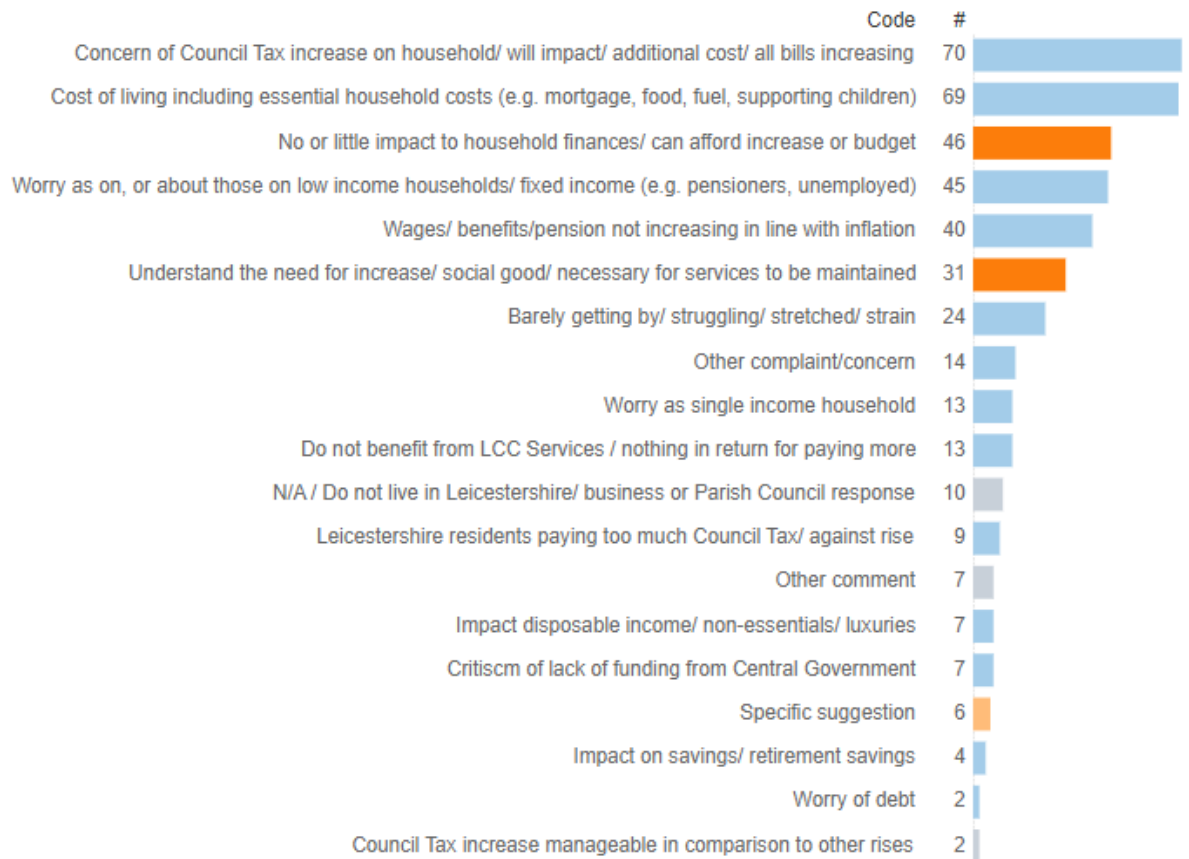
*NR = No reply

[#]M/O = Missing/invalid or Other Authority postcode

Appendix 3 - All open comment codes

Q6a - Impact of overall 5% Council Tax increase. Why do you say this?

Full list of codes

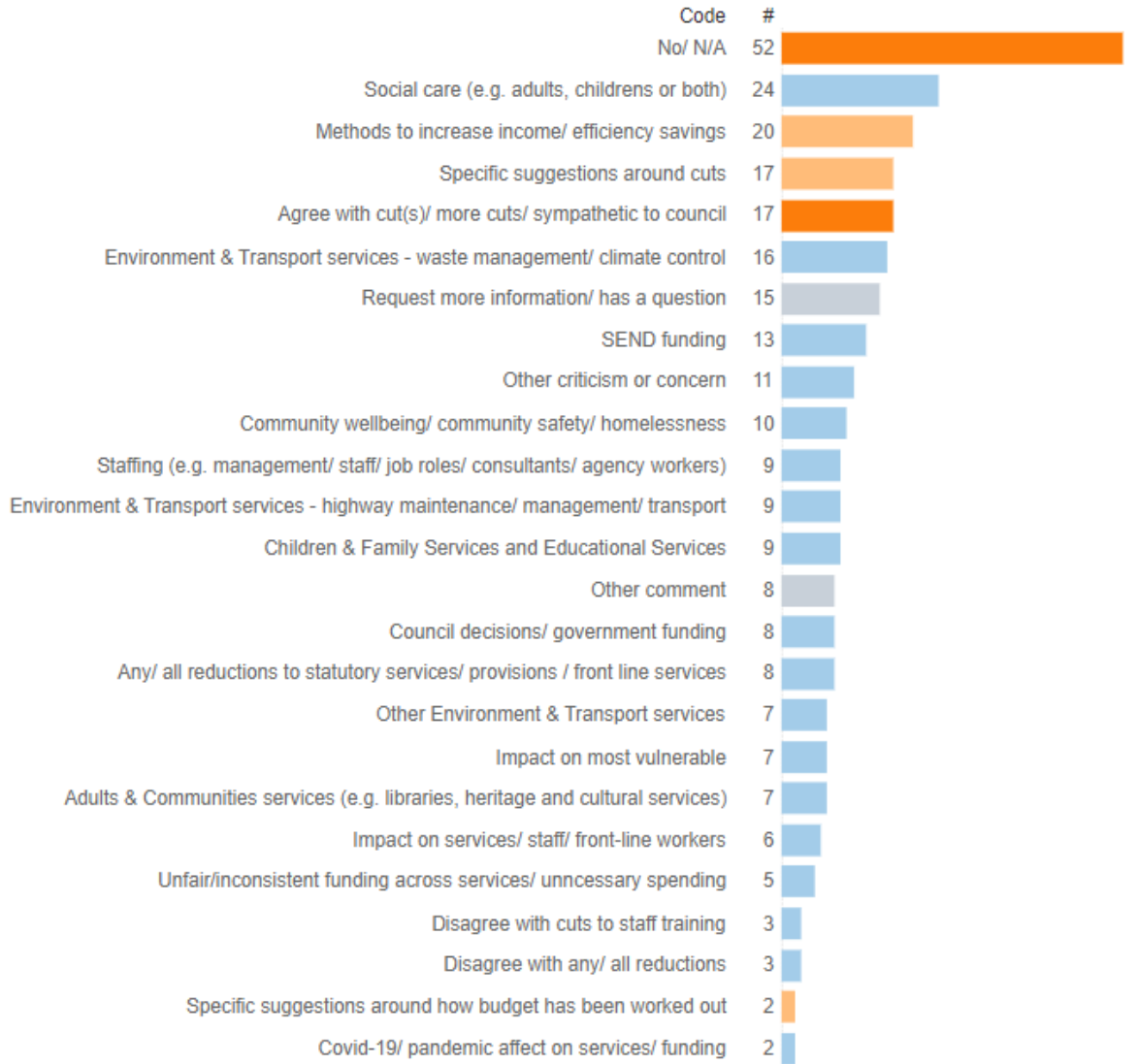


Base: 243

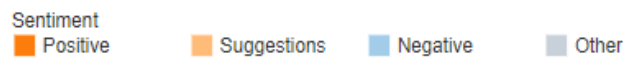
Sentiment
■ Positive ■ Suggestions ■ Negative ■ Other

Q8 - Are there any savings you disagree with?

Full list of codes

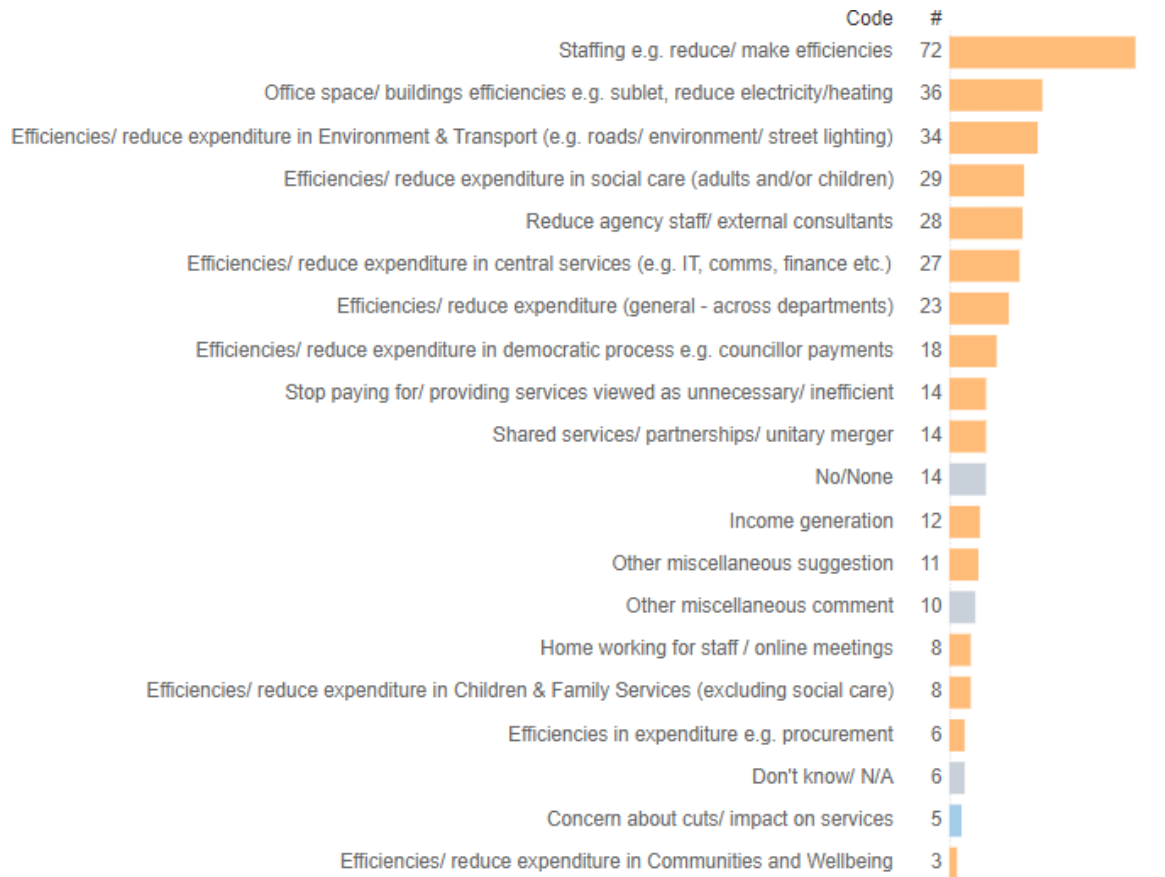


Base: 195

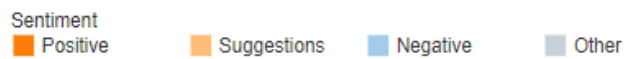


Q9 - Are there any areas where you think we could make further savings?

Full list of codes

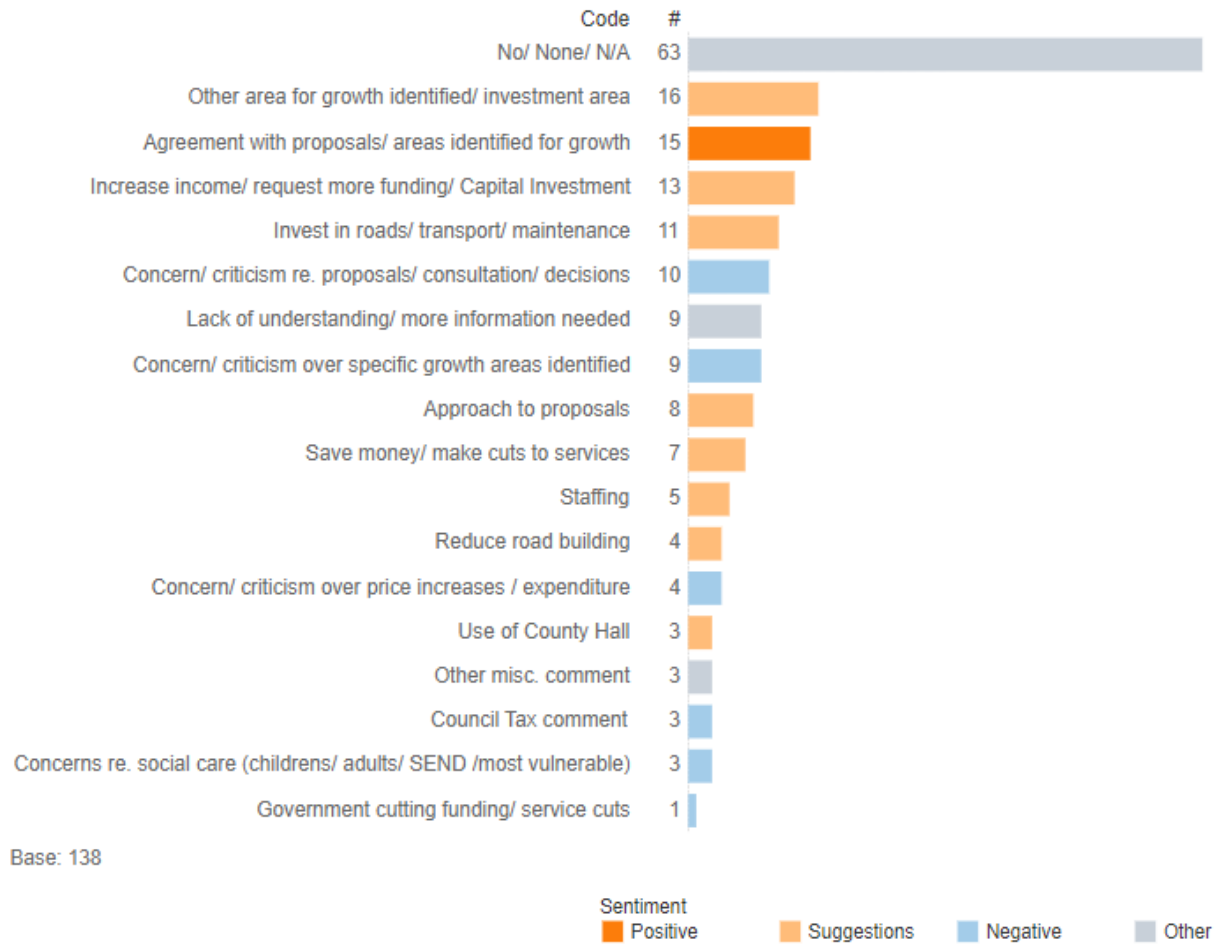


Base: 250



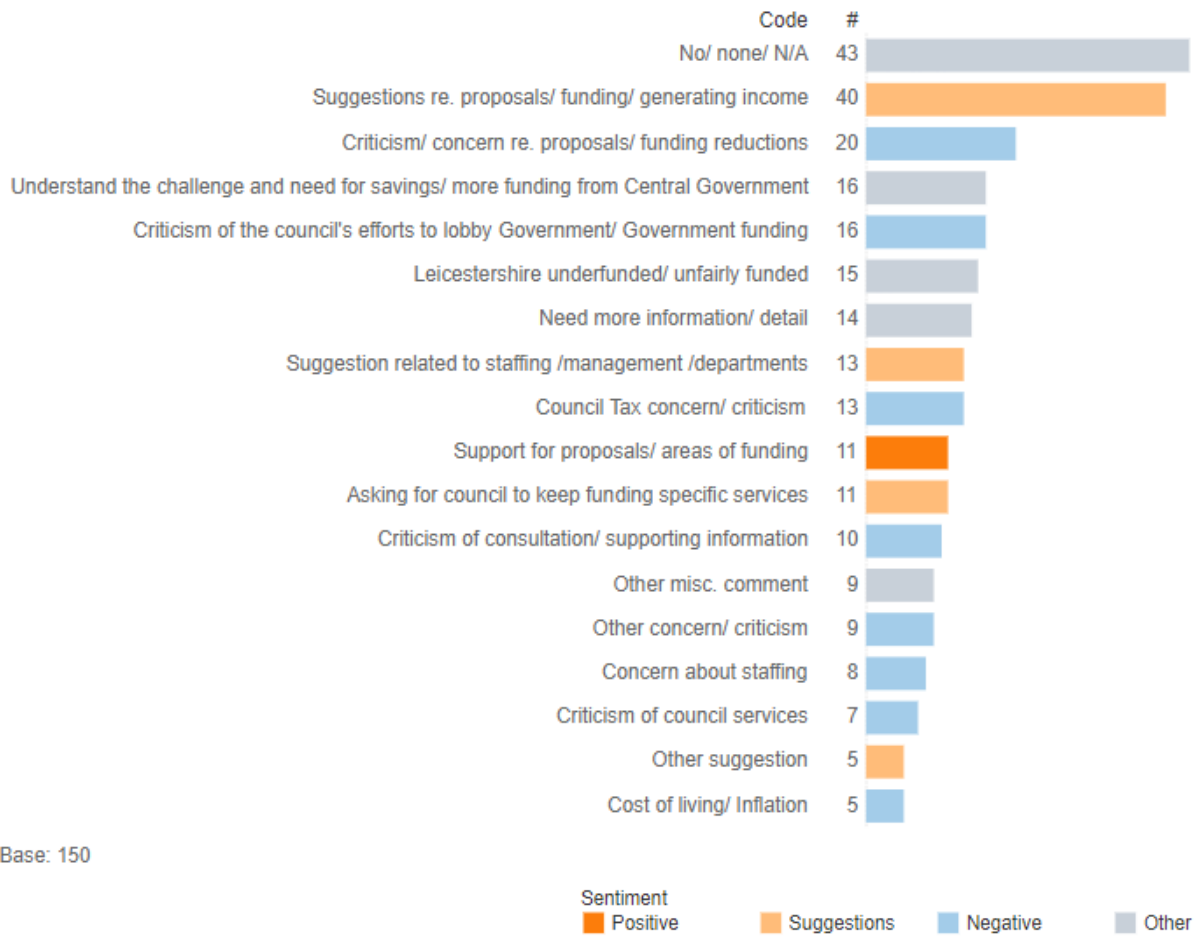
Q10 - Do you have any comments about the areas identified for growth and capital investment?

Full list of codes



Q12 - Do you have any other comments on our draft budget proposals?

Full list of codes



Appendix 4 - Statistical Analysis

How to read these tables

These tables allow you to statistically compare a response by a specific demographic group against the overall respondent sample. The statistical test used to identify statistical significance is called chi-square.

Statistical significance using chi-square tests is determined by looking at the difference between the expected and observed proportion of respondents. For example if 50% of the whole sample said 'agree' for a given question, the expected proportion of any demographic (e.g. males) saying 'agree' is 50%. The expected proportion is then compared to the actual/observed proportion of the demographic who said 'agree', and a measure of statistical significance is calculated.

To maximise statistical reliability, responses were aggregated where appropriate. For example, Matrix 1 displays the statistical analysis for Question 4. Responses were aggregated into 'Agree' = ('Strongly agree' and 'Tend to agree') and 'Disagree' = ('Strongly disagree' and 'Disagree').

Matrix 1

Question 4: “What core Council Tax increase would you be prepared to pay next year to fund County Council services (excluding any ‘social care precept’?”

Response	Avg %	Role (combined response)		Gender		Age			Disability		Ethnic group			Religion			Parent/Carer		Sexual Orientation		District					IMD Quintile					Rural/Urban							
		LCC Employee	Resident (and not LCC employee)	Other	Female	Male	Under 35	35 - 44	55+	45 to 54	Yes	No	White	BME	No religion	Christian religion	Non-Christian religion	Yes	No	Strait/Heterosexual	LGB+	Baby	Charwood	Harborough	Hinkley & Bosworth	Melton	North West Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston	Non-Leicestershire Authority	1 - Most deprived	2	3	4	5 - Least deprived	Urban	Rural		
Above 3%	22	21	21	45	15	34	0	10	23	23	21	22	13	21	24	7	22	21	15	22	24	33	13	28	15	24	12	40	25	19	23	20	25	21	27			
3% (an extra £43.00 next year)	30	31	28	18	32	28	33	30	30	30	29	32	13	30	31	26	32	29	35	31	24	24	30	35	21	47	24	20	50	38	30	29	28	31	28			
2% (an extra £28.00 next year)	17	19	16	9	21	13	0	25	14	18	21	18	13	18	17	19	17	18	20	18	16	17	24	15	21	15	16	7	0	12	11	23	19	17	20			
1% (an extra £14.53 next year)	15	15	15	9	20	6	33	21	10	16	13	20	14	14	15	19	11	17	13	15	16	9	20	13	27	3	20	20	13	15	26	10	16	15	15	15		
None	12	9	16	18	9	13	33	15	11	11	12	10	20	12	10	15	9	12	11	10	16	5	10	7	9	9	24	7	0	12	11	12	6	9	10			
Council Tax should be reduced	5	5	5	0	4	7	0	4	9	2	3	4	20	5	3	15	8	4	5	5	5	6	7	3	2	3	4	7	13	4	0	5	6	7	0			

Significance
■ Very significantly higher
■ Significantly higher
■ Significantly lower
■ Very significantly lower
■ Similar
■ Suppressed

Matrix 2
Question 5: “What, if any, additional increase would you be prepared to pay next year as a separate ‘social care precept’ to be used exclusively for the funding of Adult Social Care?”

Response	Avg %	Role (combined response)	Gender	Age	Disability	Ethnic group	Religion	Parent/Carer	Sexual Orientation	District	IMD Quintile	Rural/Urban
Above 2%	17	LCC Employee 18	Female 11	Under 35 7	Yes 14	White 16	No religion 15	Yes 12	Straight/Heterosexual 16	Harborough 21	1 - Most deprived 8	Urban 13
2% (an extra £28.06 next year)	29	LCC Employee 31	Male 28	35 - 44 29	No 28	BME 11	Christian religion 35	No 32	Non-Christian religion 22	Charwood 25	2 38	Rural 29
1% (an extra £14.53 next year)	28	LCC Employee 30	Female 37	45 to 54 20	Yes 23	White 27	Christian religion 25	Yes 34	Straight/Heterosexual 27	North West Leicestershire 30	3 43	Urban 31
None	28	LCC Employee 20	Male 32	55+ 22	No 30	White 25	Christian religion 22	No 27	Non-Christian religion 24	Melton 42	4 25	Rural 24
		LCC Employee 25	Other 21	Under 35 40	Yes 40	White 39	No religion 33	Yes 20	Non-Christian religion 26	North West Leicestershire 9	5 - Least deprived 18	Rural 20

Significance
■ Very significantly higher
■ Significantly higher
■ Significantly lower
■ Very significantly lower
 Similar
 Suppressed

Matrix 3
Question 4 and Question 5 Combined: Total Council Tax Increase

Response	Role (combined response)		Gender		Age			Disability		Ethnic group			Religion		Parent/ Carer u17		Carer o18		Sexual Orientation		District					IMD Quintile					Rural/Urban							
	LCC Employee	Resident (and not LCC employee)	Female	Male	Under 35	35 - 44	55+	45 to 54	Yes	No	White	BME	No religion	Christian religion	Non-Christian religion	Yes	No	Yes	No	Straight/Heterosexual	LGB+	Baby	Charwood	Harborough	Hinkley & Bosworth	Melton	North West Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston	Non-Leicestershire Authority	1 - Most deprived	2	3	4	5 - Least deprived	Urban	Rural		
Above 5%	20	18	15	28	0	8	23	21	22	20	19	20	7	18	23	7	22	18	18	20	24	30	15	21	26	9	21	12	31	25	15	19	22	18	25	4	18	25
5%	17	14	15	17	0	10	16	13	15	15	17	10	14	18	14	15	16	13	16	8	11	15	15	17	12	26	8	13	25	19	15	14	16	16	16	18	16	
Above 4%	2	2	1	4	0	2	0	3	2	2	2	7	2	2	0	2	2	0	3	2	0	1	5	4	0	6	0	6	0	0	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	
4%	16	13	19	10	0	19	15	15	16	15	16	17	3	18	14	11	14	23	14	16	16	15	16	15	17	15	21	20	0	13	27	17	17	13	17	12	12	
Above 3%	2	3	0	3	0	0	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	3	4	0	5	0	12	0	0	0	4	4	2	2	2	2	4	4	
3%	11	13	8	14	8	33	11	13	15	11	12	7	11	13	14	10	12	13	12	11	14	15	20	8	11	12	12	8	6	13	4	6	16	15	13	14	14	14
Above 2%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2%	12	12	0	17	5	33	11	13	13	13	12	17	13	11	14	12	13	11	13	12	14	7	16	8	7	15	6	16	25	13	8	17	12	10	12	10	12	10
1%	7	5	8	7	0	10	4	3	3	8	6	13	7	5	14	8	7	7	7	5	4	9	3	11	9	3	8	6	0	8	13	4	7	4	7	7	6	6
None	6	15	17	7	13	33	13	9	12	9	8	17	9	9	11	5	11	8	10	8	14	9	2	10	4	9	3	24	6	0	12	8	9	5	6	6	9	9
Council Tax should be reduced	4	5	0	3	7	0	4	9	3	5	4	17	5	3	14	8	4	5	4	3	6	7	3	2	6	3	4	6	13	4	0	5	6	7	0	7	0	

Significance
■ Very significantly higher
■ Significantly higher
■ Significantly lower
■ Very significantly lower
 Similar
 Suppressed

Matrix 4

Question 6: “What impact, if any, would an overall 5% increase in Council Tax (the proposed total of core Council Tax and precept) have on your household finances?”

Response	Avg %	LCC Employee	Resident (and not LCC employee)	Other	Female	Male	Use another term	Under 35	35 - 44	45 to 54	Yes	No	Disability	Ethnic group	Religion	Parent/Carer U17	Carer o18	Sexual Orientation	District	IMD Quintile	Rural/Urban											
Significant impact	28	21	38	22	28	25	67	30	25	29	31	27	25	57	30	48	23	31	25	23	13	29	15	40	19	50	23	17	27	25	27	20
Moderate impact	28	31	21	44	29	23	33	30	14	29	35	26	25	21	26	25	30	26	27	24	29	29	39	40	19	0	35	41	26	20	25	28
Slight impact	33	37	29	33	31	41	0	30	49	28	29	35	35	21	34	37	28	35	35	27	36	43	47	20	38	38	38	30	34	42	40	31
No impact	11	11	12	0	12	11	0	10	14	13	5	11	13	0	11	15	11	16	16	16	7	18	3	0	25	13	4	11	13	14	8	21



Matrix 5

Question 7: "Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with how the growth and savings have been allocated across our services?"

Response	Avg %	Role (combined response)	Female	Male	Use another term	Under 35	35 - 44	45 to 54	Yes	No	Disability	Ethnic group	Religion	Parent/Carer u17	Carer o 18	Sexual Orientation	District	IMD Quintile	Rural/Urban	
Agree	40	LCC Employee	40	45	0	44	46	39	46	39	45	41	43	46	40	53	42	40	45	40
		Resident (and not LCC employee)	14														23	46	45	40
Neither agree nor disagree	36	LCC Employee	36	32	100	38	33	39	29	36	37	36	35	36	43	22	48	29	32	39
		Resident (and not LCC employee)	43														35	46	37	39
Disagree	24	LCC Employee	24	24	0	18	21	22	28	23	23	20	23	19	17	25	9	25	18	22
		Resident (and not LCC employee)	43														42	25	28	22



Matrix 6

Question 11: “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the council should continue lobbying Government to review the way funding is distributed between councils?”

Response	Avg %	LCC Employee	Resident (and not LCC employee)	Other	Female	Male	Use another term	Under 35	35 - 44	45 to 54	Yes	No	Disability	Ethnic group	Religion	Parent/Carer u17	Carer o18	Sexual Orientation	District	IMD Quintile	Rural/Urban					
Agree	83	95	90	88	92	95	100	88	91	96	92	94	94	90	92	95	92	100	97	81	88	90	94	95	96	
Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	5	13	4	2	0	2	4	1	5	3	3	3	3	4	1	3	0	3	0	12	2	2	2	3
Disagree	3	3	5	0	4	3	0	0	5	3	3	4	4	7	5	0	4	0	3	8	0	0	4	2	4	3

Significance

- Very significantly higher
- Significantly higher
- Significantly lower
- Very significantly lower
- Similar
- Suppressed



If you require information contained in this leaflet in another version e.g. large print, Braille, tape or alternative language please telephone: 0116 305 6803, Fax: 0116 305 7271 or Minicom: 0116 305 6160.

ਜੇ ਆਪ ਆ ਮਾਭਿਨੀ ਆਪਨੀ ਆਖਾਮਾਂ ਸਮਝਵਾਮਾਂ ਥੀੜੀ ਮਦਦ ਈਝਨਾਂ ਡੀ ਨੀ 0116 305 6803 ਨੰਬਰ ਪਰ ਫ਼ੀਨ ਡਰਥੀ ਅਨੇ ਅਮੇ ਆਪਨੇ ਮਦਦ ਡਰਵਾ ਅਵਥਾ ਡਰੀਥੁੰ.

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਕੁਝ ਮਦਦ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 0116 305 6803 ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰ ਦਵਾਂਗੇ।

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 6803 এই নম্বরে ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔ 0116 305 6803

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，請致電 0116 305 6803，我們會安排有關人員為你提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 6803, a my Ci dopomożemy.

Business Intelligence Service
Leicestershire County Council
County Hall, Glenfield
Leicester LE3 8RA

ri@leics.gov.uk
www.lsr-online.org

This page is intentionally left blank