2019-20 Budget Consultation

Findings and Report

22 January 2019
Appendix 3

Contents

1. Executive Summary of Public Consultation
   1.1 Background ............................................................................................................ 3
   1.2 Key Findings from Budget Consultation ................................................................. 4

2. Key findings from Council Strategy Engagement exercise ...................................................... 4

3. Findings from the Public Consultation on the 2019/20 Budget
   3.1 Survey Method ........................................................................................................ 9
   3.2.1 Council Priorities ................................................................................................ 10
   3.2.2 Council Budget .................................................................................................. 10

4. Consultation with Trade Unions .......................................................................................... 15

5. Schools Forum consultation ............................................................................................... 19

Appendix A
Data tables of survey respondents

Appendix B
Online and Paper Questionnaire
1. Executive Summary of Public Consultation

1.1 Background

The proposed budget which stakeholders have been asked to comment on through the budget consultation totals £428 million which includes an extra £11 million funding to help the most vulnerable children in Gloucestershire and an investment of £2 million will be invested in care for vulnerable adults. This budget also proposes a 2.99 per cent council tax increase to be invested in children’s services and a social care levy of 2 per cent on top.

The council’s draft budget proposals for 2019/20 are based on the following emerging priorities:

- Children’s wellbeing and safeguarding
- Education and skills
- Health, care and prevention
- Communities and localities
- Transport, economy and infrastructure
- Highways
- Council Leadership

Consultation on the 2019-20 draft budget took place between the 20th December 2018 and 21st January 2019.

The consultation outlined our budget proposals and also sought feedback on the council’s draft priorities.

Stakeholders were also encouraged to give us their general feedback on our draft budget through a link to the full Medium Term Financial Plan.

This report outlines the key findings from the consultation.
1.2 Key Findings from the Budget Consultation

- In total we received 535 responses to the public consultation
- 68% agree with our budget proposals including the 2.99% increase in council tax and 2% national social care levy.
- Overall the comments received supported the council’s budget proposals particularly the investment in services for children and young people, our most vulnerable people and in our roads and other infrastructure. The main comments on our draft budget were:
  - More investment into health services supporting those most in need
  - More investment in roads and other infrastructure
  - Invest in services for children and young people including education
  - I disagree with the council tax rise and the cuts in services
  - More investment in education and training
  - Agree that the proposals are the right ones

2 Key Findings from Council Strategy Engagement exercise

Background

Gloucestershire is a great place to live, work and do business. Most local people enjoy a high standard of living, and our levels of health and wellbeing are comfortably above the average for the country. Generally, local people are well-educated, unemployment is low and Gloucestershire’s economy is strong and resilient. Our natural environment is incredibly varied with a range of different types of landscape, 143 Sites of Special Scientific Interest and three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, as well as nature reserves and other natural assets.

We know that we cannot stand still if we want, as we do, to ensure everyone in the county has the best possible start in life and goes on to be engaged and successful members of their community.

To help achieve this, we are increasingly focused on thinking about what sort of county we want for the future, and how the county council can work with communities and partners to bring about that change. To be successful we need to work with our partners and communities to improve the lives of everyone across our county, it can’t just be about what the council can achieve. It’s about what we can achieve together. We want to have a shared vision with the people and communities
of Gloucestershire that reflects what matters to them and sets high expectations for the future.
By setting out a clear vision of where we want to go and an ambition about what we want to achieve, we will give businesses the confidence to invest in Gloucestershire, ensuring our economy goes from strength to strength. We have already seen the benefits of this approach through the Gloucestershire 2050 conversation with local people, communities and businesses.
This focus on future planning does not mean we will stop doing the essentials well – we will continue to have a strong focus on providing excellent value for money and services that make a real difference for local people. We will also continue to make sure we make the most of the funding available to us.

Key Findings from the Council Strategy Engagement

- In total we received 127 responses to the public Engagement
- In total we received 305 responses to the staff Engagement
- There was strong endorsement of the draft priorities outlined in the draft council strategy.

Overall the comments received supported the council’s draft council strategy and the priorities for Gloucestershire. Particularly the investment in Transport, Economy and Infrastructure.
The top main themes on our draft council strategy were:

- Transport, Economy and Infrastructure (42)
- Respect and protect our environment (18)
- Health, care and prevention (10)
- Education and skills (10)

Other themes included:

- Provide better parking
- More affordable housing
- A more robust action plan to help tackle homelessness and addiction and provide support to help them back into the community and the workplace.

Engagement Method

Engagement information was circulated to contacts within Leadership Gloucestershire network, and stakeholder organisations.

Partners approached included MP’s, Community groups, Service users and user group, Residents of Gloucestershire, NHS Trust, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust, Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Gloucestershire Constabulary, LEP, GFirst, GCC workforce (internal and commissioned), Media, VSA, Gloucestershire CCG and all district and borough councils.

Engagement information was sent to all Gloucestershire county Council staff, county councillors and voluntary sector organisations across the county.

The engagement was promoted to key organisations representing the protected characteristics including the BAME Network, Prevention & Wellbeing group, Children and Families Centres, VCS, Voluntary and Community Sector, BME groups, GAPTC, Learning Disability and Physical disability Partnership board, Sensory Impairment Partnership board and PRISM.

Media coverage was achieved through a press release and a social media presence. On social media we placed 6 Tweets and 6 Facebook posts (organic). Organic posts received 0 likes, 7 retweets, 1 reply, 92 clicks and reached 1,63294 on Twitter. Facebook posts received 5 reactions (likes etc), 2 shares, 29 clicks, one comment and reached 3,285 people.

We also carried out a paid for social media advert through Facebook & Instagram that reached 9,255 people in Gloucestershire. It received 681 outcomes as a result of the advert and was seen on screen 20,306 times. We had a total of 32 reactions (likes etc) 15 shares, 7 comments and 95 link clicks.

We sent out a digital newsletter of the engagement to the People’s Panel who represent the geographical distribution of the population of Gloucestershire as well as the age, gender and ethnic diversity of the county, and also to people who have signed up to receive our news bulletins. This reaches around 6000 people and as a
result of this we have had 942 unique clicks from the newsletter to more information and 2,051 unique clicks from our website to more information. We also had 1564 hours unique clicks on the videos and 748 unique clicks to our PDFs.

We received 9 comments via organic and paid for social media:

- Expand the food bank
- those offering cooking on a budget do not realise its very painful to discuss poverty
- see how much properties many unused or rarely used are owned by the government
- reception staff whether drs mental or physical health are very underestimated like 111 call handlers, In my experience every 111 call handler has been a pure genius very helpful indeed.
- give support workers care givers what they are worth single out different workers especially in underrated catering industry to get free holiday and cash as thanks for hard work. Incentives like this need to be offered.
- Ban all health assessments give power to time served and patient voted drs or gps or nurses that have fairly been suggested to have power of truth via a pen a signature giving disabled ill or those needed a drs precious signature as the law on benefits.

In total, 127 individual comments to the public engagement were received.

We received 98 comments through the county wide roadshow, 20 postal comments and 9 through website/email.

We distributed around 1000 leaflets to the general public and staff

**Engagement Exercise**

The engagement exercise consisted of a combination of traditional Engagement methods and other more targeted, specialised activity.

We carried out:

- Created an engagement brochure that highlighted the new vision for our community focus.
- Developed a webpage which included the engagement brochure and all other information. Included; interactive you tube video, links to the formal engagement, links to our social media channels – this could be used internally and externally.
- We carried out promotion through our regular newsletter that can target the various audiences through Gov delivery. The system we use can monitor who opened and who clicked for evaluation purposes
- A targeted social media campaign using a relevant hashtag, paid for Facebook adverts, and regular tweets and posts to Facebook.
Appendix 3

- Generated press releases to continually push our key messages. Work with local media to piggy back on some of the community facing activity they are already doing to limit the cost of advertising needed.

- We held two internal staff briefing where we had a total attendance of 82 staff and we received 305 individual comments from these events.
3. Findings from the Public Consultation on the 2019-20 Budget

3.1 Survey Method

The consultation comprised of a self-selecting online survey which was also available in hard copy at all local libraries. Consultation information was circulated to contacts within the Leadership Gloucestershire network, and stakeholder organisations and large employers in the county. The Federation of Small Businesses cascaded consultation information to their members in Gloucestershire, and large employers.

Partners approached included Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Trust, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust, Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Gloucestershire CCG and all district and borough councils.

Consultation information was sent to all county councillors and trade unions and voluntary sector organisations across the county. The minutes of the discussion with Trade Unions and Schools Forum appear further in this report.

Young people were one of the target audiences this year. The consultation was promoted through the Youth Parliament; Gloucester College; the University of Gloucestershire and South Glos and Stroud (SGS); Gloucestershire Young Carers and Young Gloucestershire as well as the council’s Young Ambassadors and Young Employees Network.

The consultation was promoted to key organisations representing the protected characteristics including the county council’s Disability Network and PRISM.

Media coverage was achieved through press releases and a social media campaign. On social media we placed 33 Tweets and 39 Facebook posts (organic). We reached 23,427 through Facebook, with 13 clicks to further information. We reached 932256 through Twitter with 48 clicks to further information. Overall, the social media campaign received 75 retweets and shares, 29 likes and 14 comments.

We also carried out a paid for social media advert through Facebook & Instagram that reached 23,224 people in Gloucestershire. It received 1,939 outcomes as a result of the advert and was seen on screen 50,572 times. We had 50 reactions (likes etc), 38 shares and 30 comments.

We sent out a digital newsletter of the consultation to the People’s Panel who represent the geographical distribution of the population of Gloucestershire as well as the age, gender and ethnic diversity of the county, and also to people who have signed up to receive our news bulletins. This reached around 9,406 people and as a
result of this we have had 410 unique clicks from the newsletter to the consultation and 29 clicks from our website to the consultation.

We received 44 comments via organic and paid for social media.

In total, 535 responses to the public consultation survey were received. We included opportunity for people to give us their views through more text box questions which resulted in 647 individual comments.

We received a good mix of respondents from a cross section of the community, particularly amongst those aged 25-54.

Profile questions on gender, age, ethnicity, disability and sexual orientation were also included in the survey and the responses have been analysed to ensure that the equality objectives of the council have been adhered to.

A copy of the online/paper questionnaire has been included in Appendix B.

3.2.1 Council Priorities

Respondents were asked the extent to which they agreed with the council’s draft overarching priorities and for any comments which they had.

Our Priorities

In making decisions on how best to spend our £428 million budget we have to decide where we can have the biggest impact on the lives of people in the county. We do this carefully by listening to local people and using all the information we have available to us.

Our budget proposals for 2019/20 are based on the following priorities:

Children’s wellbeing and safeguarding
Education and skills
Health, care and prevention
Communities and localities
Transport, economy and infrastructure
Highways
Council Leadership
Question 1: To what extent do you agree with the above priorities?

526 people responded to this question. 77% (406) Strongly agreed or agreed with this priority.

Question 1: The budget has been based on the priorities above. Please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with them:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
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<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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On disaggregation of the data, there was some variation in responses amongst groups by Age and Ethnicity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage who agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Under 25</td>
<td>95% (19)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-54</td>
<td>79% (130)</td>
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<tr>
<td>55+</td>
<td>76% (156)</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage who agree</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>80% (340)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BME</td>
<td>66% (16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question 2:

Question: Would you like to give us any feedback on the priorities in question 1 and any specific areas you feel we should spend the money on?

We received 372 comments. All comments were analysed and themed. The top themes were:

- More investment in our infrastructure, cycle infrastructure, better more reliable public transport and rail links especially in the more rural areas, more investment into our roads. (101 comments)
Appendix 3

- We need more investment into our health services to support those in need. More investment in mental health wellbeing and encouraging people to be healthier. (61 comments)
- More investment into schools (51 comments)

Question 3

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with our budget proposals for 2019/20?

517 people responded to this question. 68% Strongly agreed or agreed with this priority.

| To what extent do you agree or disagree with our budget proposals for 2019/20? |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                    | Strongly Agree   | Agree           | Disagree        | Strongly disagree |
| Series 1           | 8%               | 60%             | 24%             | 9%               |

On disaggregation of the data, there was some variation in responses amongst groups Ethnicity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage who agree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>72% (301)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BME</td>
<td>50% (11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question 4

Question: Do you have any further comments you would like to make about our proposed 2019/20 budget?

We received 275 comments. All comments were analysed and themed. The top themes were:
Appendix 3

- I disagree with the council tax rise and the cuts in services (39 comments)
- More investment in education and training (23 comments)
- Agree that the proposals are the right ones (21 comments)

We also received a total of 44 comments on Facebook.

Many of the comments were around roads and repairs to potholes

Objections to the incinerator

Council leadership is not a priority
Appendix 3

4. Trade Unions and Professional Associations - Budget Consultation 2019/20

Minutes of trade union budget consultation (14.01.19)

Present:

For parts 1 and 2: Jo Walker; Paul Blacker; Mandy Quayle; Nick Lerry; Gillian Parkinson; Siobhan Brown (UNISON); John Abbott (UNISON); Wayne Powell (GMB); Roger Hunt (GMB).

For Part 2 only: Mark Hawthorne; Ray Theodolou.

Jo Walker made introductions and set the context for the consultation meeting, which is part of the Council’s statutory budget consultation process. The meeting takes place in two parts.

The first part of the meeting is for the trade unions to receive a briefing from officers on the key points of the MTFS 2019-20 budget report and to have the opportunity to ask questions and to make any representations.

The Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader will attend for the second part of the meeting, and again the unions will have the opportunity to pose any questions and to make representations.

Any representations made by the unions in the course of the meeting will be considered by the Council alongside the feedback from other stakeholder consultees.

Part One

PB outlined the key points of the budget proposals, the details of which are set out in the MTFS budget report. Attention was drawn to the provision in the budget for Year 2 of the Green Book national pay award, which sees the introduction of a new national pay spine on 1st April 2019. Also included is an estimated provision to cover the anticipated costs of introducing the proposed new grading structure for Green Book staff with effect from 1st September 2019. Both matters are subject to separate consultation with the Green Book unions (UNISON, GMB and Unite).

An estimated provision is also included in respect of the anticipated cost of the firefighters national pay award, which still remains to be finalised.

MQ advised that the proposed new grading structure represents a positive development for the Council in seeking to address current and anticipated recruitment and retention challenges, as well as addressing the inconsistent grade lengths and overlaps in the current grading structure.
While welcoming the benefits of the proposed new grading structure WP expressed concern about the ability of schools to accommodate the additional costs in the light of the 'perfect storm' of funding pressures they are presently facing.

JW emphasised that schools' funding is received direct from government and transferred to schools as determined by Schools Forum. As such, schools' funding is not addressed directly in the MTFS.

MQ added that schools have been provided with a 'calculator' to assist with their budgeting and in respect of both the introduction of the new pay spine in April and also the introduction of the proposed new grading structure in September. It is also important to note that the majority of the additional costs to schools come from the introduction of the new pay spine under year two of the national pay award, rather than from the local introduction of a new grading structure. In this regard a large proportion of schools' support staff are employed on the lower points of the pay spine, which have received the largest percentage pay increases under the national pay award. This is where the pay-related cost pressure for schools primarily comes from.

PB added that the position in respect of schools funding pressures will be considered by the government as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review in the summer. SB requested clarification of any staffing implications arising from the 'commissioning intentions' section of the MTFS report including, for example the references to matters such as greater use of volunteers and the retendering of youth support services.

JW advised that the commissioning intentions are necessarily expressed in fairly generic terms and are looking forward over a three year timeframe. There is no specific drive to outsource or downsize services and a range of options will be under consideration depending on the particular circumstances. There are a number of cases where the in-sourcing of previously outsourced services has occurred, for example from partnership arrangements with Gloucestershire Care Services (NHS) and the re-letting of the re-shaped highways contract. However, it needs to be emphasised that while the issues highlighted in this section of the MTFS are all things that commissioners are starting to consider no firm decisions have been made as yet.

With regard to the Adult Single Programme JW advised that Annexe 2 of the MTFS report shows both projected investments and savings around building capacity for self-help and self-care for adult service users. Demand management remains a core theme underpinning the planning and delivery of adult care services in Gloucestershire and is a key focus across the budget. It should also be noted that there are some concerns about potential fragility within the supply chain for adult services, notably last year's insolvency of Cleevelink Ltd. Commissioners are therefore also in dialogue with representatives from these markets.

JA asked specifically about plans in respect of children's centres and services for over-11's currently run by Prospects, as he understood there had been some suggestion these could be brought back in-house? It had also been suggested that
Appendix 3

Library Services would be moving to a self-service model, with a potential impact on jobs?

JW advised that although the Director of Children’s Services is starting to consider a range of matters across various service areas, no firm decisions on any of these have been made as yet. With regard to libraries there was nothing specific detailed in the MTFS regarding self-service.

Part Two
Mark Hawthorne and Ray Theodolou joined the meeting to take any questions or receive any representations from the trade unions.

MH provided a general introduction to the budget, reiterating the headline points. The budget proposals will go forward to Cabinet in February before being considered by Full Council, and the budget process now incorporates year three of ‘Meeting the Challenge’ (MTC3). There is an overspend currently in the order of some £2m, so budgets remain tight.

The two main areas of budget pressure are adults and children's care services. Children’s services are still working through the Children's Development Programme in connection with the Ofsted recommendations, and we are now in year two of the Adult Single Programme.

The Council is continuing into year two of significant investment in roads, which has gone down well with residents.

There is increased capital investment in schools, and a decision taken not to top-slice schools' budgets. However, there remains some significant work to be pursued through Schools Forum to address Gloucestershire's very high rates of school exclusions.

In terms of corporate strategy we have in years gone by been looking at a 'shrinking business'. However, we are now redefining our place in the county leadership role with a strong focus on communities and place-shaping.

MH invited any questions or comments from the trade unions. WP asked for views on the 'perfect storm' of financial pressures being faced by schools including teachers' pay and pension costs as well as the (welcomed) pay increases for support staff.

MH recognised these challenges and advised we will continue to lobby nationally for a fairer funding formula for schools. However, as previously mentioned, it is important that schools focus on reducing their exclusion rates and a working group has been set up to start looking at this. Also, there may be some merit in considering a recommendation from the Timpson Review suggesting that schools should retain on their books the performance of children they have excluded.
SB asked MH to elaborate on the Council's intended approach to the commissioning of services. Might this include, for example, the development of Tekal companies or the outsourcing of services?

MH advised Gloucestershire has what might be described as a 'horses for courses' approach in this regard, which has led to the development of a mixed provision including bringing some previously outsourced services back in-house. There is no political or dogmatic drive one way or the other, but rather, on a case by case basis, considering whether a particular service is best placed externally or in-house.

JA queried whether as a result of the budget proposals there would be any significant restructuring or redundancies.

RT confirmed this would not be the case.

MH added that, if anything, we will require more staff in certain areas; for example, children's social workers. We would also want to see a greater number of roles currently being carried out by agency workers being filled by Council employees. Further, it was noted that the number of apprentices being taken on by the Council is also on the increase: MQ advised that over the last year the number of apprentices engaged has increased from seven to currently over a hundred, with further appointments still to come.

JW noted that recruitment and retention challenges are not confined to front-line roles: there are also some significant recruitment and retention challenges in respect of professional support services.

RH asked if it could be confirmed that devolution in Gloucestershire was now 'dead'? MH advised that the government has now delayed the devolution framework for the fourth time and the matter is therefore not presently high on the political agenda. In Gloucestershire we will not see 'uniterisation'; the issue is, rather, how to make the two-tier system work to best effect. Place-shaping developments and a strong focus on communities must be seen as critical in this regard.

In drawing the meeting to a close JW confirmed the next steps are:

21 January: consultation closes and budget details will be published

30 January: Cabinet meets to consider the budget proposals and consultation feedback

13 January: Full Council
5. Schools Forum Consultation - Budget Consultation 2019/20

Feedback from Schools Forum – 10 January 2019

The Budget for consultation was presented to the Schools Forum on 10 January 2019. The Forum was informed of the proposed changes to the Children and Families budget, plus the cost pressures and the risk and challenges.

The Forum noted the budget proposals. During consideration of the presentation particular reference was made to:-

- The investment being proposed in recognition of the pressures on the Vulnerable Children and Young People element of the budget during 2018/19. In particular, the sum of £6.2M of additional investment for the External Placement Budget to meet the cost and demand pressures for ensuring the most appropriate placements for the increasing numbers of children in care.
- The additional investment of £3.514M for additional social work capacity and initiatives to support recruitment.
- The £1.7M of saving against placements through improved commissioning and review of costs.
- The investment being proposed in recognition of the pressures on the other Children’s services element of the budget, in particular the sum of £0.069M for staff to support the increase in EHCPs.
- The £0.250M saving in relation to Education Services, through aligning the intervention and support capacity with demand/changing number of local authority maintained schools and academies.
## Appendix A – Data Tables – Respondent breakdown

### Age

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<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>25-34</td>
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<td>35-44</td>
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<td>45-54</td>
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<td>55-64</td>
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<td>65-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>75 or over</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
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### Gender

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<td>Male</td>
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<td>Female</td>
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<td>Rather not to say</td>
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Q16. Do you have any kind of disability?

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Ethnic Origin

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<td>Heterosexual/Straight</td>
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Q19. Do you identify yourself as...?

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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>73</td>
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Gloucestershire County Council’s work touches all our lives from roads to schools, from looking after older people to making sure that children are safe.

We work hard to listen to what local people say they need – and spend money on doing the right things to improve the quality of life of all the county’s residents.

In the coming 12 months we want to focus on protecting the most vulnerable in the county, and invest in even better roads.

That’s why in our draft 2019/20 budget we have proposed to invest £11m into children’s services as part of a £15m overall revenue budget increase and further capital investment of £179m for schools, community facilities and our highways.

At the same time we will carry on making the county council streamlined and efficient, and will still offer council tax levels well below most county councils. Funding will also be allocated to councillors to allow them to make community based investments.

We strive to get the balance of spending right – in delivering services now as well as investing in the future – but what do you think about our priorities and spending?

This is your chance to have your say and let us know what you think.

For full details of our budget proposal visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mtfs
Have a look and help us by taking a few minutes to complete the short survey.

Please get your comments back to us by 5pm on the 21st January 2019
Appendix 3

Our priorities

In making decisions on how best to spend our £428 million budget we have to decide where we can have the biggest impact on the lives of people in the county. We do this carefully by listening to local people and using all the information we have available to us.

Our budget proposals for 2019/20 are based on the following priorities:

- Children’s wellbeing and safeguarding
- Education and skills
- Health, care and prevention
- Communities and localities
- Transport, economy and infrastructure
- Highways
- Council Leadership

Question 1:
The budget has been based on the priorities above. Please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with them:

☐ Strongly Agree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Strongly Disagree
Question 2:
Would you like to give us any feedback on the priorities in question 1 and any specific areas you feel we should spend the money on?

Budget proposals

Council Tax

The county council uses council tax, financial support from the Government and other income to pay for services to support services for the vulnerable.

To help pay for the priorities and service investment, we have proposed to raise council tax by 2.99% next year. Your council tax bill will also include the National Adult Social Care Levy of 2% to cover increasing demand for social care for adults. This must be spent on better support and prevention for our most vulnerable older people.

This proposal would mean an increase of £5.13 per month for an average Band D household.
Our overall draft budget is £428m

How our budget will be broken down

£136.525 million
Adult Services

- An extra £2m to care for vulnerable adults
- Supporting more people to live independently in the community
- Managing demand for services through more early intervention and prevention
- Helping more disabled people into work by working closely with local employers
- Improving the way we assess people's needs.

£32.981 million
Prevention and wellbeing

- Taking a joined up and complementary approach with partners to respond to need, providing information and support for people to do more for themselves and their families
- Embedding our new approach to managing Adverse Childhood experiences (ACES)
- Redesign the provision of community and housing support to enable more people to live independently and prevent homelessness.

£103.005 million
Children’s Services

- An extra £11m to protect the most vulnerable children in our county
- Taking a new approach to provide more children with the right placement first time
- Improving transitions to adult services for children with special needs by ensuring they are prepared adequately for independence in adulthood from the age of 16
- Improving the support we provide for our care leavers, by the appointment of a new Personal Advisor
- Delivering an extra £44.5m for schools, improving buildings and expanding facilities across Gloucestershire.

£83.089 million
Communities and infrastructure

- Continuing with our £150m investment in the county’s highways
- Helping to plan and provide the infrastructure needed to support business growth, jobs and prosperity
- Increased focus on fire and rescue prevention and protection work
- Delivery of electric vehicle infrastructure
- Delivering the new homes that are needed for local people and to enable future economic growth
- Building the resilience to adapt to climate change, protect homes and businesses in emergencies
- Improved digital offer at Gloucestershire Registration Service and Libraries
- Further investment in how we manage our waste.

The balance of £72.76 million, Business Support Services (£30.75m) and technical and corporate budgets (£41.98m), which include historical borrowing for road schemes and schools, insurance and the past service pension costs.
Appendix 3

Question 3:
To what extent do you agree or disagree with our budget proposals for 2019/20?

☐ Strongly Agree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Strongly disagree

Question 4:
Our full 2019/20 budget proposals can be found by going to www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mfs

Do you have any further comments you would like to make about our proposed 2019/20 budget?
Your details

As public bodies, Gloucestershire County Council has a duty to take into account the impact of their decisions on people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010:

To help us make sure that we have taken account of views from all of these groups, we would be grateful if you would answer the questions below.

All of the questions are entirely optional, but we can confirm that any information that you provide will be held in confidence and in line with the requirements of the Data Protection regulations and the Data Protection Act 2018.

What is your age?

☐ Under 25   ☐ 25 to 34   ☐ 35 to 44   ☐ 45 to 54
☐ 55 to 64   ☐ 65 to 74   ☐ 75 or over   ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your gender?

☐ Male     ☐ Female   ☐ Other   ☐ Prefer not to say

Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

☐ Heterosexual or Straight   ☐ Gay or Lesbian   ☐ Bisexual
☐ Other   ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

☐ Yes   ☐ No   ☐ Prefer not to say
Your details continued...

What is your ethnic group?

☐ White  ☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups  ☐ Asian or Asian British
☐ Black, African, Caribbean or Black British  ☐ Any other ethnic group
☐ Prefer not to say

What is your religion?

☐ No religion  ☐ Christian (all denominations)  ☐ Buddhist  ☐ Hindu
☐ Jewish  ☐ Muslim  ☐ Sikh  ☐ Any other religion  ☐ Prefer not to say

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.
Please return this form to:
Communications Team, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TG