

Report To:	Policy and Resources Committee	Date:	2 February 2016
Report By:	Wilma Bain, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	PR/05/16/WB/SMcN
Contact Officer:	Steven McNab, Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources and Communications	Contact No:	01475 712016
Subject:	Budget Consultation 2015/16		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to summarise the key themes to emerge from the budget consultation which has taken place between November 2015 and January 2016.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 A range of communication and consultation mechanisms were used to engage with the communities of Inverclyde, on proposed budget savings to be made over the financial years 2016/18. £1.9 million of savings were suggested for members of the public to decide upon.

2.2 On-line budget simulator

Feedback on last year’s budget consultation process indicated that 43% of respondents expressed their views via the budget simulator and more than 70% of people found it very easy or fairly easy to use. It was therefore decided to utilise the budget simulator again this year.

Accessible via the Council’s website, the simulator was publicised through a range of media including the Winter 2015 edition of InView (which was delivered to every household in Inverclyde in early December 2015), our website and social media. 282 people engaged with the simulator.

The responses from the budget simulator ranked in order of the most popular is detailed in the following table:

Budget proposal	% from budget simulator
Reduction in school transport	78.72% agree, 21.28% disagree
Reduction in Corporate Communications advertising	76.95% agree, 23.05% disagree
Reduction in free swimming	70.22% agree, 29.78% disagree
Reduction in contribution to Valuation Board	68.78% agree, 31.21% disagree
Closure of Kirn Drive	65.96% agree, 34.04% disagree
Reduction in Sports Pitch Waivers	65.25% agree, 34.75% disagree
Reduction in unallocated regeneration funding	62.77% agree, 37.23% disagree
Introduction of a weekly charge for Community Alarms	58.51% agree, 41.49% disagree
Increase in Council Tax	57.79% agree, 42.20% disagree
Increase in daily parking charges	56.74% agree, 43.26% disagree
Reduction in discretionary non-domestic	55.97% agree, 44.33% disagree

rates	
Withdrawal of the small repairs service	49.65% agree, 50.35% disagree
Increase Crematorium and Burial Charges	36.52% agree, 63.48% disagree

A more detailed summary of the budget simulator responses is set out in paragraph 5. Bar charts setting out the responses to the individual budget proposals are set out at Appendix 1.

2.3 Public meetings

Five public meetings and one business breakfast took place in November/December 2015. A total of 34 people attended and a summary of their responses is set out at paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6. However, it should be noted that, because of the relatively small number of attendees, the responses should not be viewed in isolation as they could not be regarded as being representative of Inverclyde as a whole.

2.4 Dedicated 'Your say' website and emails

During last year's consultation process, feedback indicated that just over a fifth of respondents (20.2%) sent an e-mail to yoursay@inverclyde.gov.uk. During this year's consultation exercise, a total of 12 contributions were received via this medium. A summary of these emails is set out at paragraph 6.

2.5 Response Rate

The overall response rates are listed in paragraph four. A total of 328 contributions were received during the consultation process. This is approximately 0.4% of the population of Inverclyde. During last year's consultation process 1460 contributions were received. This included around 600 responses from the Citizens' Panel which was not used as part of the budget consultation this year.

2.6 Overall Summary

The most popular budget proposals were a reduction in school transport and a reduction in the Corporate Communications advertising budget. Formal consultation will be undertaken in regard to the school transport option.

The key themes from the collected responses from all the methods used includes:

- **Income**

Similar to last year's engagement, a significant number of respondents, from across all forms of engagement, suggested that Council Tax could be raised, and that they would be willing to pay this as long as it would be spent on protecting services.

Many of those who engaged are in favour of reducing the Sports Pitch Waiver, however some concern was expressed regarding children from less well-off families perhaps being excluded from taking part in sports clubs, if they were not able to contribute to any pitch fees asked for by the clubs. There was strong consensus that any support should be across all sports, not mostly targeted towards football.

Overall, the majority of people supported an increase in parking charges, with ideas suggested that those who work in the town centres be given a pass or discount for parking. There was concern that further increases in parking charges could damage business in the town centre during week days, as people might travel further afield so that they might get free parking.

There was general agreement that respondents did not want to see a rise in crematorium and burial charges, particularly from the budget simulator (63.48% disagreed). There were no specific objections raised at the public meetings, where there was a request at one of the

meetings for more information as to what actual costs might be.

On the whole a reduction in free swimming was supported, with a number of people supporting the introduction of a £1 flat fee.

There was support for the introduction of a weekly charge for community alarms. There were concerns expressed for those who may not be able to afford this, but those people would be managed on a case by case basis. Suggestions regarding the charge ranged from £1.50 to £3 a week.

2.7 • **Service Reduction**

The majority of respondents were in favour of closing the Kirn Drive site, however there were concerns expressed that this might lead to an increase in fly tipping.

In regards to a reduction in school transport the majority of respondents were in favour, with a number adding the proviso of good, safe, walking routes to school being required. There was some concern about added congestion around schools should more parents start dropping their children off.

A small majority were in favour of a reduction in discretionary non domestic rates although concerns were expressed in regard to the impact on local charities and voluntary organisations.

Overall, there was support for the reduction of the Council's contribution to the valuation board.

There were slightly more people in favour of protecting the small repairs service than wished to see it reduced. Suggestions included better advertising for this service, means testing it and the introduction of a (small) fee.

The majority of respondents were in favour of a reduction to the Corporate Communications Advertising budget, suggesting the use of more electronic media including social media. Some respondents did however see the need to promote the Inverclyde area.

2.8 Further details of the responses are set out below and in the appendices.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee

- a) note the outcomes of the consultation processes
- b) review the budget proposals in light of the views expressed.

Wilma Bain
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 Consultation response

Type of consultation	Number of Participants
Consultation events	34
Online Budget simulator	282
Responses by email to – (yoursay@inverclyde.gov.uk)	12
Website page (https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/yoursay)	
Website hits (visitor sessions):	
November -	367
December -	516
January -	201 (first two weeks in January)
Total Hits -	1084

4.1 Community Consultation Events

Five community consultation events and one Business Breakfast were held between 25 November and 8 December 2015. In total 34 people attended the consultation events. The poorer turn out may be due to the fact that there were fewer, less contentious savings suggested in this round of engagement, so may not have generated as much interest.

4.2 The events were hosted by the Chief Executive and included a presentation by the Chief Financial Officer providing an overview of the current financial situation and the challenges facing Inverclyde Council. Participants were provided with an overview of the budget simulator and then had an opportunity to participate in discussion groups.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
25/11/15	Clydeview Academy, Gourock
30/11/15	Notre Dame High School, Greenock
01/12/15	Cargill Centre, Kilmacolm
02/12/15	Port Glasgow Town Hall
08/12/15	Inverkip Primary School
04/12/15	Business Breakfast, Beacon Arts Centre

4.4 A summary of the comments from the community engagement and business events are set out below. However, it should be noted that, because of the relatively small number of attendees, the responses should not be viewed in isolation as they could not be regarded as being representative of Inverclyde as a whole.

4.5 Income

- Council Tax Increase
 - A number of people were in favour of an increase in Council Tax of between 3% - 5%.
 - There was some apprehension around what penalties the Council would incur if it increases Council Tax.
 - One group were keen that other savings and ideas still be explored even if a Council Tax increase were to cover the savings required.
 - There is also a concern about those who are 'working poor' being adversely affected should Council Tax increase, as these individuals and families may not qualify for financial assistance to meet the cost.
- Sports Pitch Waivers
 - There was general consensus from each event that this should be spread across all sports, not just football.
 - Some attendees agreed increasing charges would help with the maintenance of facilities.
 - Some concern was expressed about families who are unable to afford fees,

- so some children/families could be excluded from activities.
 - There was an idea suggested of clubs getting together to better co-ordinate their usage of locations – it was agreed to discuss this with the sports hub development officer.
 - There was also a suggestion to better manage the process, particularly for those who may be abusing the system and not paying.
- Increase Daily Parking Charges
 - There was a mixed response to this proposal with some people having no objection, to others saying that this will stop people from shopping locally.
 - There was a suggestion that the most convenient car parks be made more expensive and less convenient ones be free.
 - There was concern that increasing charges would have the biggest impact on local employees, some of whom will be on minimum wages.
- Increase Crematorium and Burial Charges
 - Generally there were no objections to this proposal with some clarification asked for, and given, on what the actual costs might be.
- Reduction in Free Swimming
 - There was a mixed response in regard to this proposal with some people fully supporting it, and others thinking free swimming should be protected.
 - There were suggestions to increase the upper age limit to 65 years and over and for the lower age limit to be 12 years and under.
 - There was some support for introducing £1 swims.
 - There was some concern about those who are most disadvantaged losing out, but it was confirmed that those in receipt of free school meals would still be able to swim for free.
- Weekly Charge implemented for Community Alarms
 - There were concerns expressed about vulnerable people being unable to afford community alarms, but it was confirmed that individuals will be assessed as to affordability of the alarms, and no-one who required an alarm would be without one.
 - General feeling that the charges would be affordable otherwise, with one suggestion of phasing in charges.

4.6 Service Reduction

- Closure of Kirn Drive
 - General consensus to close Kirn Drive, but with concern expressed of an increase in fly tipping.
 - There were concerns also expressed about possible loss of jobs.
 - There was a suggestion to sell the site to generate income.
- Reduction in School Transport

Option 1: Change limits so that secondary children who live 2.5 miles from their school and those who live 1.5 miles from their primary school will receive free school transport. There would be a 'poverty element' included for those who receive free school meals to access transport at closer distances.

Option 2: Change limits so that secondary children who live 3 miles from their school and those who live 2 miles from their primary school will receive school transport. There would be a 'poverty element' included for those who receive free school meals to access transport at closer distances.

 - There was a mixed response to this proposal with some in favour of Option 1, some in favour of Option 2, and some resistant to any change.
 - Concern was expressed about increased congestion around schools as

- potentially more people would drop their children off at school.
 - Suggestion to better communicate and highlight how generous Inverclyde is in comparison to other areas and to underline that savings will have to be taken from elsewhere should this one not be taken.
 - Another concern was that children from low income households could feel stigmatised if they were to receive free school transport when their better off peers would not (within the set radius).
- Reduction in Discretionary Non Domestic Rates
 - Fewer people commented on this, but there was general support as long as smaller charities would not be affected.
- Reduce Contribution to Valuation Board by 5%
 - There was either no comment or general agreement to this proposal.
- Reduce unallocated Regeneration Funding
 - There was no real support for this proposal with concern expressed, particularly from the business representatives, that ongoing regeneration is required.
- Withdrawal of Small Repair Service
 - There was broadly a consensus not to withdraw this service with suggestions that it be targeted to those over 65 or 70.
 - Other suggestions were that better advertising of the service would increase uptake making it more sustainable and that people would be willing to pay more for the service (with means testing for the most vulnerable and who are unable to pay more). Many attendees had never heard of the service, but those who had used it rated it highly.
- Reduction to Corporate Communications Advertising
 - There was a mixed response, but most people felt that there was a need to continue to advertise Inverclyde, particularly events.
 - Suggestions were to use social media more, but take into account that older people are less likely to use this and rely more on advertising in traditional press etc.

5.0 Budget Simulator

5.1 Usage of the Budget simulator

The response rate from the budget simulator was as follows:

- 282 Responses Received
- 253 Responses with Demographic detail
- 114 Respondee's made Comments

5.2 Summary of Key Headlines from simulator 'sliders'

Income

- **57.79%** support an increase in Council Tax, 42.20% do not support it. 14.89% support a 0.5% rise, 16.67% support a 1% rise, 7.09% a 1.5% rise, 4.96% a 2% rise, 1.77% a 2.5% rise and 12.41% a 3% rise.
- **65.25%** support a reduction in Sports Pitch Waivers (32.98% support a £111k reduction, 32.27% support a £50k reduction) and 34.75% were against any reduction of Sports Pitch Waivers

- **56.74%** support an increase of daily parking charges, with 43.26% against an increase
- **36.52%** support an increase of crematorium and burial charges, **63.48%** do not support the increase
- **70.22%** support a reduction in free swimming (21.99% supported removal of free swimming altogether, 19.15% supported the targeting of under 16s and over 65s and 29.08% supported the introduction of a £1 fee). 29.78% do not support a reduction in free swimming
- **58.51%** support the introduction of a Weekly Charge for Community Alarms, with 41.49% disagreeing with this proposal.

Service Reduction

- **65.96%** support closure at Kirn Drive depot (25.18% supported the closure of the Kirn Drive depot and refurbishment of the civic amenity, 40.78% support the closure of the depot and the civic amenity) and 34.04% do not support the closure of Kirn Drive depot or civic amenity
- **78.72%** support a reduction in school transport (43.26% support an increase to 1.5/2.5 miles for eligibility for school transport, 35.46% support an increase to 2/3 miles) and only 21.28% do not support any change
- **55.97%** support a reduction in discretionary non domestic rates and 44.33% do not support this option
- **68.78%** support a reduction in the contribution to the valuation board by 5% and 31.21% do not support a reduction
- **62.77%** support a reduction in unallocated regeneration funding with 37.23% disagreeing with any reduction
- **49.65%** support the withdrawal of the small repair service, with 50.35% who do not support its withdrawal
- **76.95%** support a reduction in Corporate Communications advertising and 23.05% do not support this suggestion.

5.3 Summary of Comments from Budget simulator

Income

- Council Tax Increase

Of the 58 comments left about this 44 people were in favour of a rise, with comments suggesting anywhere between 0.5% to 5%, though the majority chose between 1% and 3%. Concern was expressed about already struggling families being able to afford any increase. There was a suggestion to means test any increase, or focus the increases on larger properties. 14 respondents clearly set out that they were against any increase, with the remaining comments making other suggestions such as changing the tax system, or additional ways of saving money.

- Sports Pitch Waivers

Of the 37 comments left in regard to a change in the waivers policy, 32 were largely in favour of the changes, with 12 respondents wishing to protect the waivers policy as it is at present. A number of the comments were general and did not express agreement or disagreement. Many people commented that support should be given to a wider variety of

sports clubs, using parks for a wider variety of sports, protecting youth sports clubs, reducing costs at Inverclyde Leisure and support for those from disadvantaged areas.

- Increase daily parking charges

70 people left comments about parking charges, with some comments suggesting that it might further confuse people given the number of changes that have been implemented in a short time. There were a number of comments suggesting that those who work in the area should have some sort of pass or discount for parking. There were also some comments about the impact on residential areas of people spreading out to find free parking. There was concern expressed that further charging for parking in town centres will reduce the numbers of people shopping there and 'kill' the town centre. 38 respondents agreed to an increase to parking charges with most of these suggesting between £1.50 and £2.50. 22 people said that they disagreed with the changes. The remaining comments were varied.

- Increase Crematorium and Burial Charges

The majority (29) of the 39 comments left disagreed with an increase to these charges, with only 8 agreeing to an increase. One respondent suggested that a 5% increase would be fairer, and another stated that charges should reflect the true cost of the service. The remaining two comments were general.

- Reduction in Free Swimming

Of the 51 comments left in regard to reducing free swimming there were a few suggesting a flat charge of £1 or £2, some suggestions to keep free swimming for over 65s and keep free swimming for children who are entitled to free school meals. There was also a suggestion to increase the upper threshold to 70 years of age. 36 respondents agreed with the removal of free swimming and 14 disagreed.

- Weekly Charge implemented for Community Alarms

There were 49 respondents to this proposal with 30 agreeing and 17 disagreeing with charging for alarms. A number of people suggested means testing for this service to ensure those most vulnerable who could not afford the charge would be protected. There were concerns expressed that many older people would decline a device when they would benefit from having it. Suggestions regarding the cost ranged from £1.50 a week to £3 a week

Service Reduction

- Closure of Kirn Drive

Of the 47 people who commented on the budget simulator on this proposal, 34 agreed and 12 disagreed. Some concerns were expressed that fly tipping would increase and recycling decrease. There was a suggestion to keep a neighbourhood recycling point at Kirn Drive.

- Reduction in School Transport

Of those who commented the majority supported increasing the distance, provided there were safe walking routes to schools and support for those on low incomes. 53 people commented on this proposal and of those 38 supported a reduction in school transport, 10 did not support a reduction and 5 submitted general comments. A number of people commented that they supported the move to equality across all the schools in terms of provision.

- Reduction in Discretionary Non Domestic Rates

29 people left comments about this proposal, 11 of whom supported it and 16 who didn't. 2 people left general comments. Concerns were expressed regarding negative impacts on charities and voluntary organisations, with a suggestion introduce a sliding scale based on what organisations would be able to pay.

- Reduce Contribution to Valuation Board by 5%

Of the 28 people who commented on this 22 agreed with a reduction and 2 did not. 4 left

general comments. A number of people did not understand what the Valuation Board does and were unsure what the impact of this reduction would mean.

- **Reduce unallocated Regeneration Funding**

27 people commented on this proposal with 19 agreeing to reduce the funding and 7 disagreeing. 1 person left a general comment. There were concerns that a reduction to regeneration funding would impact on attracting people to Inverclyde, one suggestion was to take a smaller amount and there was some support for the need for regeneration.

- **Withdrawal of Small Repair Service**

This proposal is the closest tied of all of the proposals with 19 of the 46 who responded agreeing to a withdrawal of the service and 22 disagreeing. 5 people left general comments. There were suggestions to charge a fee e.g. a minimal fee of £1 or £2, advertise the service more widely and bring the service in house.

- **Reduction to Corporate Communications Advertising**

31 of the 37 people who left comments on this proposal agreed to a reduction in the advertising budget. 4 disagreed and 2 left general comments. Many people felt that social media and other electronic forms of communication/advertising could be used, with a few recognising the need to promote Inverclyde to encourage attendance at events and people wanting to invest in the area.

5.4 Bar charts summarising the budget simulator results and the comments left are set out at Appendix 1.

5.5 **Key statistics of participants**

Of the 253 people who left comments on the budget simulator relating to the budget proposals there was a 39%/40% female to male split with 20% not answering this question and 1% identifying as transgender.

5.6 The majority of the 253 were in the age bands 35-44 (22%), 45-54 (22%) and 55-64 (19%). Only 2% were aged 16-24, 9% were 25-34, 6% were 65-75 and 3% were 75 and over. 17% did not answer this question.

5.7 32% stated that they were a parent or guardian, with 47% answering no to this question and 21% not answering.

5.8 59% were in full or part time employment, 3% were self-employed, 4% identified as unemployed, 2% had a long term illness and 17% declined to identify whether they were employed or not. 11% were retired. 34% of respondents who left comments were employed by the Council.

5.9 14% of those who left comments have a long term illness or disability. 20% did not answer this question.

5.10 76% of the respondents who completed the demographics section were white English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British, 19% did not answer, 2% were any other white background, 1% were Irish, 1% were any other mixed or multiple ethnic group and 1% were another ethnic group.

5.11 Further detail in regard to demographics is set out at Appendix 2.

6.0 **Your Say Email address correspondence**

6.1 12 people submitted comments on the budget proposals via the yoursay@inverclyde.gov.uk email address. A number of the comments submitted are not in relation to the proposals set out for this round of the budget, but suggest other potential options. Comments made relating to the budget proposals included:

- A plea from three respondents to protect the Small Repairs service as they value it highly
- Three respondents were against any potential closure of Kirn Drive Depot and Civic amenities site.
- 1 email supported cutting free swimming and introducing low cost rates
- 1 email supported raising Council Tax by 1%
- 1 contributor was against the reduction in sports pitch waivers.

7.0 Conclusion

7.1 The consultation process included three different methodologies; participative discussions at the consultation events, the use of the online budget simulator and the opportunity to email the Council directly via the 'your say' email address. In total 327 people participated in the consultation process. Key themes emerged consistently across each consultation process about protecting front line services, particularly for the most vulnerable.

8.0 Implications

8.1 Financial Implications - One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a					

Financial Implications - Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (if applicable)	Other Comments
n/a					

8.2 Human Resources: n/a

8.3 Legal: n/a

8.4 Equalities: Equality Impact Assessment have been or will be undertaken of all the budget savings. A wide range of organisations were made aware of the budget engagement processes, including those representing people with disabilities, and support was offered at events of British Sign Language interpreters.

8.5 Repopulation: there were a number of suggestions from respondents to protect services which make Inverclyde a more attractive place to live.

8.6 Inequalities: A number of the comments made expressed concern in regard to negative impacts of changes on vulnerable people. Services have committed to ensuring that those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable will be supported.

9.0 Consultations

9.1 The report summarises the response to the budget consultation process as outlined in section 4.

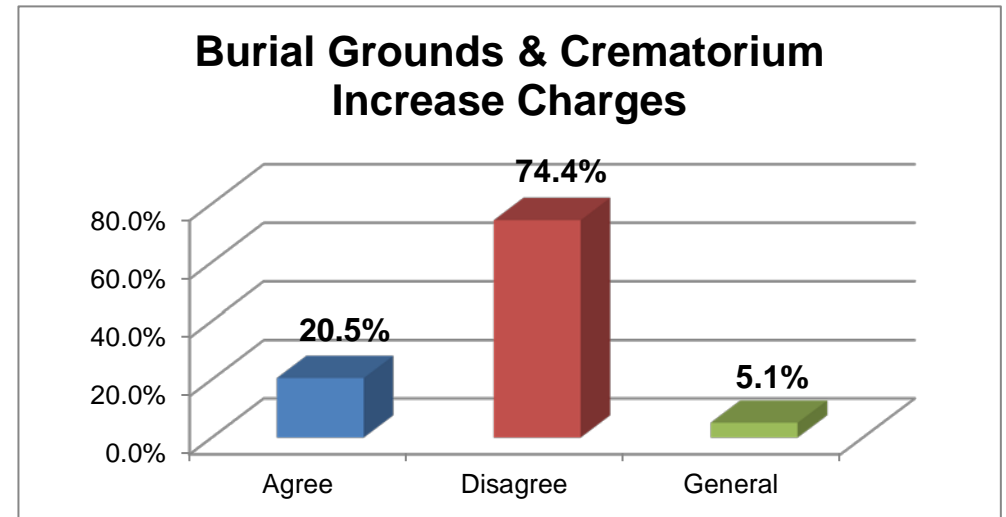
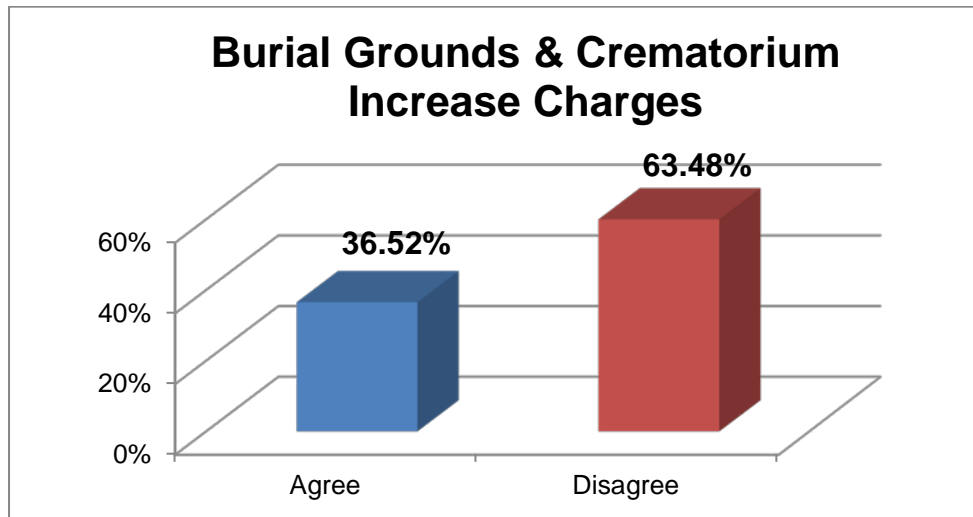
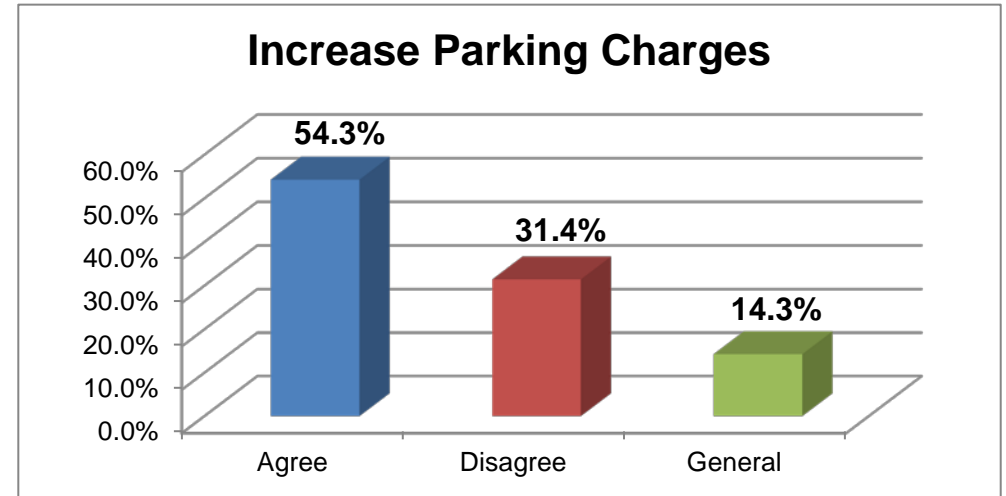
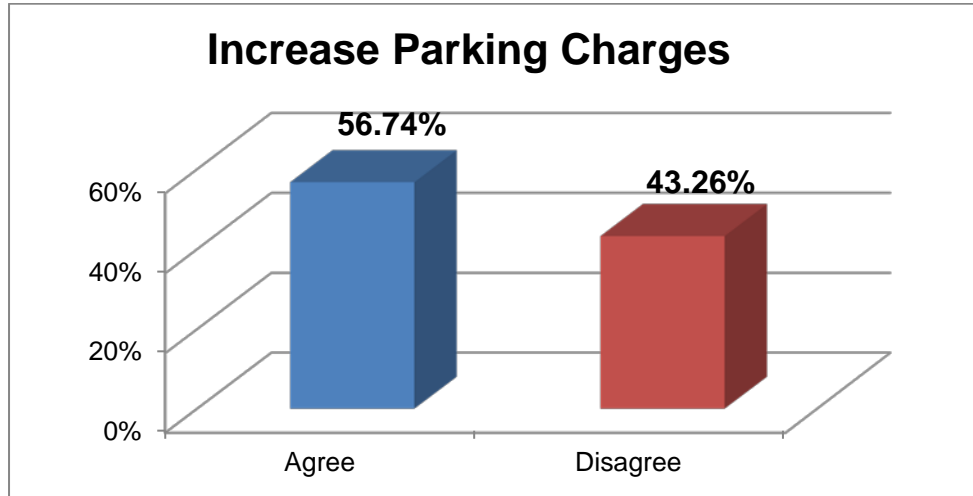
10.0 List of Background Papers

10.1 n/a

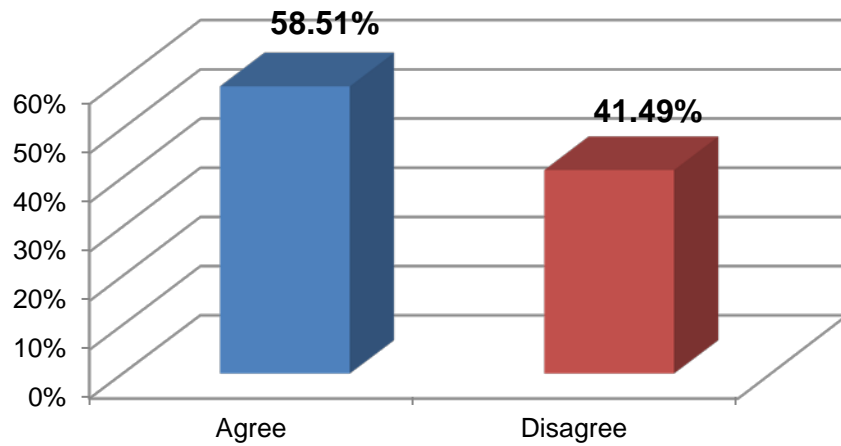
INCOME

Result of all submitted budgets to the online budget tool

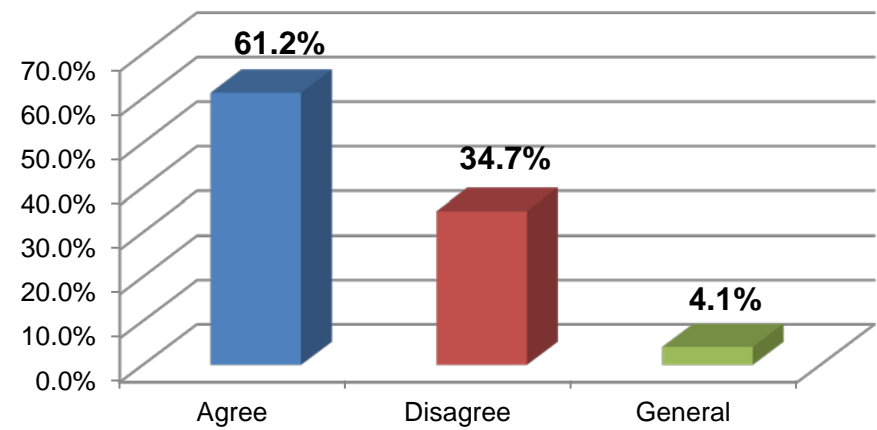
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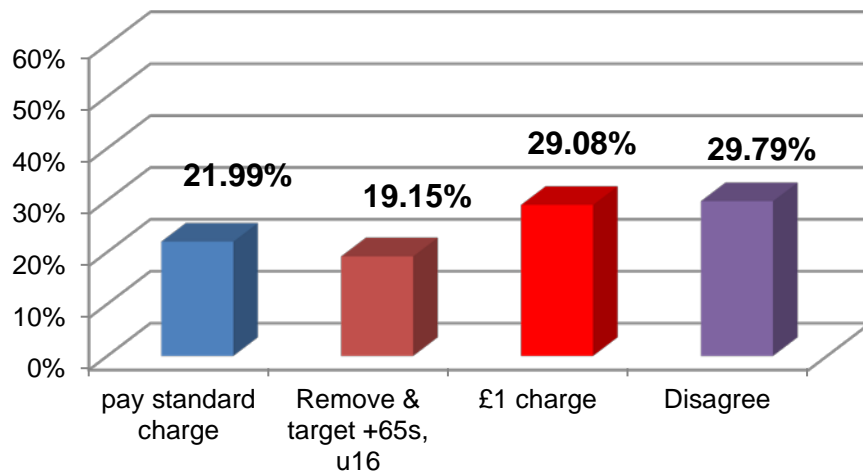
Implement charging for community alarms



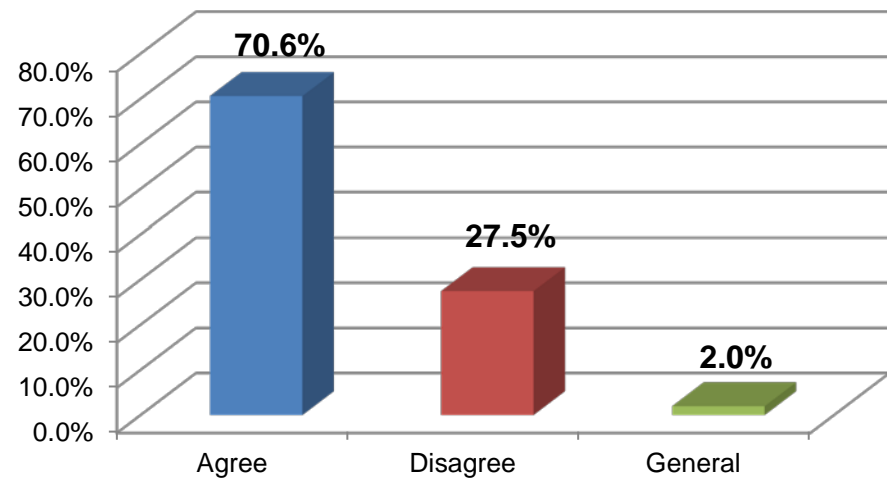
Implement charging for community alarms



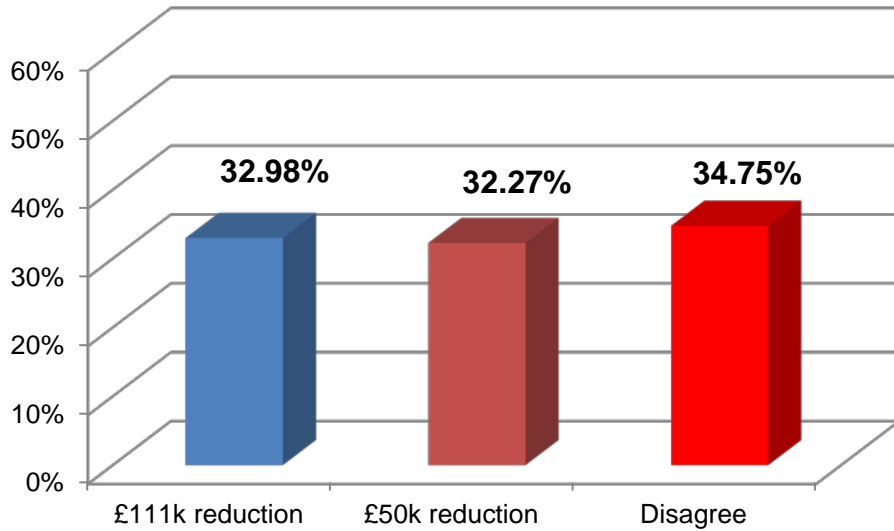
Removal of free swimming for under 16s and over 60s



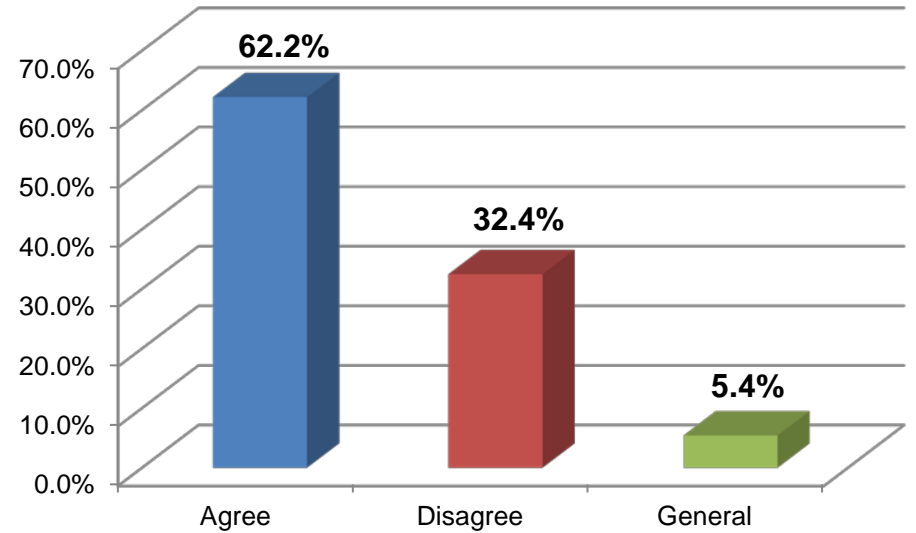
Removal of free swimming for under 16s and over 60s



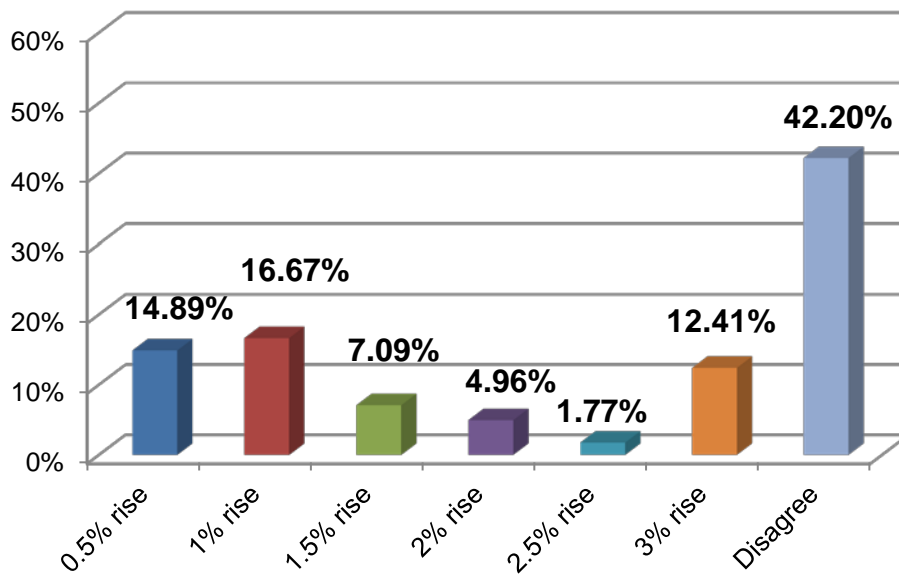
Sports Pitch Waivers (Team Sports)



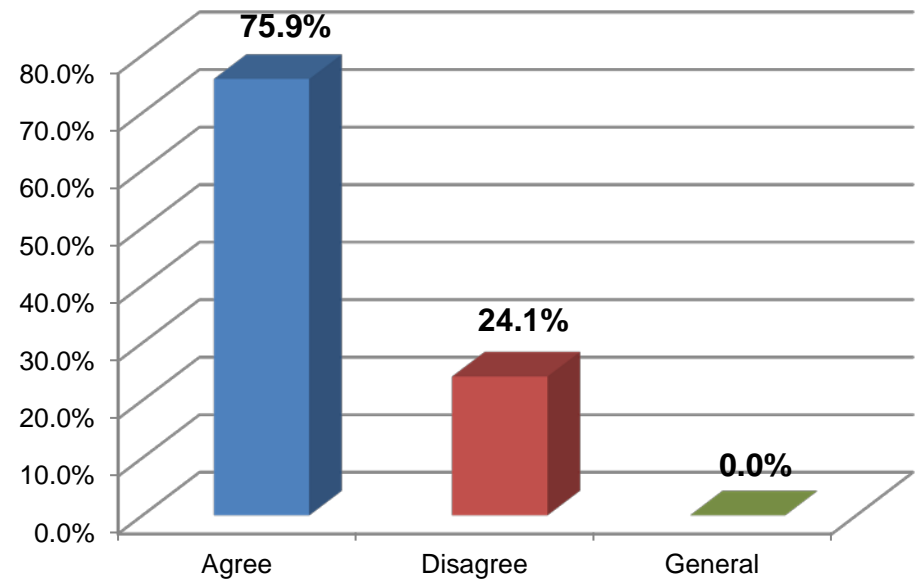
Sports Pitch Waivers (Team Sports)



1% Increase in Council Tax

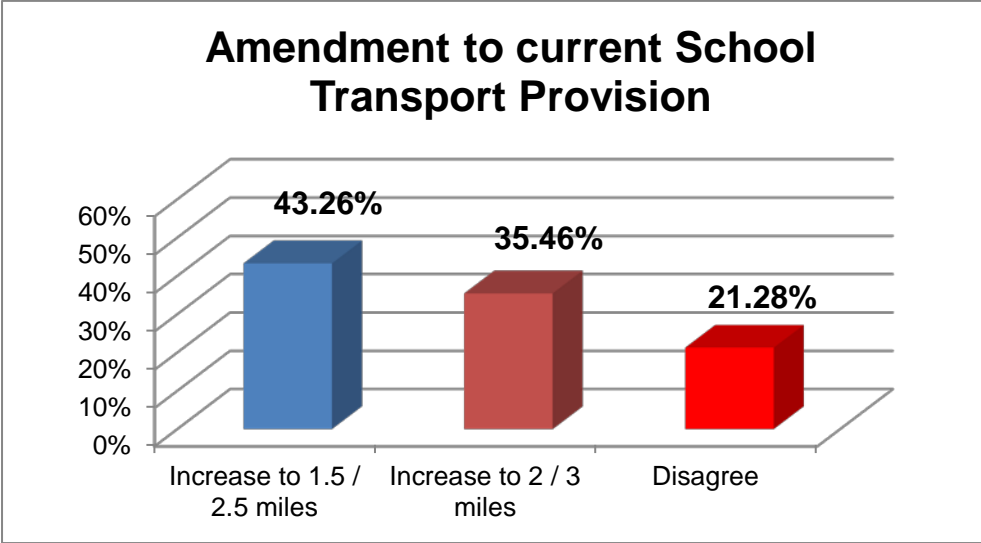


1% Increase in Council Tax

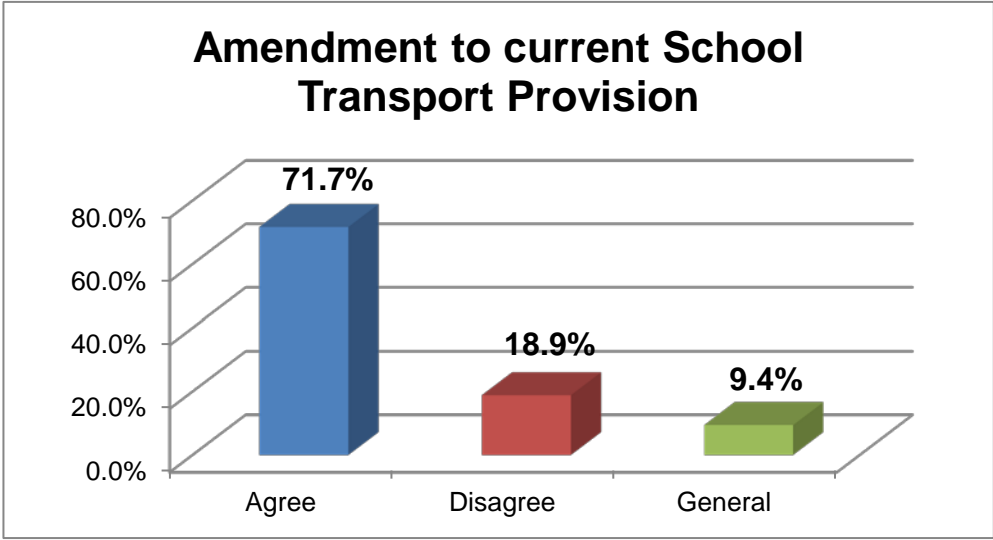


SERVICE REDUCTION

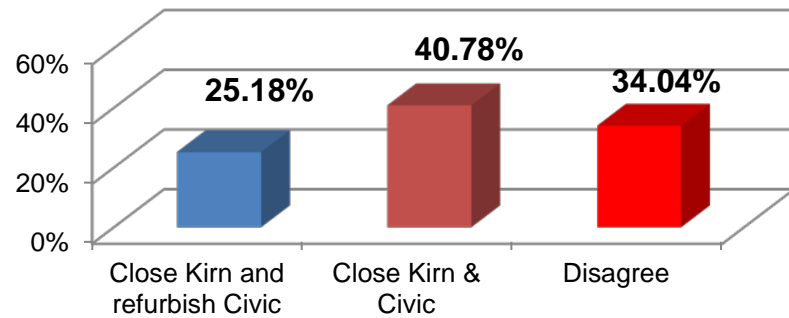
Result of all submitted budgets to the online budget tool



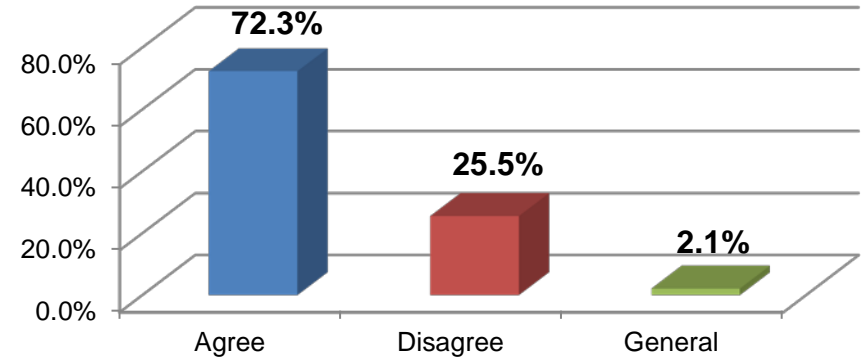
Result of all submitted comments to the online budget tool



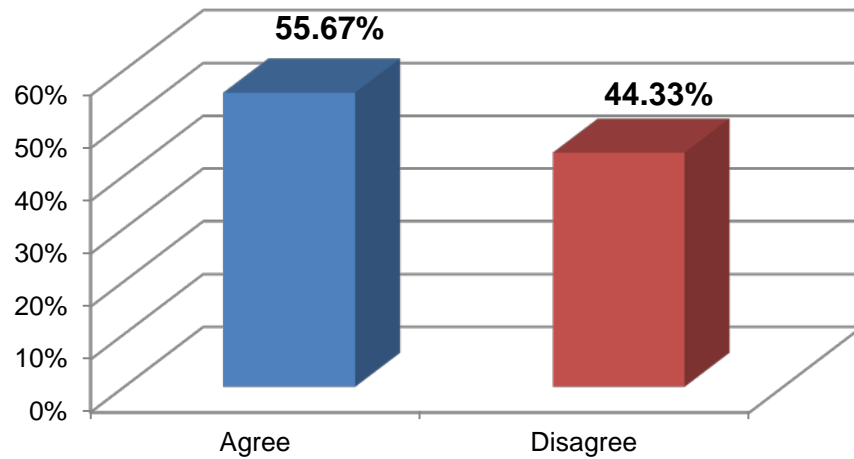
Proposal to either close both the Depot and Civic Amenities site or close the depot and refurbish the Civic Amenities site



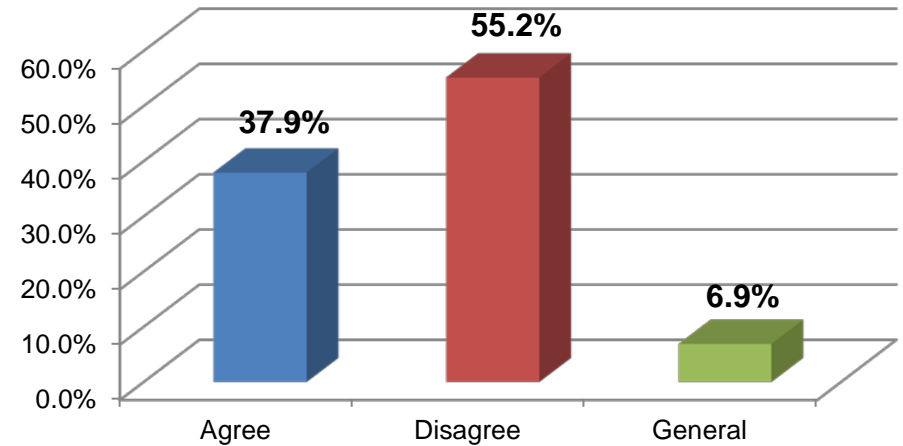
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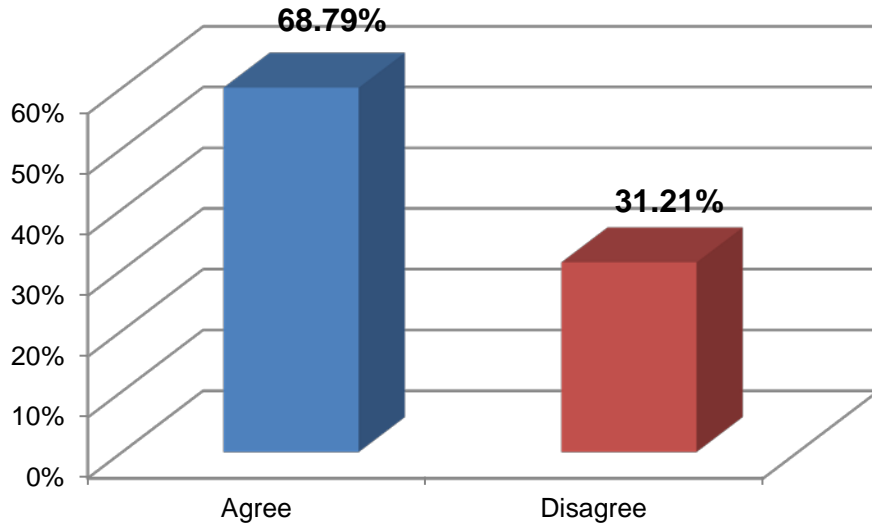
Reduction in Discretionary Non Domestic Rates (NDR)



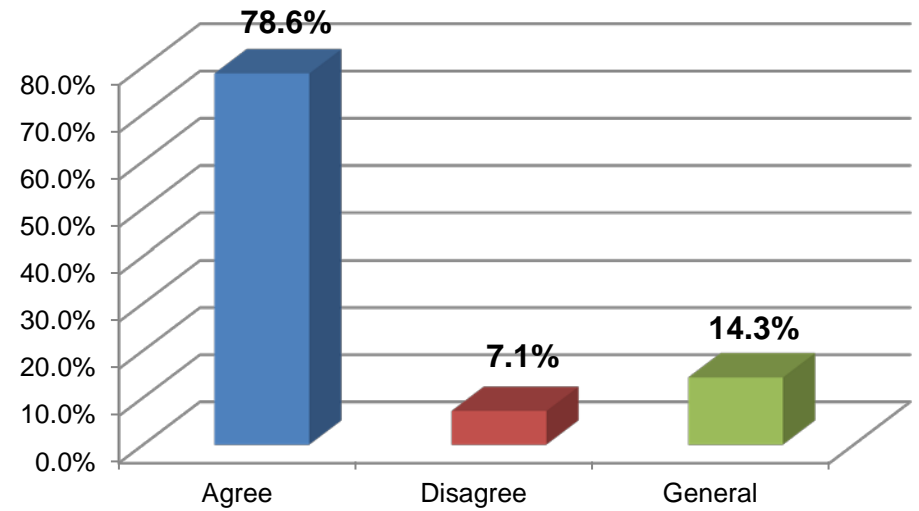
Reduction in Discretionary Non Domestic Rates (NDR)



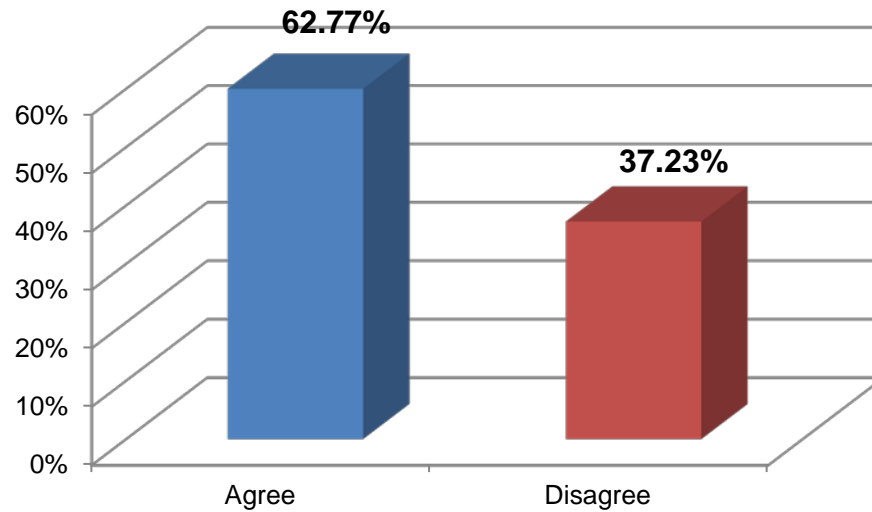
Reduced requisition from the Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board (RVJB)



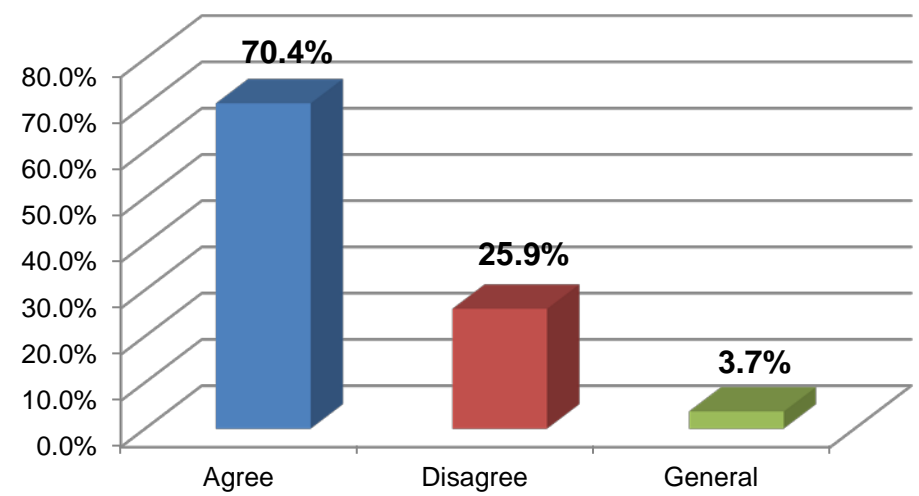
Reduced requisition from the Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board (RVJB)



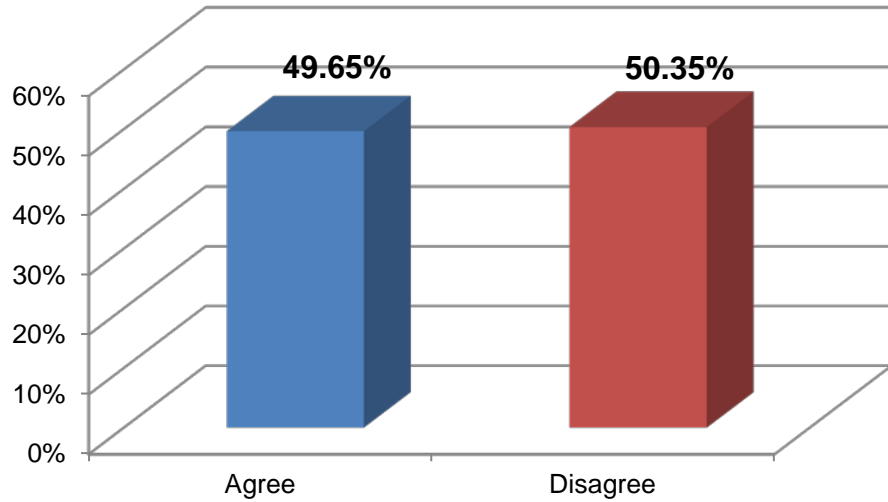
Reduce unallocated Regeneration funding



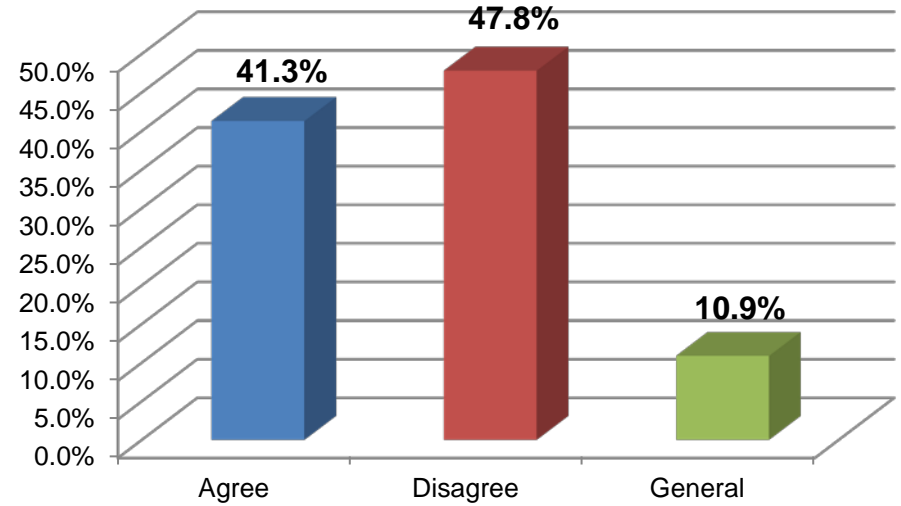
Reduce unallocated Regeneration funding



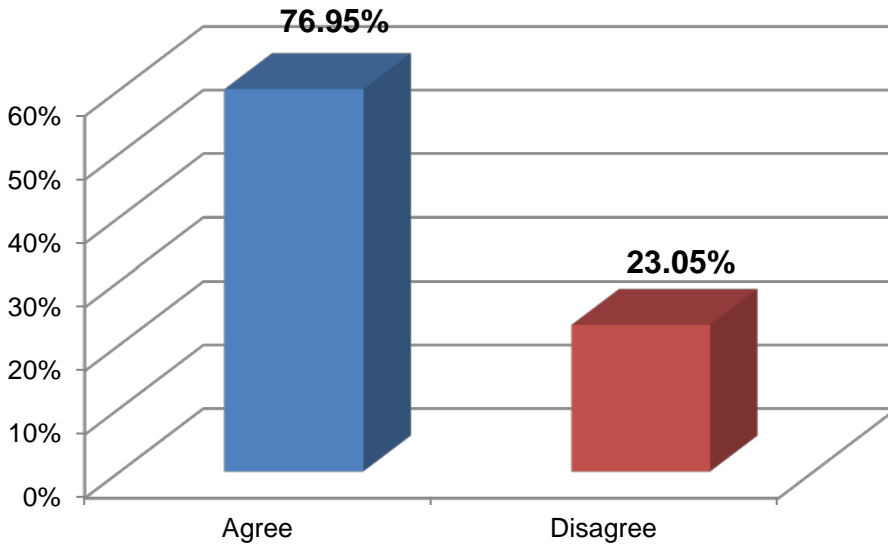
Withdraw Small Repair Service



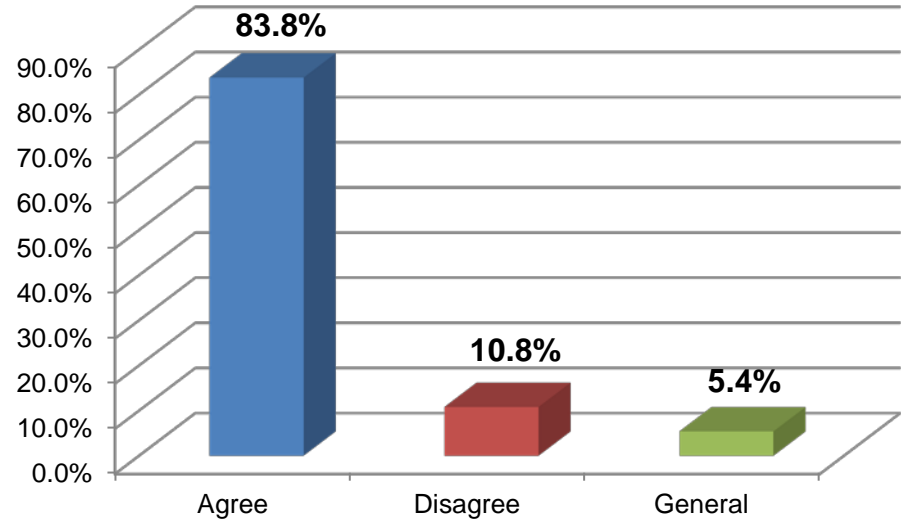
Withdraw Small Repair Service



Reduction to Corporate Communications Functions



Reduction to Corporate Communications Functions

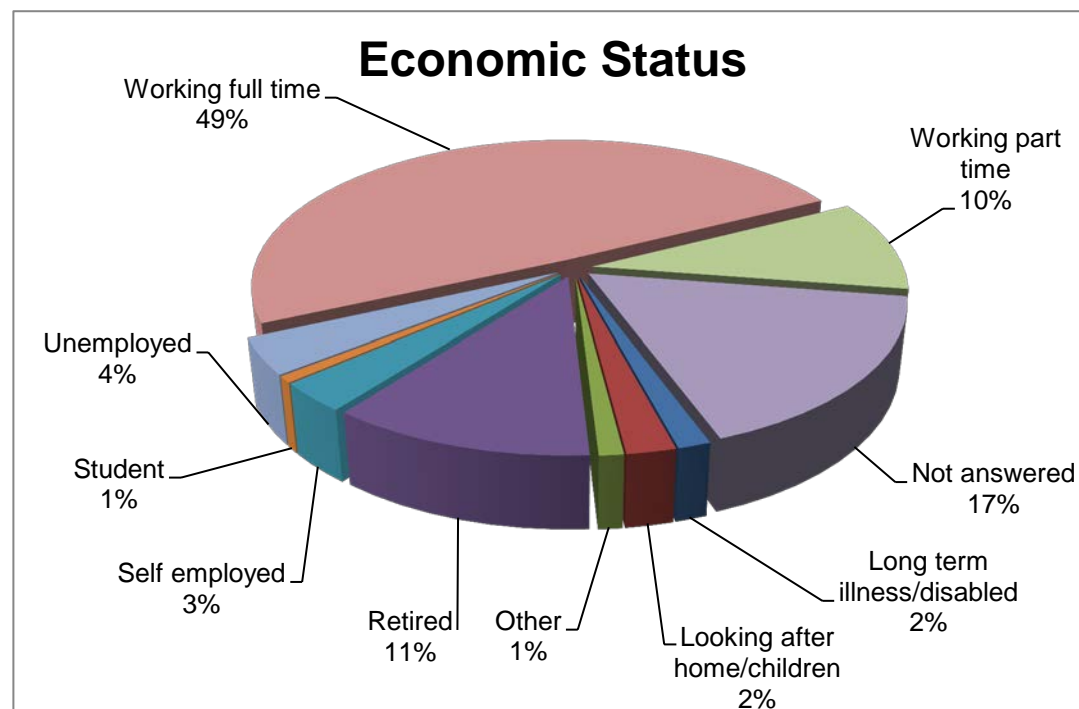
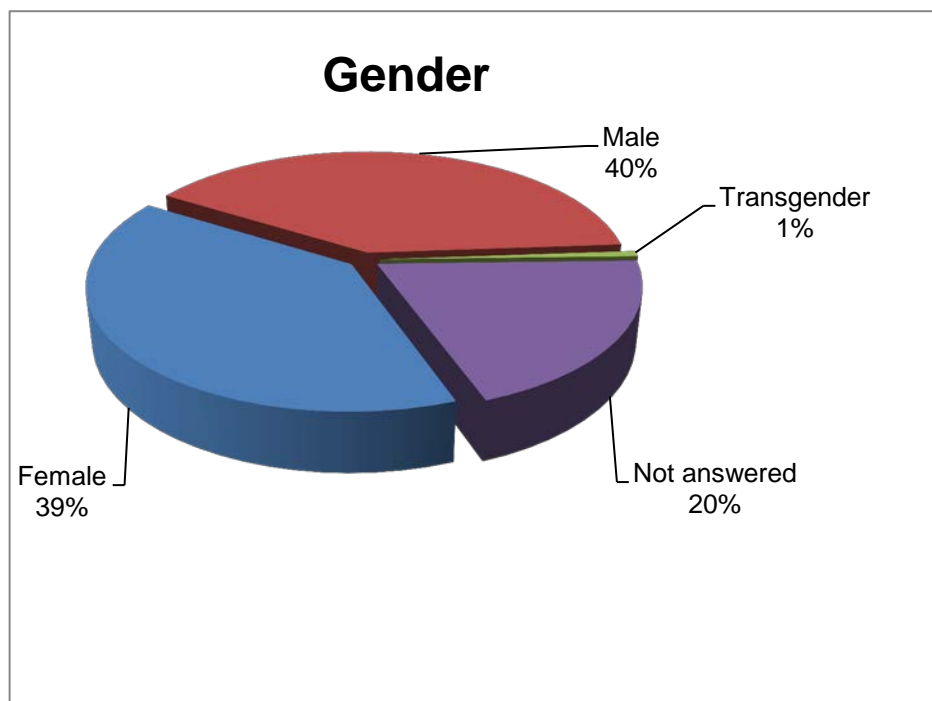


Appendix Two – Demographics of Budget Simulator users

Budget simulator tool - demographics.

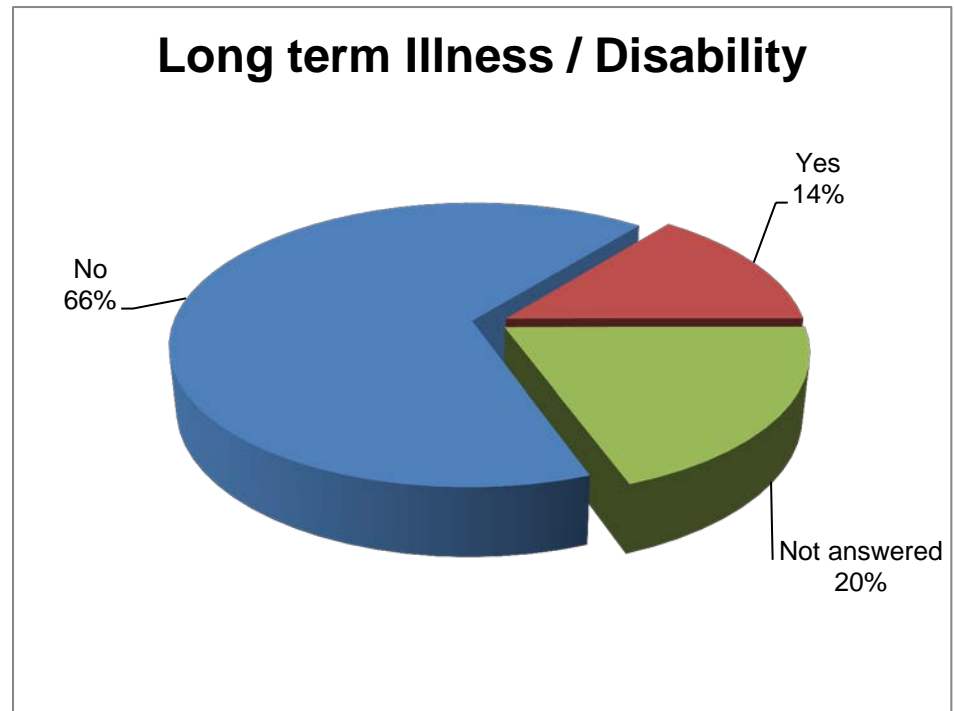
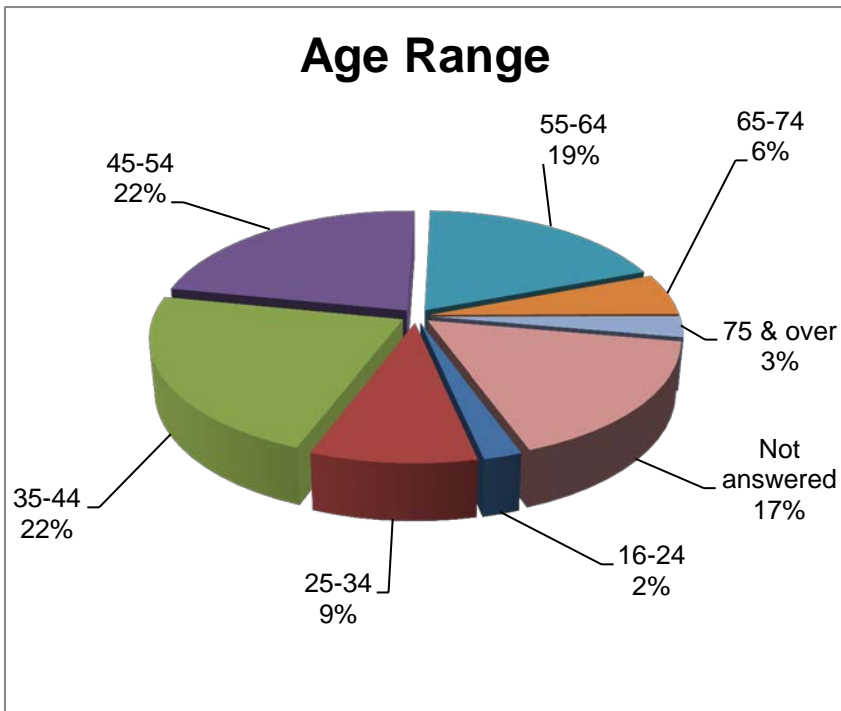
Gender	Number
Female	111
Male	113
Transgender	2
Not answered	56
Grand Total	282

Economic Status	Number
Long term illness/disabled	4
Looking after home/children	6
Other	3
Retired	32
Self employed	9
Student	2
Unemployed	11
Working full time	139
Working part time	28
Not answered	48
Grand Total	282



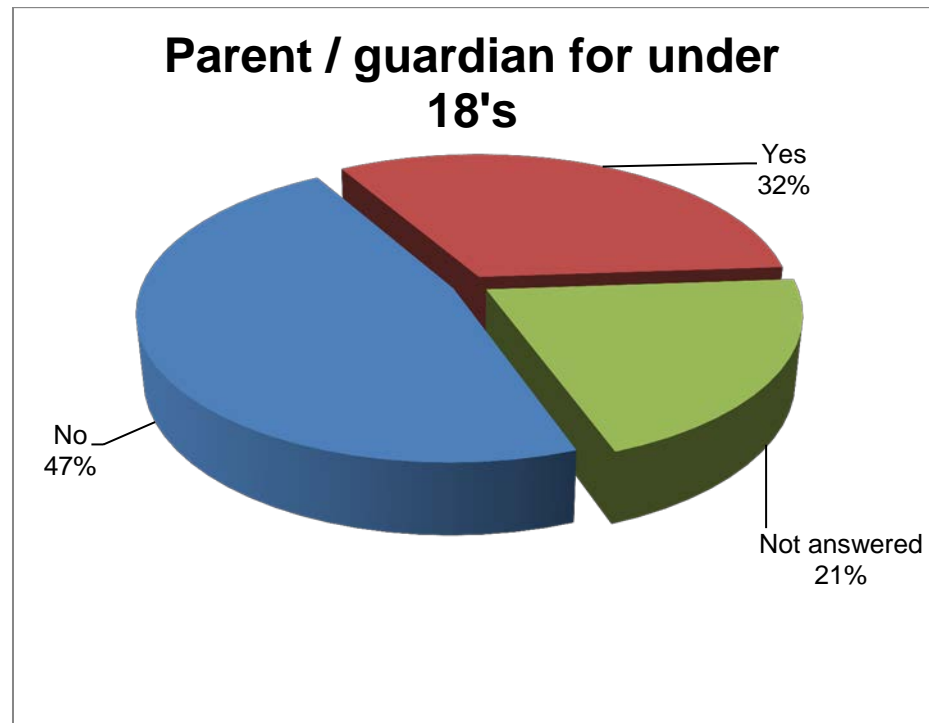
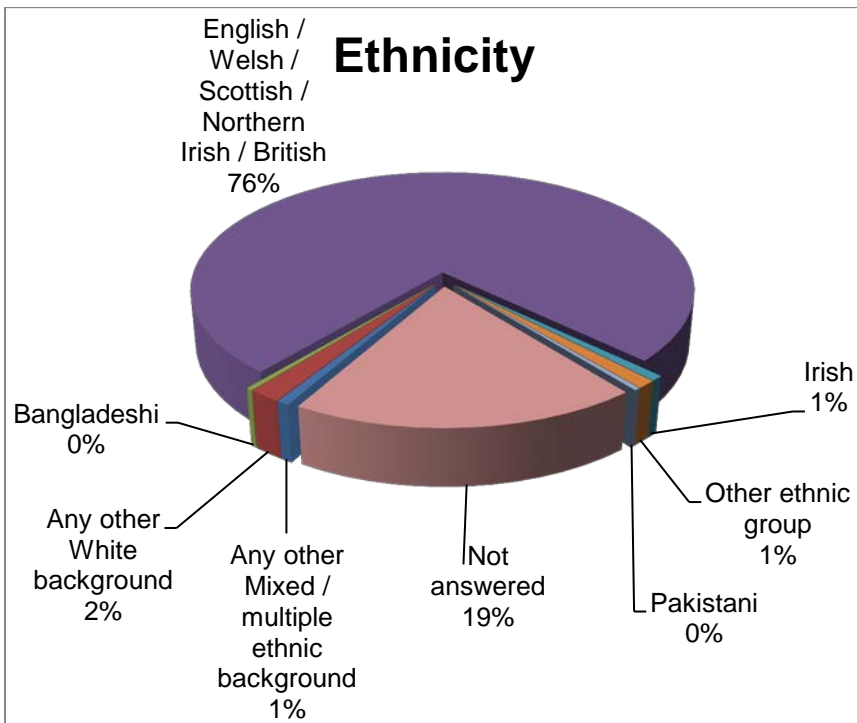
Age Range	Number
16-24	6
25-34	26
35-44	63
45-54	63
55-64	53
65-74	16
75 & over	8
Not answered	47
Grand Total	282

Long term illness / Disability	Number
No	187
Yes	40
Not answered	55
Grand Total	282



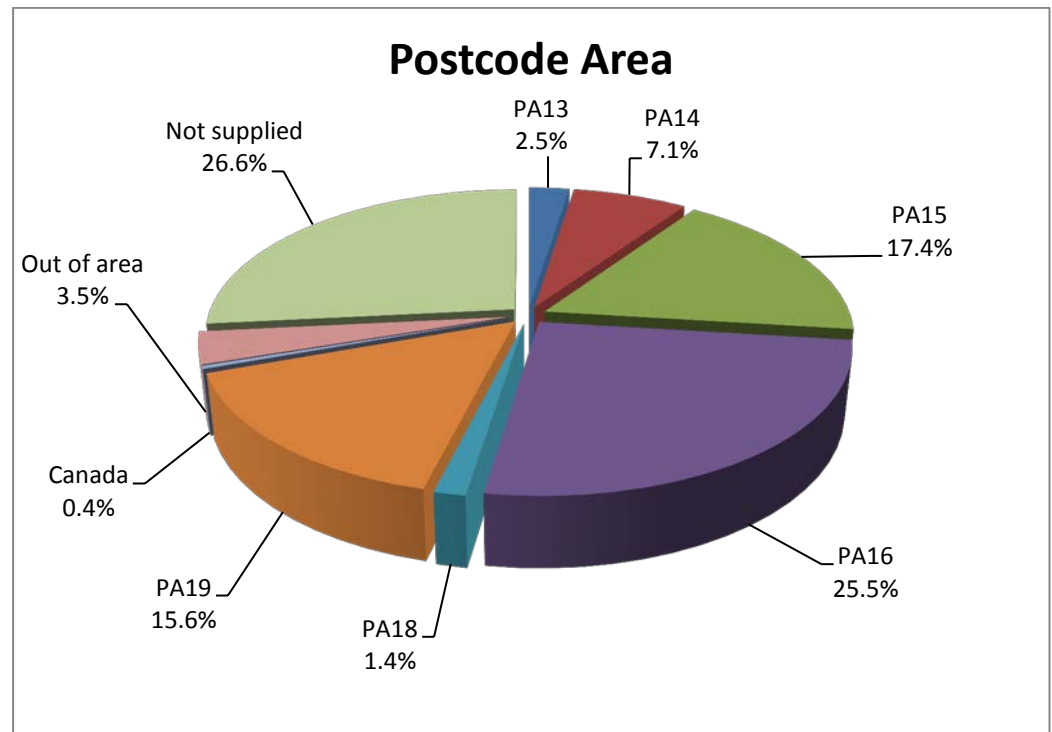
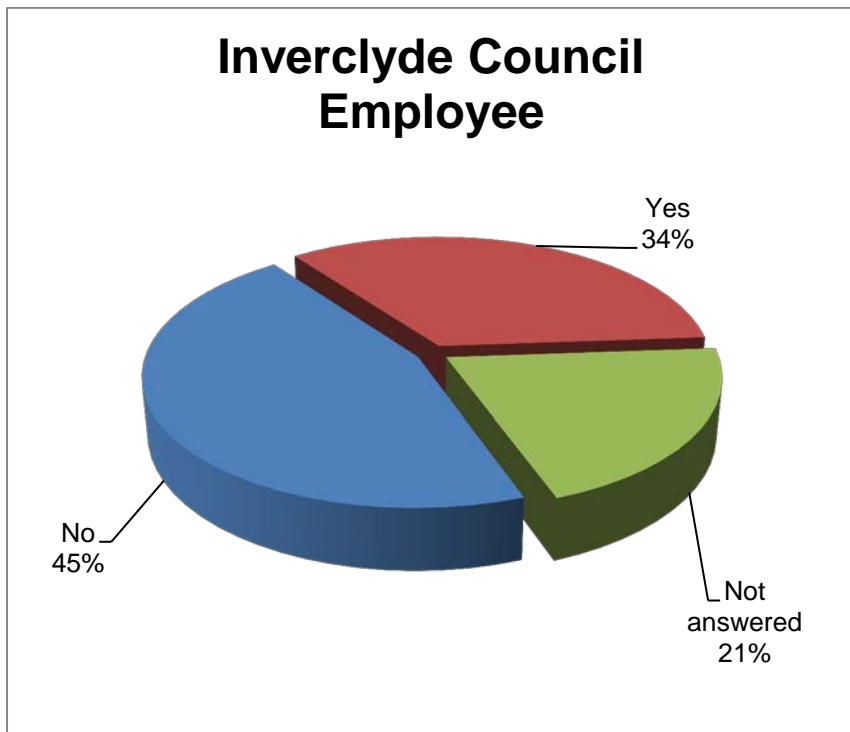
Ethnicity	Number
Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic background	2
Any other White background	5
Bangladeshi	1
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish /	
British	214
Irish	2
Other ethnic group	3
Pakistani	1
Not answered	54
Grand Total	282

Parent / Guardian for under 18	Number
No	133
Yes	91
Not answered	58
Grand Total	282



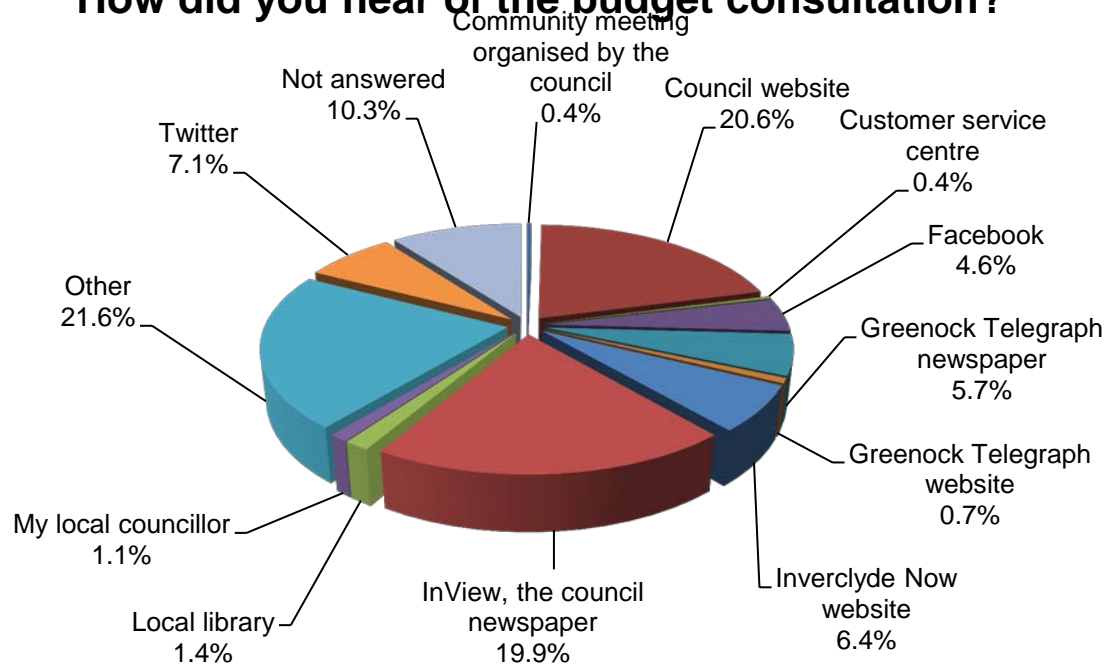
Inverclyde Council employee	Number
No	128
Yes	96
Not answered	58
Grand Total	282

Geographic Area of home postcode	Number
PA13 – Kilmacolm & Quarriers	7
PA14 – Port Glasgow	20
PA15 – Greenock Central & East	49
PA16 – Greenock West & Inverkip	72
PA18 – Wemyss Bay	4
PA19 – Gourock	44
Canada	1
Out of area	10
Not supplied	75
Grand Total	282



Finding out about the online budget simulator	Number
Community meeting organised by the council	1
Council website	58
Customer service centre	1
Facebook	13
Greenock Telegraph newspaper	16
Greenock Telegraph website	2
Inverclyde Now website	18
InView, the council newspaper	56
Local library	4
My local councillor	3
Other	61
Twitter	20
Not answered	29
Grand Total	282

How did you hear of the budget consultation?



The 'other' source for hearing of the online simulator	Number
A Friend who had some concerns about certain proposals mentioned it	1
A number of people, a councillor and also from Facebook	1
Community Councillor	1
Discussions with officers and councillors	1
e-mail	19
Icon	2
Inverkip school	1
Not specified	2
Your Voice	33
Grand Total	61

