

Newport's Budget Challenge

Budget Saving Proposals for 2019-20

The following report summarises the results of the budget consultation survey. This took two forms: an online survey open to all citizens and a shortened survey consulting on the proposed increase to council tax involving users of the free bus Wi-Fi. For each proposal, the consultative options are listed, the survey results given along with a selection of received comments.

Online survey results are first and bus Wi-Fi survey results follow.

Online Budget Consultation Survey

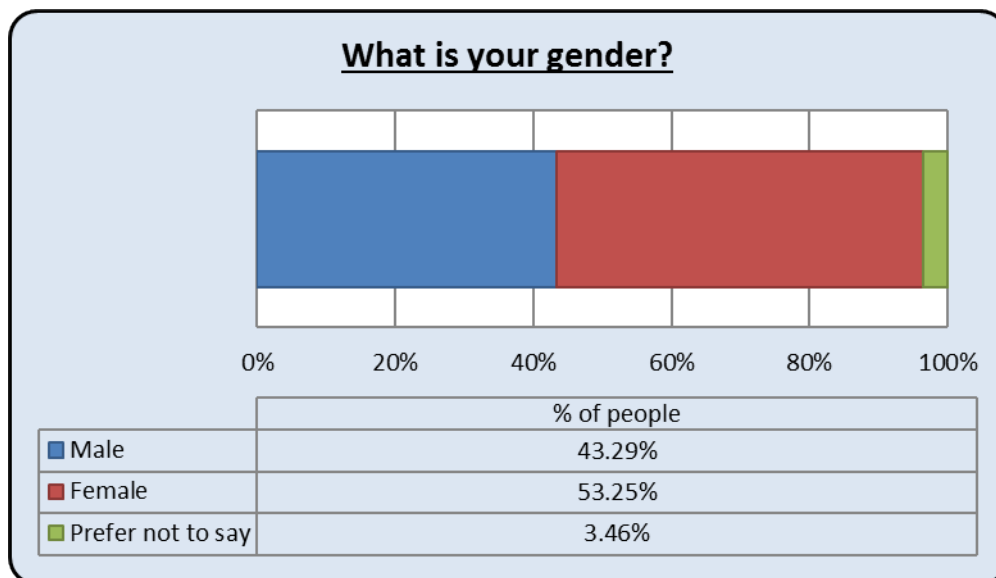
A total of 238 responses were received from the online public consultation survey, where users were asked their opinions on the 6 proposal being considered by Cabinet.

Basic Information

Q0.a. What is your gender?

Gender	Number of people	% of people
Male	100	43.29%
Female	123	53.25%
Prefer not to say	8	3.46%

NB: There were 7 no responses to Q0.a.

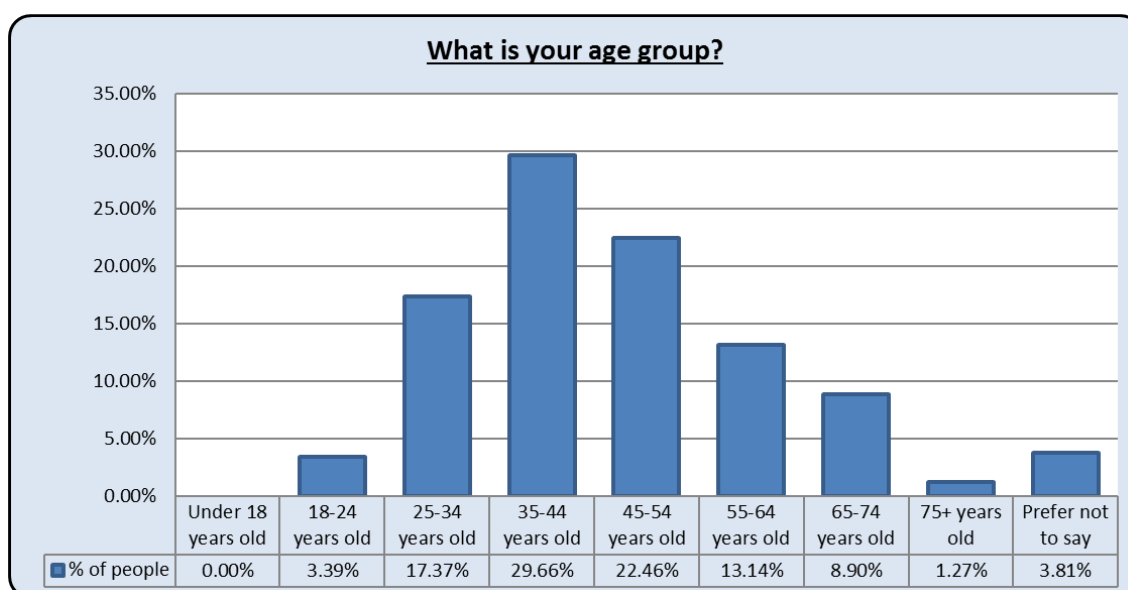


Q0.b. What is your age group?

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Age	Number of people	% of people
Under 18 years old	0	0.00%
18-24 years old	8	3.39%
25-34 years old	41	17.37%
35-44 years old	70	29.66%
45-54 years old	53	22.46%
55-64 years old	31	13.14%
65-74 years old	21	8.90%
75+ years old	3	1.27%
Prefer not to say	9	3.81%

NB: There were 2 no responses to Q0.b.



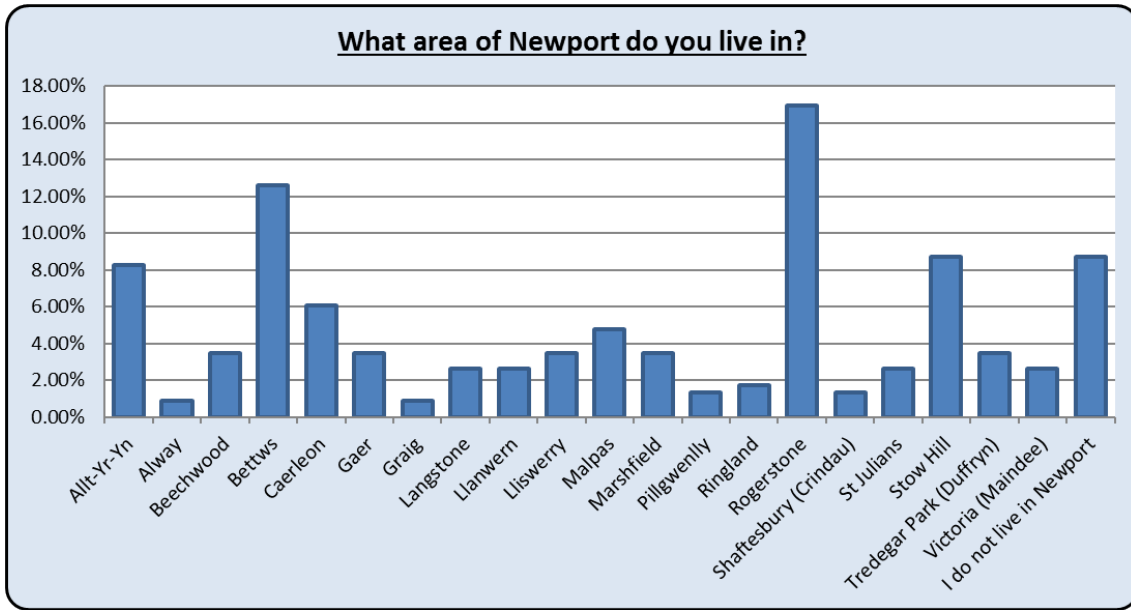
Q0.c. What area of Newport do you live in?

Ward	Number of people	% of people
Allt-Yr-Yn	19	8.26%
Alway	2	0.87%
Beechwood	8	3.48%
Bettws	29	12.61%
Caerleon	14	6.09%
Gaer	8	3.48%
Graig	2	0.87%
Langstone	6	2.61%
Llanwern	6	2.61%
Lliswerry	8	3.48%
Malpas	11	4.78%

Ward	Number of people	% of people
Marshfield	8	3.48%
Pillgwenlly	3	1.30%
Ringland	4	1.74%
Rogerstone	39	16.96%
Shaftesbury (Crindau)	3	1.30%
St Julians	6	2.61%
Stow Hill	20	8.70%
Tredegar Park (Duffryn)	8	3.48%
Victoria (Maindee)	6	2.61%
I do not live in Newport	20	8.70%

NB: There were 8 no responses to Q0.c.

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List of Budget Proposals 2019-20 – Cabinet Decision

Proposal Number 1

EDU1920/01 – Education: Central Education Budget Savings Proposals 2019-20

Education Services is required to save a further £250k from 2019/20. There are no non-staff budget options left within the service area to consider. As a result, savings can only be acquired from the removal of staff posts. The following options have been put forward:

Option 1 (Recommended Option): To delete 7 posts within Education Services: 4 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) Education Welfare Officers; 1 FTE Educational Psychologist; 0.91 FTE Education Business Manager; 1 FTE Grade 4 Administrative Post. This would equal a cost saving of £251,522.

Option 2: To delete 4 posts within Education Services: 2 FTE Education Welfare Officers; 0.91 FTE Education Business Manager; 1 FTE Grade 4 Administrative Post. This would equal a cost saving of £114,100.

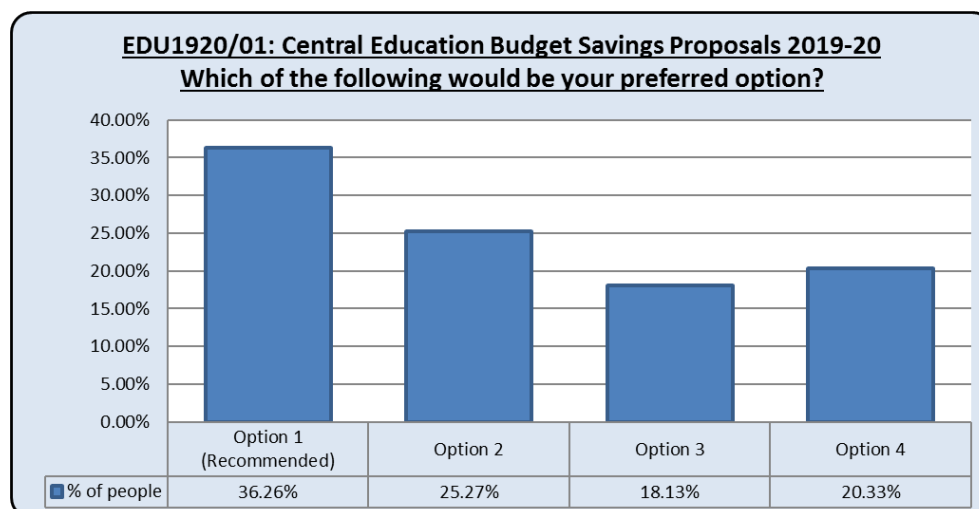
Option 3: To delete 3 posts in Education Services: 1 FTE Education Welfare Officer; 1 FTE Grade 4 Administrative Post and 0.91 FTE Education Business Manager. This would equal a cost saving of £76,329

Option 4: Do nothing – savings would still need to be found thus resulting in increased pressures on other council services.

Q1.a. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Options	Number of people	% of people
Option 1 (Recommended)	66	36.26%
Option 2	46	25.27%
Option 3	33	18.13%
Option 4	37	20.33%

NB: There were 56 no responses to Q1.a.

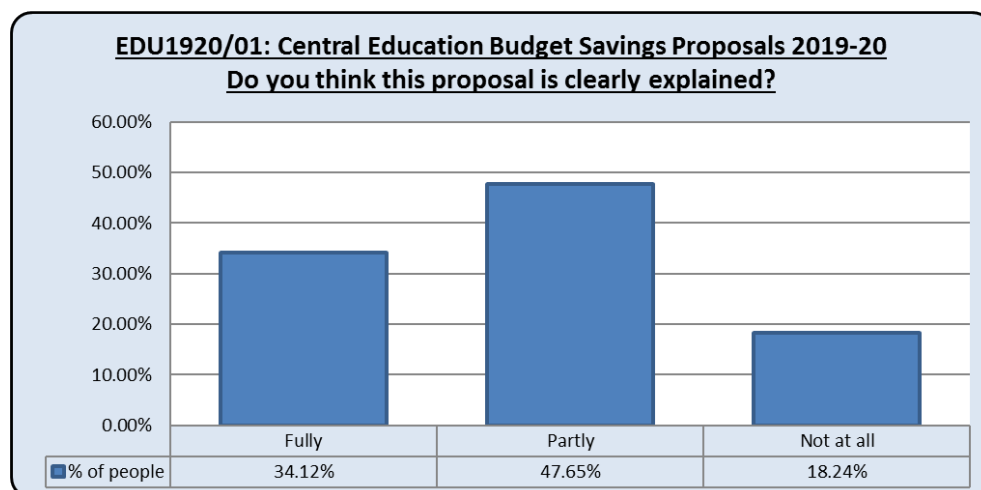


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Q1.b. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	58	34.12%
Partly	81	47.65%
Not at all	31	18.24%

NB: There were 68 no responses to Q1.b.



Q1.c. Do you have any other comments about proposal EDU1920/01 (50 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- Business Manager in schools tend to overstep the role and try to fix all. As corporate landlords, NCC should utilise the skills and expertise of the JV with Norse to further develop these roles. Perhaps roles could be combined to incorporate a Comprehensive school and their feeder Primary Schools.
- The education system is already struggling with the cuts that have been made. You are removing all these posts and support systems and not providing any alternatives, so what happens to the children who require this support? You are putting more and more pressure on schools by reducing and taking things away and not giving anything back.
- Any reduction in welfare officers is going to have a negative effect and will cost more in the long run.
- I understand that cuts need to be made but this should be from management and not the front line staff!
- We cannot afford to lose any more Educational Psychologists, we don't currently have enough to go around the schools and support for the children has already been cut back so much that school staff think they are failing their children. Mainstream schools are expected to take on children with more complex behaviour and academic needs without the support from other agencies, cutting just one Educational Psychologist will mean each EP would need to cover 20 schools which would greatly impact on the support these schools would receive, they would have a reduced number of visits, a reduction in children being able to have access to a funded IDP. This would lead to not only failing the child who needs the funded IDP, but also the rest of the children in their class as the class teacher would have to give most of their time to the one child. This could also increase the rate of teacher absence

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due to stress, as this pressure would have a detrimental impact on on their well-being and mental health.

- Education is a priority for any developed society. However, having worked in education for 20+ years, in various institutions, there is too much waste and this needs to be tackled to focus on providing a high standard of education. For example, school management teams need to reflect the numbers of staff and students. In some educational institutions, it seems that management posts are too many regarding the ratio to subordinates and students. Also, the public sector concentrates on hierarchies and bureaucracy. It may be more cost effective to have flatter organisations. Additionally, meetings that take place in educational institutions are often a waste of time. Outcomes need to be fully scrutinised and this included the education Achievement Service. They are very costly but what has actually been improved as a direct result of their intervention? Furthermore, the cost of school transport needs revising. If a child attends a school outside of catchment due to insufficient places being available then their transport costs should be paid. However, if parents choose a school beyond the catchment area for other reasons, such as attending a church school or Welsh medium school, they should pay for the transport costs.
- You must stop deleting educational posts. In this millennial generation we live in, youngsters are having to deal with more mental and psychological problems; much of which are dealt within the school system. More deleted posts will mean more pressure on teachers.

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Proposal Number 2

CS1920/06 – City Services: Review of Charging for Waste Special Collections

Review of charging for special collections - apply a new pricing mechanism, ensuring the cost of service to our citizens covers the operating and disposal costs of the service. Savings if implemented as recommended (Option B) would save £66,000 in 2019-20. Note that a full year impact has been included following implementation by the beginning of 2019-20; any delay in the approval process would therefore affect the savings to be achieved. The following options have been put forward:

Option A: Do nothing – continue charging at existing rates and operate the service subsidised by the council. This is not seen as a viable option as it is not financially acceptable to continue running the service at a loss.

Option B (**Recommended Option**): Apply new pricing mechanisms by introducing a flat rate for up to 3 items to maximise efficiency of collections and also ensure the minimum charge covers the operating and disposal costs of the service. The proposal would involve changing the current pricing structure (items are requested on an individual basis at an average price of £6 per item) to a minimum charge of £20 for up to 3 items, then £6 per additional item.

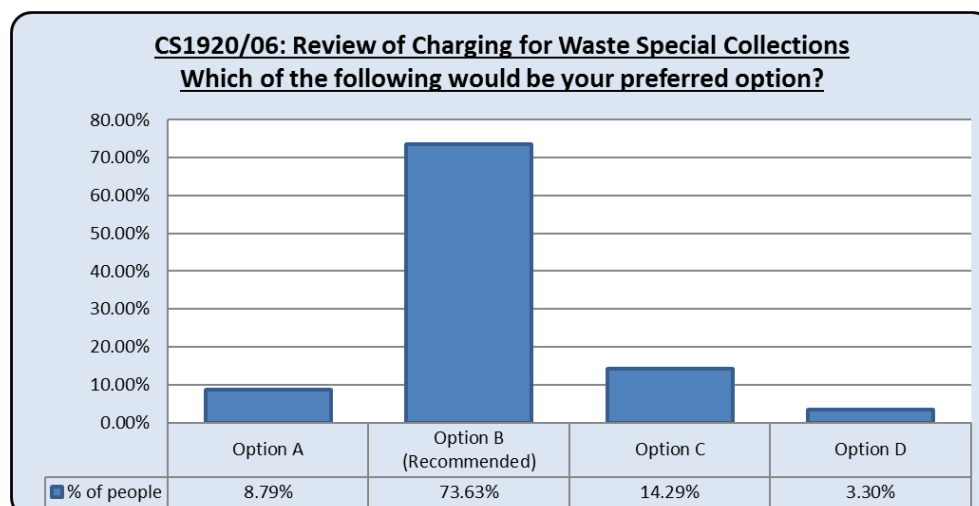
Option C: Alternative pricing mechanism to reduce financial deficit of running the service but without introducing a flat rate for several items. Increase of the average price per item from £6 to £10 whilst involving an increase in cost for all users, the total income delivered by the service would be £157k, thus falling £5k short of covering the cost of delivering the service.

Option D: Remove the service. This is not seen as a viable option as this is likely to have a direct impact on fly-tipping volumes and associated costs to Newport City Council.

Q2.a. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Options	Number of people	% of people
Option A	16	8.79%
Option B (Recommended)	134	73.63%
Option C	26	14.29%
Option D	6	3.30%

NB: There were 56 no responses to Q2.a.

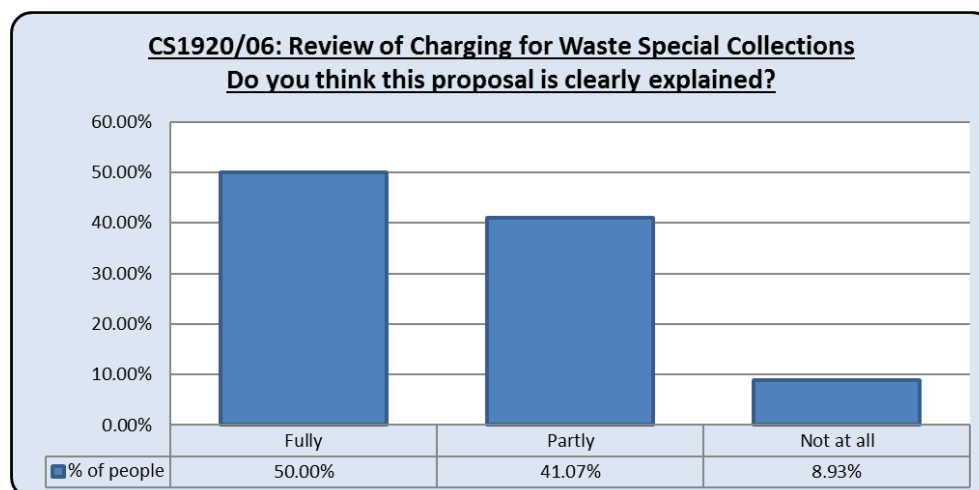


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Q2.b. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	84	50.00%
Partly	69	41.07%
Not at all	15	8.93%

NB: There were 70 no responses to Q2.b.



Q2.c. Do you have any other comments about proposal CS1920/06? (43 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- Seems cheap really.
- My only concern is that the fees might put people off disposing of items responsibly and could increase fly tipping, I would also like the fees to be waived for those on low income.
- While we're being asked to simply trust the facts and figures provided here, I feel at least the recommended option seems the most logical and fare option.
- Make the tip more accessible, open it with longer hours and actually allow people to use it properly, no limits on what you can take it there. Then no fly tipping will occur!
- £20 is a lot to pay if you only want to dispose of one item.
- This seems a fair option as it makes the end-users pay a capped fee for the service they are using. By way of comparison, vehicle owners pay out of their own pockets in terms of fuel / tax / insurance / time in order to take special items to the local 'tips'.
- Collecting fly tipped waste would be more expensive than the subsidised option A as this is likely to lead to an increase.
- The recommended option encourages users to think sustainably and encourages an efficient service.
- I understand the motivation behind this proposal and the service has to operate in a sustainable way. However, I'm concerned about the effect of the new charges have on fly tipping. There will be many occasions where the large items will be a single sofa, a big chair, a fridge, washing machine or as I increasingly have noticed a single mattress. There's a very high risk of these single items being dumped than to pay £20 each to have them collected.

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Proposal Number 3

CS1920/07 – City Services: Changes to Council Parking Charges

Increase in tariffs for off-street parking, business parking and resident parking zones saving £86,000 in 2019-20. All changes to be implemented April 2019. Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) within the city will cover both on and off street parking enforcement. The take up of resident parking permits has declined in recent years due to resident dissatisfaction over the lack of enforcement delivered by the police. It is anticipated that this decline will continue until the introduction of CPE on the 1st July 2019.

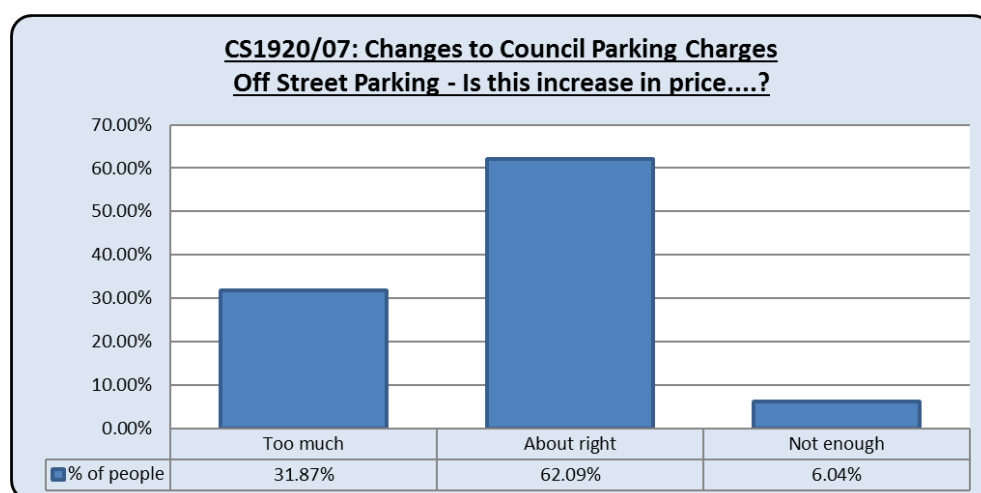
The maintenance of affordable parking within the city together with CPE, will ensure residents have their streets appropriately patrolled to maximise their opportunities to park outside their homes, business parking is not obstructed and visitors to our car parks benefit from a well-controlled parking environment.

Newport has historically provided low cost off street parking in comparison to other city centres and this proposed increase ensures that parking in Newport remains excellent value. The proposed resident permit parking charge is again excellent value and combined with improved enforcement through CPE, presents an excellent offer and service to residents.

Q3.a. Off Street Parking Car Parking charges – increase of £0.50 on all tariffs. Is this increase in price....?

Is the increase...	Number of people	% of people
Too much	58	31.87%
About right	113	62.09%
Not enough	11	6.04%

NB: There were 56 no responses to Q3.a.

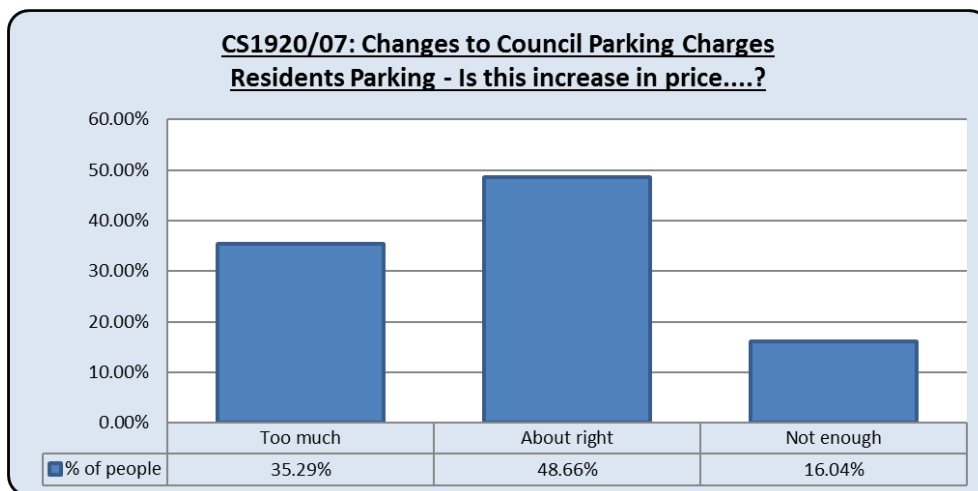


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Q3.b. Residents Parking Charges – increase from £17 to £30. Is this increase in price.....?

Is the increase...	Number of people	% of people
Too much	66	35.29%
About right	91	48.66%
Not enough	30	16.04%

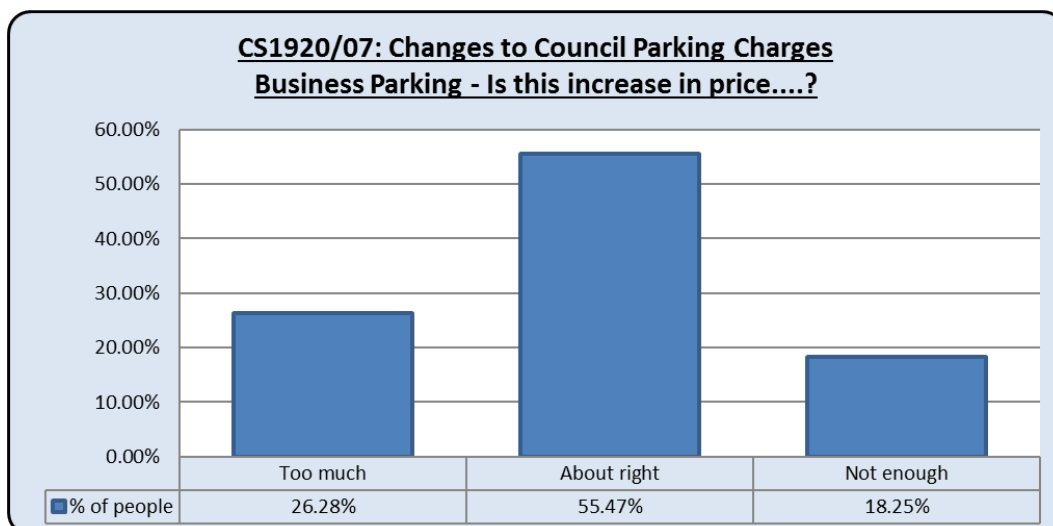
NB: There were 51 no responses to Q3.b.



Q3.c. Business Parking Charges – new tariff of £6 per day. Is this increase in price.....?

Is the increase...	Number of people	% of people
Too much	36	26.28%
About right	76	55.47%
Not enough	25	18.25%

NB: There were 101 no responses to Q3.c.

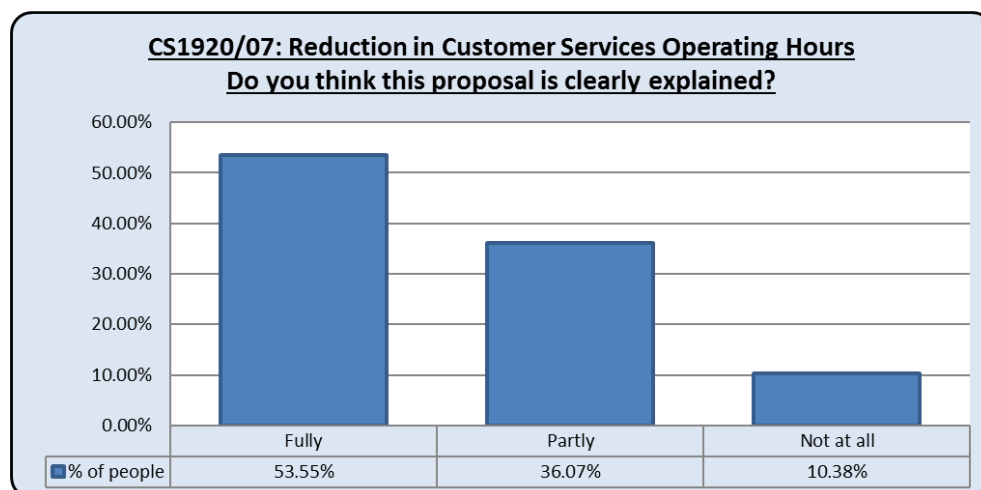


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Q3.d. Do you think this proposal is clearly explained?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	98	53.55%
Partly	66	36.07%
Not at all	19	10.38%

NB: There were 55 no responses to Q3.d.



Q3.e. Do you have any other comments about proposal CS1920/07? (114 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- There is no explanation as to why the CPE will be introduced in July and yet the proposed increases will be introduced from April. Although I appreciate the statement that other councils in Wales operate resident parking zones at a much higher rate, increasing it from the current rate of £17 to the proposed £30 seems like a significant jump.
- Residents parking permits should be higher. Business parking should be more to encourage more sustainable transport such as public transport or cycling. These can then offset the cost of parking.
- Introduce more streets designated to permit, thus generating income.
- Parking in the city centre car parks should be free to ensure a town centre remains. People will not come to Newport if they have to pay when they can go to Cardiff or Cwmbran.
- Car parking fees will affect the City Centre and even more units may become obsolete. I agree that if residents and business's require parking then a suitable fee should be claimed.
- There is an option and an oversight in the budget proposal, I would recommend and request that an exercise is performed to look at 'Free Parking' across the City Centre Car Parks - would the increase in trade in the City Centre and the increased revenue through other means such as business rates negate the need to charge more. A comparison would be made against Cwmbran, perhaps not comparable in your book, but ask where many people find it easier to go for a quick shop in Next or Coffee in Costa - it's Cwmbran.
- The increase in charge would only be acceptable with appropriate regular enforcement of the permits.
- The proposed resident parking increase to £30 is more than 56% for a service that is currently not being enforced at all. I don't see how you can propose ANY increase until after July 2019 when the new enforcement starts to take place. Following that date (and assuming enforcement resumes) then I suggest 25% increase to £21.25. When the new

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enforcement officers are appointed and begin to earn revenue for the City the system should become 'self-financing', and hopefully, if they catch the huge numbers currently totally ignoring traffic regulations then there should be a good surplus from that revenue to help finance other traffic expenses.

- Finally. Well done, looking forward to this change as police was doing nothing...Thanks.
- If the council is going to police the resident parking permit areas in future then I would be happy to pay more for the resident permit.
- Parking charges need to be carefully considered otherwise people may be deterred from making purchases from shops, which do not have free parking, as there are plenty of retail areas in which parking is free. If businesses have low footfall then they will not survive, leaving business properties empty, which is a negative consequence. Enforcement of parking regulations is necessary and when this is evident, people are more likely to adhere to them. Also enforcement would help to justify the increase in resident parking permits.
- I think that the resident parking charges are unfair. Not all areas have to pay, and those that do are generally in the poorer residential areas.
- Resident Parking has not been enforced for a number of years causing immense disruption & upset to local residents. I feel that by almost doubling the price for a service is a disgrace as we have paid for this service for many years but have not received what we have paid for whilst those that have abused by illegally parking in the residents zones daily have not been targeted. In addition, those houses that use residential parking are low-income households for whom the increase is going to have a significant impact on their household expenditure.
- You should not be charging anything more for residents only parking, you have no track record of providing this service. At the moment, there is no enforcement in Newport. We have one car and struggle to park in our resident's only parking. You have done nothing about parking, why should the council be rewarded for not providing a service. I understand this was a police matter previously but until you have a track record of providing a good residents parking scheme I don't see why I should pay more. Furthermore, if you are managing it correctly and enforcing parking you should be able to fund it through fines. Introducing higher parking in town is wrong. The city centre is dead as it is. You will just add to the reasons to not go to town and kill off what is left open.

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Proposal Number 4

CS1920/08 – City Services: Reduction in Customer Services Operating Hours

To reduce the operating hours of the council’s face-to-face customer services provision and encourage increased use of self-service facilities. There are a number of potential options, however the proposed option is to reduce the opening times of the Information Station from five days to four days a week. Opening days and times for the City Contact Centre (01633 656656) would remain unchanged (Mon-Fri 8am-6pm). This would save £31,000 in 2019-20.

Option 1: Keep current service arrangements – This is an option but does not create any savings and does not support the Council’s aim of 80% of all transactions being dealt with by self-service by 2020.

Option 2: Close the main reception, Civic Centre at 6pm each evening. This would deliver a saving of up to £9.7k in the first full year of savings. This would have an impact on meetings that are held at the Civic Centre post 6pm e.g. Council and Cabinet meetings, charity meetings, sports and leisure meetings.

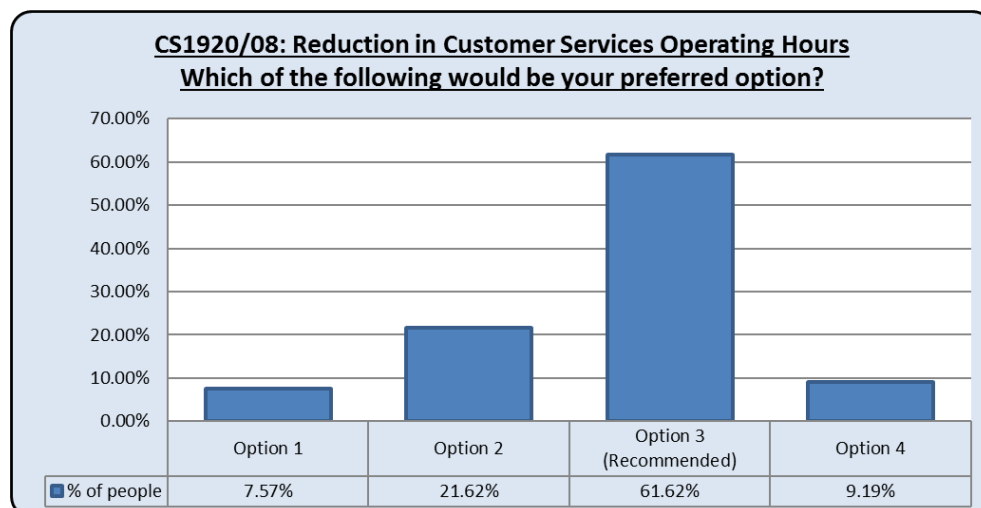
Option 3 (**Recommended Option**): Reduce the operating hours for the Information Station service so that it is open 4 days a week instead of 5 days a week. This would deliver a saving of up to £31.6k in the first full year of savings.

Option 4: Close the Main Reception, Civic Centre at 6pm each evening and reinvest the saving to create more Customer Service Officer posts. This would reduce waiting times but would not deliver savings increasing financial pressure on other services.

Q4.a. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Options	Number of people	% of people
Option 1	14	7.57%
Option 2	40	21.62%
Option 3 (Recommended)	114	61.62%
Option 4	17	9.19%

NB: There were 53 no responses to Q4.a.

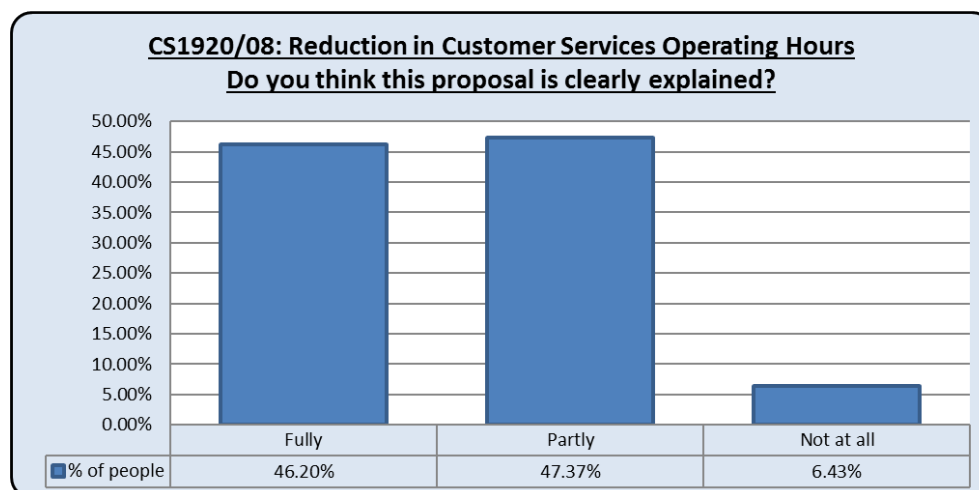


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Q4.b. Do you think this proposal is clearly explained?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	79	46.20%
Partly	81	47.37%
Not at all	11	6.43%

NB: There were 67 no responses to Q4.b.



Q4.c. Do you have any other comments about proposal CS1920/08? (45 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- Self-service - please do not go down this route, people with a problem much prefer to speak to another real alive person not faff about online & then find the website crashed.
- I don't think operating a public service for 4 out of 5 days is reasonable, far better to reduce the hours of the Civic make sure that meetings are held during the day and spend the money saved on staff to answer customer queries.
- A reasonable proposal given the financial situation.
- I think that contacting the Council helpline office is a waste of time; I have held on for 15 minutes and given up. If reductions in office availability are to be made, then do it in one go, and make it clear to residents what the new hours etc will be. I am lucky to have internet access to be able to do things online, but there are others who do not, do not understand the process, or need more clarification from a real person. Also, having the Information Station on level ground of a boon to the less physically fit in Newport. The Civic Centre is fine for employees who can walk up that sort of hill, residents prefer easier access. Reduce hours but keep the Information Station on level ground.
- I think it's important that at least one of these days is on the weekend, and at least one evening of late-night opening is planned for. Too many things these days only open during 'typical' working hours.
- Problem is what if people are in work the days you are open and can't get there?
- I never use the face-to-face option but understand some people need to and don't have online access. But as long as it is still there in part, it is ok.
- I think it is a step backwards to reduce this service as it is well utilised by the public and will cause further issues. What happens in an emergency for example when someone needs urgent help because they are homeless etc? For the sake of £30,000, this is not worth doing.

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- Self-service is great for saving money but it needs to be user friendly for everyone in the community, particularly the less well educated, those for whom English is a second language and vulnerable people, including the elderly.

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Proposal Number 5

PBC1920/02 – People and Business Change

Reduction in Voluntary Sector Grants

The Council currently provides £286k per year through a series of operational and rent grants to a number of voluntary sector organisations operating within Newport. There is already a commitment to reduce this amount by £46k for 2019-20 following a Cabinet decision in 2016.

This additional proposal would reduce the grant further over the next three years to £140k by 2021-22. This will mean an additional saving of £100k. Applying these savings over the next three years will allow for some adjustment time for the organisations involved.

In line with Welsh Governments Code of Practice for Voluntary Sector Funding, an early discussion is required with the affected organisations.

Option 1: Total savings of £100k made over the next 3 years to be made up of £54k in 19-20, 19k in 20-21 and £27k in 21-22 reviewing the existing grants allocated to each organisation and removing smaller rent grants with immediate effect.

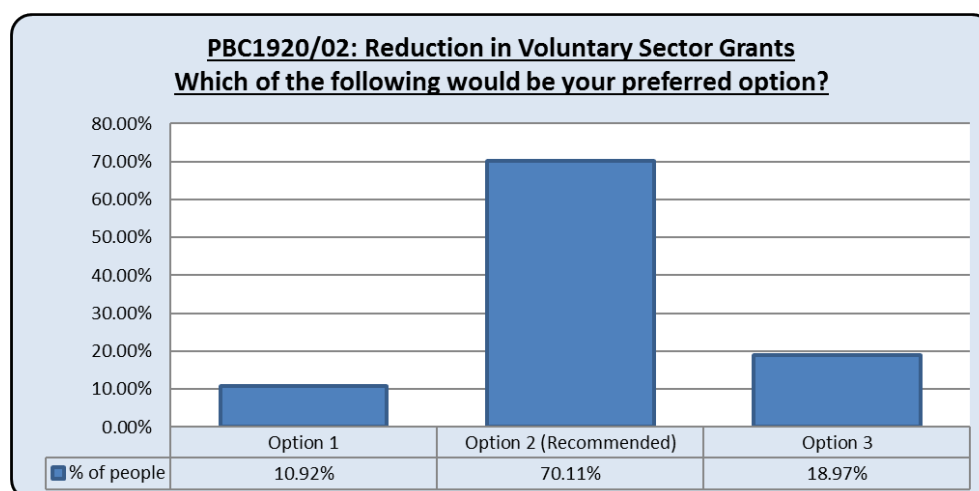
Option 2 (**Recommended Option**): Give notice to all grant recipients and undertake a tendering process (mid 2019) to commission a service (approx. value £140k) to deliver against a contract set to the corporate plan priorities. Successful organisation(s) will be funded up to 2021/22.

Option 3: Maintain status quo and not make any additional reductions. The dissolution of SEWREC will provide a £44k saving for 2019/20 and removing the smaller rent grants will release a further £2k in total. All other grant recipients to receive same level of grant as 18/19.

Q5.a. Which of the above would be your preferred option?

Options	Number of people	% of people
Option 1	19	10.92%
Option 2 (Recommended)	122	70.11%
Option 3	33	18.97%

NB: There were 64 no responses to Q5.a.

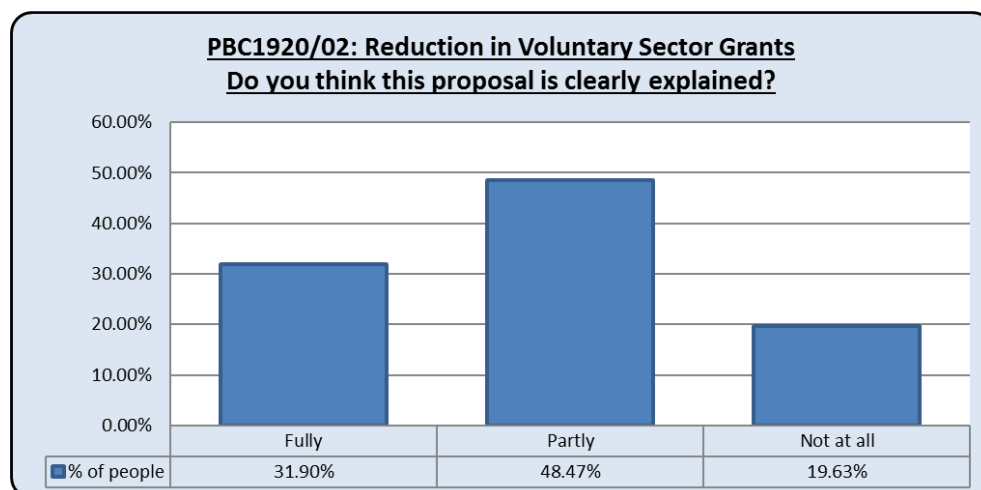


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Q5.b. Do you think this proposal is clearly explained?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	52	31.90%
Partly	79	48.47%
Not at all	32	19.63%

NB: There were 75 no responses to Q5.b.



Q5.c. Do you have any other comments about proposal PBC1920/02? (33 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- If you are continuing to cut core services, support for the voluntary sector is essential as you are expecting these organisations to pick up the slack from cut services.
- Ahead of any tender process, a thorough review of grant recipients and results achieved should be undertaken to profile grant recipient that have not achieved objectives. I totally agree this should link with the welsh governments well-being objectives, can partner services support these areas and what CSR funding is also available. Should organisations apply for a grant with similar objectives they should be reviewed with the option of a partnership to support like goals?
- The council needs to make sure the money allocated is used to the best effect so it is a good idea to review this and make sure the public get the most bang for their buck.
- Too many third sector services have already been lost.
- I would continue to support charities with 20 or less staff nationally. Larger charities should absorb the costs and in the main are operating million pound budgets. I would encourage charities to move into the areas that require regeneration to receive reductions or to areas of need so that their staff contribute in other ways like shopping in the town centre.
- We agree that the principal of asking all grant recipients to undertake a tendering process is sensible and gives the council an opportunity to reassess which organisations are most suitable to provide services. It would've been useful to have had examples of some of the organisations receiving the grant funding. Organisations should be encourage to explore other funding streams.

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Proposal Number 6

NS1920/05 – Non-Service: Additional 2.95% Increase in Council Tax resulting in total increase of 6.95%

A base 4% increase is already included in our medium term financial projections each year. This year, it is proposed that an additional 2.95% increase is applied to council tax in 2019/20 bringing the proposed increase to 6.95%.

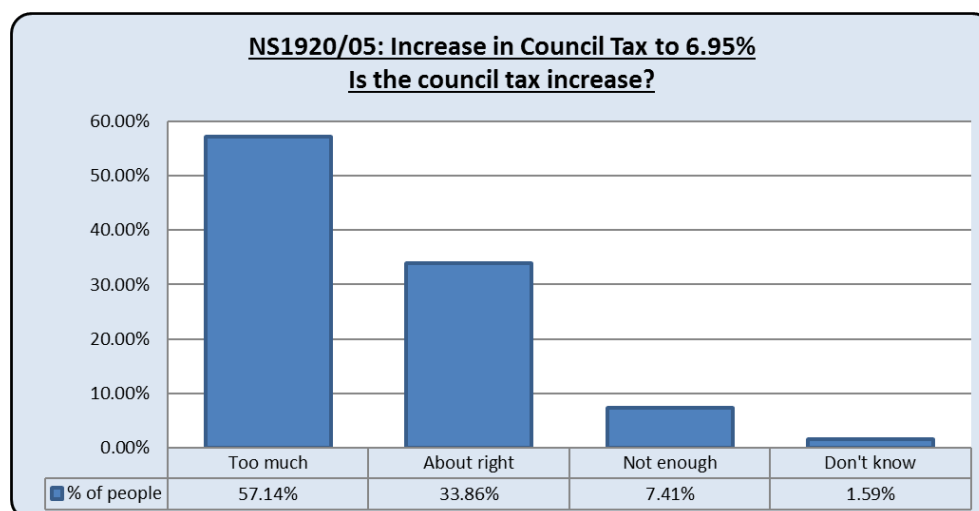
Comparison with existing Band D Council Tax (rounded) for (2018-19) before any increase			
Newport (second lowest in Wales)	£1,057 per year	Torfaen	£1,242 per year
Caerphilly	£1,058 per year	Monmouthshire	£1,242 per year
Wrexham	£1,093 per year	Swansea	1,269 per year
Cardiff	£1,155 per year		

Percentage Increase	6.95%
Newport Band D Tax 2019-20	£1,130.61
Increase per annum	£73.47
Increase per week	£1.41

Q6.a. Is a council tax increase of 6.95%?

Is the increase...	Number of people	% of people
Too much	108	57.14%
About right	64	33.86%
Not enough	14	7.41%
Don't know	3	1.59%

NB: There were 49 no responses to Q6.a.

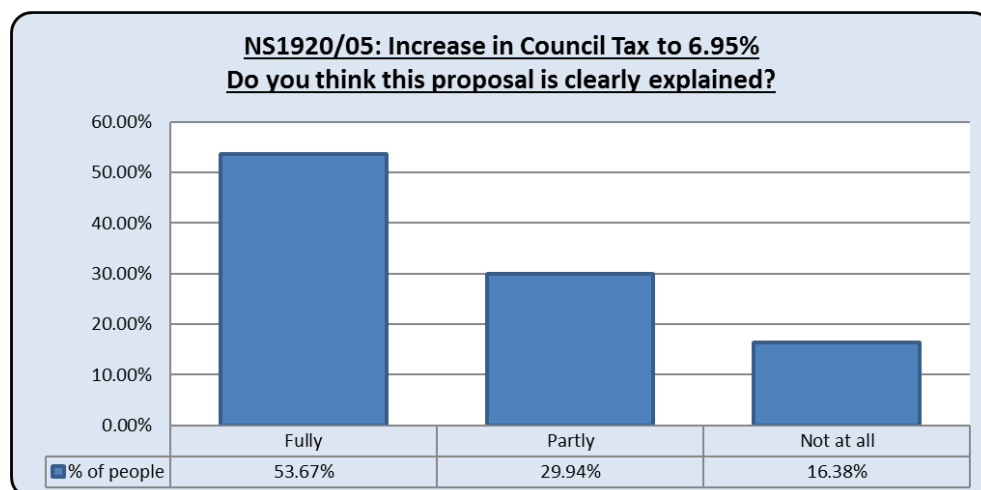


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Q6.b. Do you think this proposal is clearly explained?

Clearly explained	Number of people	% of people
Fully	95	53.67%
Partly	53	29.94%
Not at all	29	16.38%

NB: There were 61 no responses to Q6.b.



Q6.c. Do you have any other comments about proposal NS1920/05? (74 total comments received – a summary of these are shown below)?

- As a pensioner that takes my council tax to £200 a month, I could get a mortgage for less.
- Not every resident has had a pay rise and would not have the extra money to find each year.
- Abolish the use of rateable values to assess banding and replace with today's house values. This would be a true and fairer assessment. I feel this would increase the income for the council's budgets and allow the council to maintain other services.
- In conjunction with a likely increase in precept for community Councils, added to the fact that people in new housing areas are having to pay maintenance, which also rises 5% per year, as you are unwilling to fully adopt areas, you are looking at huge increases for those in those areas.
- Council tax in Newport is too low. We are not the second poorest council area so there can be no justification for keeping the tax below the Welsh average while services are under threat. No one likes paying more tax but the actual increase is modest and still leaves people in Newport paying less than people in similar areas.
- This increase is reasonable.
- The proposed increase is highly regrettable but necessary given the financial situation for the Council.
- This increase would put more families in Newport in poverty. Many people have had no increase in income for a number of years; this increase would be totally unfair and unjust.
- I think whenever such a large increase is proposed that certain guarantees should be given that 'regular' services will not be cut as well, as this would create a double-increase in effect.
- So the proposal is to charge residents more money while also proposing to reduce services. Comparing costs across other councils is not a transparent process because you're not demonstrating what services they provide in return.

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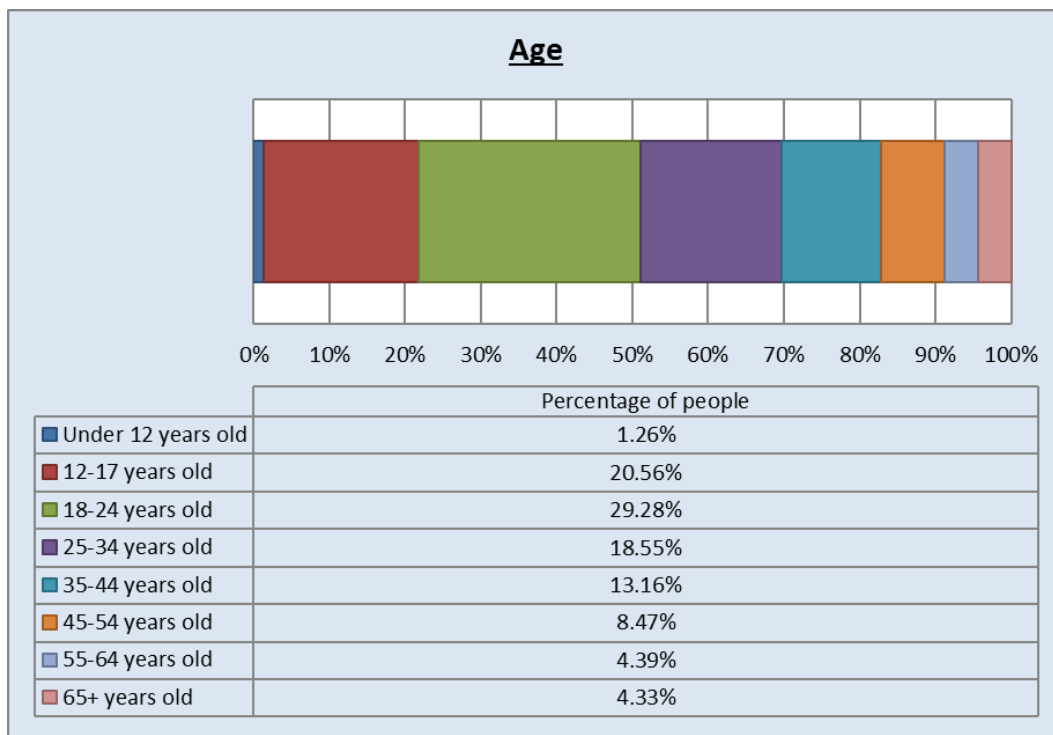
- 4% is more than enough for most working people and pensioners. Their salaries or pensions do not increase by this amount. Most people have had to pay at a higher rate than pay or pension increases for the past few years. 4% is already significantly higher than the CPI or RPI. People employed in the private sector earn less than the public sector and do not have the same pension benefits. This is unfair and should be addressed. This would minimise the increase in the rate of council tax increase.
- Whilst we appreciate it that the council has to find ways of increasing revenue, as council tax payers wages do not rise with inflation or increase significantly they are also feeling the pinch of austerity. It is difficult enough for residents to pay the council tax at present and would increase their own financial burdens. Wouldn't it be better to raise the council tax by say 5.5% or 6% so that more residents will be able to pay the council tax?
- An increase would be more in line with other LAs.

Bus Wi-Fi Survey

A total of 3,968 responses were received during the consultation, where users were asked their opinions on the rise in council tax for 2019-20.

Q1. What is your age?

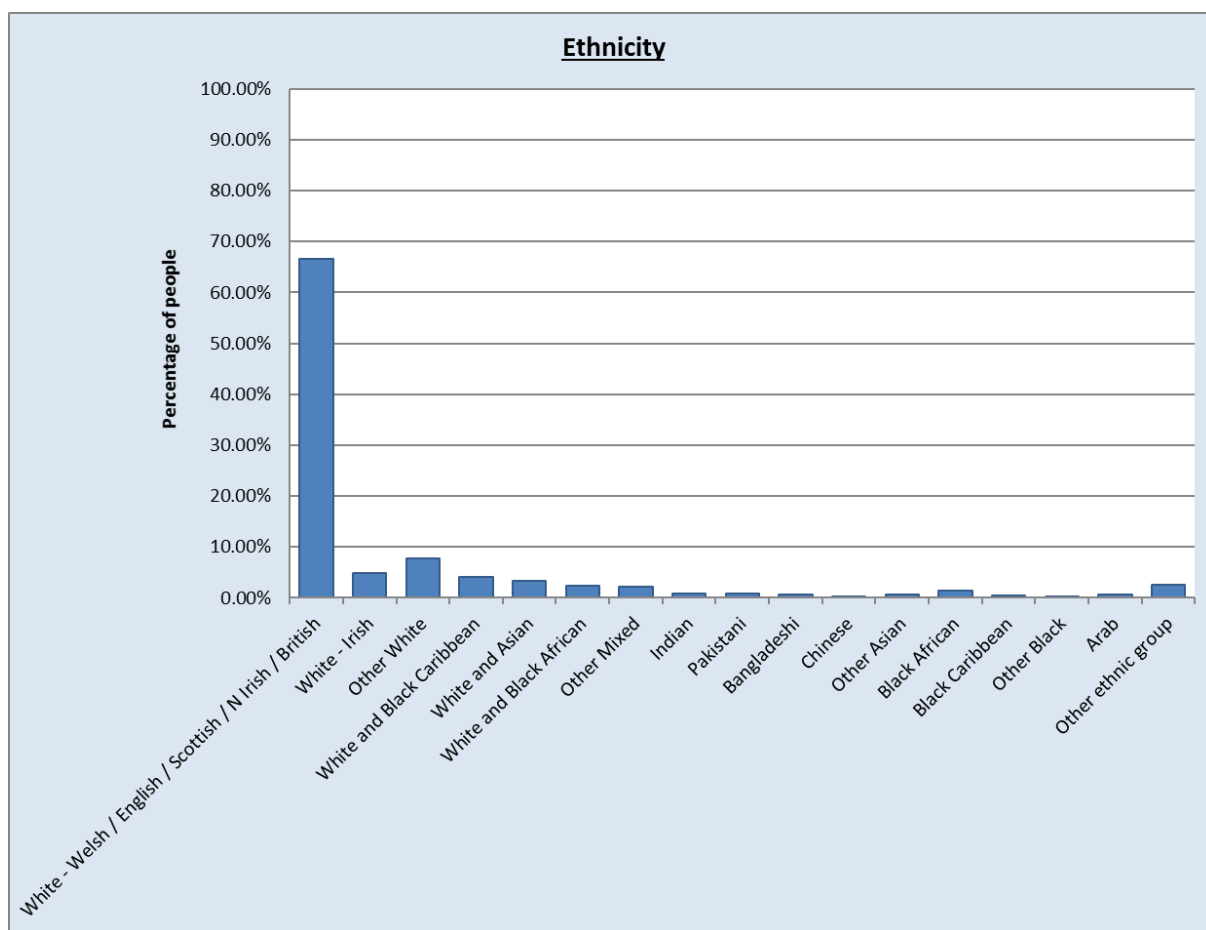
Age	Number of people	Percentage of people
Under 12 years old	50	1.26%
12-17 years old	816	20.56%
18-24 years old	1162	29.28%
25-34 years old	736	18.55%
35-44 years old	522	13.16%
45-54 years old	336	8.47%
55-64 years old	174	4.39%
65+ years old	172	4.33%



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Q2. What is your ethnicity?

Ethnicity	Number of people	Percentage of people
White - Welsh / English / Scottish / N Irish / British	2643	66.61%
White - Irish	197	4.96%
Other White	308	7.76%
White and Black Caribbean	161	4.06%
White and Asian	136	3.43%
White and Black African	93	2.34%
Other Mixed	85	2.14%
Indian	37	0.93%
Pakistani	31	0.78%
Bangladeshi	29	0.73%
Chinese	12	0.30%
Other Asian	28	0.71%
Black African	53	1.34%
Black Caribbean	17	0.43%
Other Black	10	0.25%
Arab	23	0.58%
Other ethnic group	105	2.65%



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Q3. The council is proposing a rise in council tax, which would mean an increase of £1.41 per week (based on a Band D property). Is this council tax increase?

Is the increase?	Number of people	Percentage of people
Too much	1044	27.12%
About right	1093	28.40%
Not enough	346	8.99%
Don't know	1366	35.49%

NB: There were 119 no responses to Q3.

