

North Northamptonshire Council Draft Budget 2022/23 Consultation

Appendix to consultation analysis report

December to January 2022

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Appendix 1: Draft budget consultation questionnaire full results

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Overview

North Northamptonshire Council's budget proposals set out a detailed spending strategy for the authority for the financial year 2022-2023 as well as outlining the medium-term financial plan for the next two years.

The council is working hard to protect vital services, while at the same time proposing a balanced budget, with a net revenue budget of £293.5million.

This funding provides a range of services to residents and businesses across the area including care to vulnerable adults and children, education, the disposal and collection of waste, household waste recycling, economic development, housing and support for the homeless.

While the council is in a stable position now, it is recognised that the Covid pandemic has had a profound effect on societies and economies around the world and this presents some uncertainty in the medium term.

However, the council believes that by being prudent it can be in the best position possible as it moves forward.

The budget further develops firm financial foundations for the council as it settles into its second year following the reorganisation of local government in Northamptonshire.

Proposals focus on further transformation of services as well as developing policies around the authority's corporate plan.

The council's commitment to tackling the effects of climate change is emphasised with a dedicated pot of £1 million over the next three years to be invested in moving towards net carbon zero.

The council is also investing in Northamptonshire Children's Trust to help deliver service improvements for some of our most vulnerable children and young people.

Council Tax

It is proposed that council tax is increased by 2.99%, which includes the adult social care precept of 1%.

This would contribute around £5.2m per annum and would represent a Band D level of Council Tax for North Northamptonshire Council of £1,578.73 for 2022/23.

This is an increase of £45.83 (equivalent to £0.88 per week) from the Band D Council Tax level of £1,532.90 in 2021/22.

This Band D figure does not include the Council Tax for individual Town and Parish Councils or the Council Tax set for Fire and Police by the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

There is no change to the Local Council Tax Support Scheme which will continue at 25%.

Next steps

This consultation will run from 23 December until midnight on Friday, 28 January, 2022 with the Executive then meeting on 10 February to consider final budget proposals for recommendation to Full Council on 24 February.

The main proposals are:

- To increase Council Tax by 2.99%, comprising a 'core' Council Tax increase of 1.99% covering all services and a further 1% for the adult social care precept, which is the maximum amount permitted. This would contribute around £5.2m per annum and would represent a Band D level of Council Tax of £1,578.73 in 2022/23, or the equivalent of £30.36 per week.
- Draft Capital Programme 2022-25

Your feedback on this consultation is really important to us, and all consultation feedback will be analysed and considered, and will help Councillors make a final decision on the budget at the North Northamptonshire Council Full Council meeting on 24 February 2022. This meeting is held in public and anyone wishing to speak at the meeting must contact democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk once the agenda is issued on the Council's website on 16 February 2022. Details of how the public can address the meeting will be given on the agenda.

Related Documents

Please read the related documents to gain a better understanding of the budget proposals before you comment on them.

- [Draft Budget 2022-23 and Medium-Term Financial Plan](#), and its appendices:
 - [Appendix A - Draft Budget Summary 2022-23](#)
 - [Appendix B - List of Proposals](#), which contains the full list of budget proposals
 - [Appendix D - Dedicated Schools Grant](#)
 - [Appendix E – Equality Screening Assessment](#)
 - [Addendum - Budget Update 2022-23 - following publication of the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement](#)
- [Capital Programme 2022-25](#), and its appendices:
 - [Appendix A - Capital Programme 2022-25](#)
 - [Appendix B](#) – is regarding the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme 2022-25. Council tenants will be consulted via a targeted consultation on the HRA proposals via their respective Tenant Forum's
 - [Appendix C - Development Pool](#)

Have your say

The following sections gives details of the budget proposals. Please tell us your views by completing this questionnaire. You do not have to answer all of the questions or give us your feedback on every section. If you do not wish to answer a question or give feedback on a specific section, then you can skip those questions and move on to the next section.

This questionnaire focusses on the new proposals for the draft budget 2022-23 that will likely affect residents and service users. However, you can comment on anything within the Draft Budget in the comment boxes.

Your feedback will be part of a report with many other people's feedback, so you will not be personally identified.

You can also access this online questionnaire free of charge at any North Northamptonshire Council library. Due to current restrictions, customers are asked to check the opening times of the library you wish to visit and book an appointment in advance. Please see the [Library website](#) or telephone 0300 126 3000 to check times and make a booking.

Alternatively, you can email or send your comments in by post using the contact details below, or by handing it in to one of North Northamptonshire Council's libraries.

You can also hold your own group discussion with others and provide your joint feedback either by completing the online [Group Facilitator's Feedback Form](#) or by downloading the PDF version below and emailing or posting the form back to us.

If you have any queries, comments or would like a copy of this questionnaire in another format (including paper, easy read or large print) you can contact us by email, post or telephone. Our contact details are as follows:

Email address: CET@northnorthants.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 126 3000

Postal address:

Budget Consultation Response
North Northamptonshire Council
Sheerness House
Meadow Road
Kettering
NN16 8TL

The deadline for completing this questionnaire is midnight **28 January 2022**.

For information about how consultation and engagement responses are managed, please see the [consultation and engagement privacy notice](#).

Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.

About you

Q. Are you: Please tick (✓) all that apply

There were 490 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
A local resident	447	91.2%
A service user	38	7.8%
A North Northamptonshire Council employee	82	16.7%
A North Northamptonshire Council Councillor	3	0.6%
A representative of a Town/Parish Council	2	0.4%
A Town or Parish Councillor	10	2.0%
A representative of the voluntary sector or a community organisation	14	2.9%
A representative of the local business community	7	1.4%
A representative of a health partner organisation (e.g. Clinical Commissioning Group, Mental Health Trust)	0	0.0%
	3	0.6%
A representative of a user group	2	0.4%
Other (please give details below)	447	91.2%

Other:

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northamptonshire VCSE Assembly • householder |
|---|

Proposed increase to Council Tax

The Council is proposing to increase Council Tax up to the level currently allowed by the government, without triggering a referendum – 2.99%. This increased rate includes a **general increase of 1.99%** and the allowable **adult social care precept increase, which is 1%**.

The Council Tax increase will contribute around £5.2m per annum which will be used to protect existing service levels or invest in local services.

What would a 2.99% increase mean for Council Tax Bands?

As an example, a Band D level of Council Tax for North Northamptonshire Council of £1,578.73 in 2022/23 is equivalent to £30.36 per week. The increase on an average Band D property across the area is £45.83, which is a weekly increase of £0.88p. This Band D figure does not include the Council Tax for individual town and parish councils or the Council Tax set for fire and police by the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

The following table shows what the proposed 2.99% increase would be for each Council Tax Band.

Band	Annual increase	Weekly increase
A	£30.55	£0.59
B	£35.65	£0.69
C	£40.74	£0.78
D	£45.83	£0.88
E	£56.01	£1.08
F	£66.20	£1.27
G	£76.38	£1.47
H	£91.66	£1.76

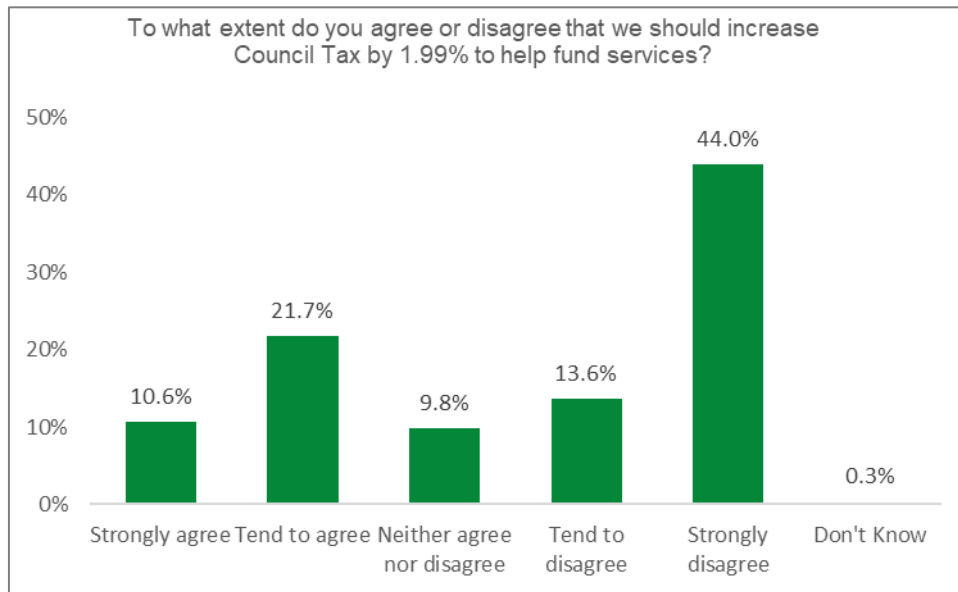
The Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) replaced Council Tax benefit in 2013. Council Tax benefit was a nationally prescribed scheme, whereas LCTRS is a local scheme set at the discretion of the Council. The scheme applies to working age claimants. Eligible pensioners continue to receive up to 100% Council Tax support depending on the levels of income they receive.

The proposed Council Tax increase of 2.99% relates to two elements - the core increase of 1.99% to support all services and a further 1% for Adult Social Care. The following questions will consider each element in turn.

Q. To what extent do you agree or disagree that we should increase Council Tax by 1.99% to help fund services? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

What would a 1.99% increase mean for Council Tax Bands?		
As an example, a 1.99% general increase would result in an increase of £30.50 per year (£0.59p per week) for 2022/23 for the average Band D Council Tax payer.		
The following table shows what the proposed 1.99% increase would be for each Council Tax Band.		
Band	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase
A	£20.33	£0.39
B	£23.72	£0.46
C	£27.11	£0.52
D	£30.50	£0.59
E	£37.28	£0.72
F	£44.06	£0.85
G	£50.83	£0.98
H	£61.00	£1.17

There were 368 responses to this question.



	Response number	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	39	10.6%
Tend to agree	80	21.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	36	9.8%
Tend to disagree	50	13.6%
Strongly disagree	162	44.0%
Don't know	1	0.3%

Q. If you would like to tell us why you answered the previous question in the way that you did, please do so here:

There were 220 responses to this question.

Strongly agree/ Tend to agree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the money went to services then yes. But my concern is money has and will go to top wage earners and not to lower wage earners which you still continue to avoid with delays. Surely wages should have been organised low to high not the other way round. • Due to most of the population within North Northants we cannot afford to pay to much of an increase as wages have not risen with inflation, at present most of us are struggling to Paul without robbing Peter. • Provided the increase is for increased services, then that is what local authorities are for. • Service cost an are always increasing. I would support this increase in order to deliver good ,reliable services. • I can ill afford any increase to my monthly outgoings but Public Services must be paid for and Social Care is in desperate need of "fixing". I would feel happier about handing over my money though if some other Council outgoings were reviewed. I am thinking particularly about Direct Payments for "Carers" to go on holiday every year or Personal Budgets paid out to family members to provide "care". I have not

been on holiday since 2008, why should my Council Tax be doled out to other people to go every year?

- Services need to be paid for!
- The tax should increase as much as possible (allowed) so services especially for social care can be put in place.
Management of the services/finances and their use should however be subject to intense scrutiny.
- To preserve safeguarding families
- The increase is likely to be less than projected retail price inflation and I feel that some areas such as adult social care and children's services are under invested.
- This will help the council.
- Dealing with the effects of COVID is bound to entail additional costs. I would prefer a small increase to cutting back other services.
- Overall costs have increased significantly, however, it is very important that efficiency is maintained or increased so that Public funds are properly spent. As an example, I refer to 2 road/services in Kettering which I pass regularly. Workers standing around doing nothing but observing passing traffic is a regular occurrence. This time wasting cannot be allowed in any workplace.
- I am pleased that adult social care is gaining further much needed investment.
- At a time of comparatively high inflation it is necessary to raise the Tax. With the history of the old county council and its inability to balance the books, it is hoped that 1.99% is sufficient.
- I agree to the dedicated increase for social care - BUT it must be directed towards increased pay and conditions for the workforce. If this were part of the plan I would agree to an additional increase
- I agree with the proposed rise, as long as the money is well spent.
- we need to fund local services through taxation.
- I am a pensioner on a limited income but feel that the increase could even be a little more to further provide care for the elderly and most vulnerable in our society. Those families with very limited income can get help to pay whereas many can afford an increase equal to the miserly amount the state pension is increasing.
- As an 83 year old pensioner I regret the proposed increase but I suppose it is inevitable.
- I would agree to this small increase but I do believe the funds could be spent more wisely with better investment in social care and local services rather than spending on the running of the council itself, especially in light of the recent settlement for abuse of process.
- Understand that an increase is needed to meet the costs of new initiatives, fund inflationary pressures and replace loss of central government funding - however when wages are unlikely to increase by a similar amount local government need to appreciate that this represents a reduction in one's personal standard of living.
- If the extra funding is used judiciously, I have no objection to the rise. I sincerely hope some of it will be spent, for example, on repairing potholes in the County's streets, roads and pavements.
- We need to preserve the services we have like the Police, Fire NHS services, but I would like to see more money going into the welfare of Children like the Social Services to prevent more child neglect and cruelty. If we have to pay more for

these services then we should go ahead with the proposals from the council and support them and not be against them

- Need more money for start decent Street cleaning and definitely need more money for social care
- Will the council provide us with any information about the payment to a landlord due to errors made by ENC. Payment is being made from reserves. I'm assuming that this money would have been to benefit local residents so now there is a shortfall...

How would the money have benefited local residents if it had not had to be paid out due to the council's misconduct...

- There is a need for increased spending to improve local environments, infrastructure, facilities and resources.
- i have no issues with the council tax going up on a slight increase but where i strongly object is the crazy amounts that precepts are going up with absolutely no control. if we are now all one council then all precepts should be scrapped and lets be one
- In previous years NCC tried to keep the increases to the minimum and look what happened.
- Everything seems to be going up so it was pretty inevitable.
- It is an increase , which I expected , but I do hope yoi will spend the money as if it were your own!.

I also want to protest at why a home with 6 people pays the same as someone who has 2 people, grossly unfair !!

Also I want to know how HMO'S are taxed

- Last year, Wollaston (Wellingborough Borough) saw a rise of 8% so was hoping for a modest rise this time.

And I see nothing re: garden waste charge being applied in addition - good!

- I would agree that there needs to be a increase in coucil Tax to ensure the necessary services can continue to be provided, however this increase will have impact on poorer families.
- I am a state pensioner,I fully understand why things have to happen. Especially now comeing out of the Pandemic..
- We need to provide good services and make things accessible for all residents
- The revinue in council tax from the amount of news houses built in the last year should be sufficient as to not require any increases.
- Agree with an increase in adult social care funding and accept that the general increase is necessary.
- As long as it works we just need to feel we are getting a deal for our money
I would like to see the upkeep overall
Gardens,rubbish, etc be brought back to inhouse control current company not good
- Because we really don't have any choice with the government putting more and more taxation on the general public through reducing the contribution to local councils.
- Council always underfunded should raise it in line with inflation
- There is no reason for a 1% precept for Adult Social Care as National Insurance is being increased in April 2022 to cover this issue. Revise this unjustified increase please. Thanks.

- With an increase in energy and communications costs increasing, along with other costs, having a council tax increase almost at the government max is a bit much and will be for some.
- I don't like it but it is necessary
- Giving an amount of money that will be used in each area does not indicate how it will be spent
- Services need to be maintained. Service workers will expect a wage increase.
- If we want good services we all need to contribute
- The increase sounds fair with the cost of living increases

Neither agree nor disagree

- I have serious concerns about the fiscal responsibility and efficiency of local councils - especially given the recent fiasco in Northants.
There are regular reports in the media of other councils that spend recklessly, invest in dubious schemes, make wrong priorities and that have been grossly inefficient or wasteful.
What guarantee do we have that the new authority will be any better?
Councillors do not have the requisite knowledge or training to make many of these decisions - they are instead guided solely by ideology and personal whims.
This is not the best way to manage very large sums of Public money.
We need more transparency and oversight of councils and local authorities in general.
- Due to the current climate many families are struggling financially, inflation has shot up and unity bills have also. Families are having to use food banks on a regular basis so raising council tax as little as it seems in the table could put working class families another bill they can't meet . Perhaps those that are in higher bands who I would think may be more financially comfortable should bare more of the increase .
- You need to get more money from central government
- It depends on whether the issue of charging for green waste collection is resolved before April. I have to pay for this currently where as residents in Kettering, Corby and Wellingborough get a similar service for free.
- When the unitary organisation was created, we were told there would be savings from combining the County & District councils. So what happened to these savings?
- There is a need to collect additional income based on the budget you have prepared but significant savings could have been made
- An increase in isolation is not too onerous but taking into account the expected increases in fuel prices and the cost of food this will have an impact on lower paid residents.
- The council should freeze the council tax,by freezing staff wages,except social care staff,cutting non essential staff,freezing councillors allowances,
- I am long term disabled.
Receiving Means tested. E.S.A
Also the low level care PIP.
I have care that I pay Over £60 week.out of my income.
I live in Corby.
Last year was shocked to see I had To pay £20 month c tax.
I cut it to !£18 a month paying 12 months instead of 10 months.

<p>With all my other expenses. I am extremely concerned about heating or eating. I stay j 99%of my life. I have to have heating on as low as I cab during the day/evening.not overnight. I have taken as many steps as I can to reduce my expenditure. I am [age] ms plus a few minor health issues. I have to pay bedroom tax for second bedroom.in mu bungalow. Never been in debt but very concerned about paying for everything. I will have to contact adult care if I can no longer afford basically to live am alone. On benefit for no fault of my own. I would like consideration been taken to the long term Sick/ disabled. Am a vulnerable adult. Allowance for pensioners but feel we are the forgotten group.yes large but my life is worth living.Not just existing. Thanks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My main concern is the injustice of the East Northamptonshire residents paying for garden bins when none of the other areas pay. We now pay the same across the board in Council tax but don't have the same services. • because you will decide yourselves and expect us to pay • I agree that there needs to be more money for funding social care and projects, but it always seems to be the bottom end of the food chain picking up the bill! • There is no statement on exactly how this increase will 'help services.' • The increase does not include any improvements in services or othe benefits for residents or staff. The government settlement was relatively generous but does not make up for the costs and debts acrued by the county council bankrupted by the conservatives who still control the county council. I particularly object to the parsimonious LCTRS for non pensioners including the disabled at 25% when it was significantly higher in Wellinborough and Corby previously.
<p>Strongly disagree/ Tend to disagree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wasnt there a rather large CT increase last year too? • Wages and pensions are increasing at less than that rate. With energy price rises due this all adds up to a massive loss in annual income • "I think this is absolutely ridiculous increasing council tax every year and people's wages remain the same you are taking money from people who do not have it we have all suffered with the pandemic we do not have the money to constantly keep giving more. We can't afford this council tax is already expensive and now to increase it further is so unfair as if we do not have other bills and contributions were paying into this is affecting people's mental health but all you local authorities only care about revenue this is why there is a high rate of suicide because people literally are struggling to make ends meet. I totally disagree with this increase sickens me the fact that this is even a consideration." • We get less and less services for our money every year • Far too much money has been wasted on vanity projects such as Chester House and bringing in so called 'Consultants'. I fail to see why residents should keep subsidising these projects. • The unitary authority was supposed to cost less, not more. As for social care, I know some foster carers, they just milk the system to the sum of thousands over and above, social services just sign blank cheques because it is not their money.

So while the hard working man in the street is having his income squeezed, the public sector do not appear to suffer any wage or pension cuts.

- Services get less and less in the east of the county.
- Taxes go up, but for people in work wages dont.
- I think people who are single but occupy 3 bedroom social house should pay full council tax not get a discount
- All you do is waste money on an industrial scale. There is nothing to suggest this means value for money for the people of North Northants - the existing charges are bad enough but an increase? You have to be kidding. Services are rubbish. This is just more money to line your pockets.
- The budget proposals is a very broad church and does not appear to make concession to the retired residents who have fixed incomes and are facing cost increases across the whole spectrum.
My wife and I have £20,000 of income and have to we sillsupplement this with savings we made during our working lives.
- Money has been wasted in the past, and the new North Northamptonshire council was supposed to be getting things together to make things better. I've seen little evidence of this and believe the council needs to become more efficient to save money before asking residents to contribute more.
- North Northants council has yet to show they can be responsible with other people's money. I am disappointed to see that the proposed "efficiencies" have not actually saved the public any money as yet. The breakdown of spending does not clearly show where the additional 1.99% will be spent or why it is necessary.
- I also work for the local council and my salary will not have any incremental increases and at the moment we have only been offered 1.98%.
- The last County Council wasted rate payers money on vanity projects and by inept management, it is all too easy for the council pass the buck onto the ratepayers it is about time councils realized that throwing money at a problem is not a long term satisfactory solutioning, sort them selves out and cut back on wastage and unnecessary expenditure.
- Because, I understood that a lot of money was saved by merging the Councils. So I would like to know where has that money gone? You have also saved on the wage roll having lost many Council employees and a large percentage of Council employees have not had a wage review although top earners have. Your comments please?
- It is too much after previous and continued increases. It should be cut rather than increased and things better managed and reduce costly wastes etc
- The council got into this mess by thoughtless overspending on new offices please get out of it without rate payers footing the bill.
- Every day items, services, essentials and utility prices are going up in price i.e. becoming much more expensive. The liars in charge have broken all their manifesto promises or you wouldn't need to make these raises... Every day items, services, essentials and utility prices are going up in price i.e. becoming much more expensive. However wages in real terms are coming down i.e. they are now worth less per hour. Benefits for the ill, unemployed and the like are have been reduced by our nasty and greedy government ministers, We the people can't afford these increases at all; do we heat ourselves or feed ourselves? The only people getting richer are government ministers and their friends; ask them for the money you need

- I'm just reluctant to increase outgoings while a parallel increase in income to compensate for it remains uncertain (as I perceive it).
- Wages are not reflecting the same increase currently and this will add more strain to already tight incomes for residents across the area.
- On top of the council tax increase there will be a further increase by the Fire/Police and Town/Parish Councils. When people are not getting a pay rise.
- There are other ways the council could save money as opposed to increasing council tax
- Council Tax keeps going up each year more than the rate of wage rises.
- 2.99% is a full 1% higher than any pay offer being made at the moment and with other increases in the cost of living such as the much publicised increases in the cost of gas and electric, I believe this will put undue pressure on many. It also has to be considered that at this point the Police & Fire service have not added their potential increase and in real terms we could be looking more likely at a cost of somewhere between 3 & 3.5%.
- Living cost are continuing to rise above the inflation of pay. it is understood that there is and always was going to be a deficit when unitary happened but i feel the people are paying for the mistakes made that caused the reform. the increase in council tax could ultimately have a negative impact on other areas of the service as people struggle to pay higher rate on top of the financial struggles that covid has exasperated
- Having previously had an increase in council tax, with a pay increment that barely covered the increase, (it is becoming extremely difficult to cope with the rising costs that we are receiving such as cost of living, taxes etc) and we are not being provided with any salary increases.
- As finances have been affected over the past 2 years in households and salaries have not increased, I feel it is unfair to increase household bills for all.
- I'm frustrated at the fact that where I live we don't seem to reap any benefits of council tax. I feel that my cost of living is going up and up and yet as an employee of North Northants Council I have not had a pay rise to support me with the extra costs I am incurring. On the other hand I do feel that we need to support so many of the vulnerable groups in our communities so I am very torn as I don't wish to be selfish but also have to sustain my household too.
- There has been a severe lack of financial oversight or control in the past and this should be addressed before any further increases are permitted
- We are currently facing a cost of living crisis, with wage stagnation and inflation with our bills and this is another increase with any little benefit to our area. The documents provided only talk aboutthe cost pressures as a council you are facing and do not give any indication with a comparison to your latest forecast for this year, or a breakdown of costs that you are currently facing to be scrutisied. As a resident, how can i tell if you are currently being effective with spend?
- I work in local authority finance and I know there is already enough money in the system. All non statutory funcitons need to be cut first before asking for extra money. That smeans not fundng social care for anyone who the council is not legally obliged to support.
- What is the difference between the old council and new ... both want more and more money from my pocket but services in Wollaston are no different

- The council is clearly trying to recoup some of the costs associated with this case - <https://www.northantstelegraph.co.uk/news/people/council-pays-millions-to-former-east-northants-pub-boss-after-vendetta-ruined-him-3517245>
This is unacceptable and the council must not pass on this costs to residents of North Northants. PARTICULARLY not the residents that were not part of East Northants before the merger that was forced upon us.
- The councillor perpetrators who harassed, stalked, and defrauded [legal case] should pay this themselves.
- Why pay more for a very poor service. The roads are a disgrace. Kettering town centre is awful.
- With energy and food prices increasing at a substantial rate, along with an NI increase, a 2.99% increase will squeeze households even more as most have not seen wages or benefits increase to that extent.
- The waste by NNC is appalling. How much is the chief executive on per annum? and the £ MILLIONS owed to the recent court case? How many councillors are still on the pay role at NNC? They should be fired with no pension.
- Because this is to pay our for the absolutely disgusting treatment of [legal case] The dirty cllrs involved in this scandal should be made to pay at the VERY least.
- Costs of living, inflation, energy bills soar. Working people really don't need any more bills and tax increases.
- As pensioners we are asked to stretch our finances to cover extra council tax at almost £5 per month and heating bills which have risen £50 per month since October! This is not sustainable indefinitely.
- Totally inefficient and no uniformity in action plans ,it suggests some areas vote to do things differently and extremely inefficient and indefensible.
I.e. bin collections geddington compared to oundle,geddington is far superior!
- People can't afford these rises each year, cost of living is going up (especially gas), interest rates going up, wages going down with new social care tax, and council wasting money left, right and centre. Who will be paying for the persecution of [legal case] ?
- You don't do enough for the money we pay already ie call for the police if it's not drug or knife related they give you a crime number or visit your house days later or if your bins have been forgot to be emptied because you have two trucks come in your street and don't know where the boundaries are you ring up o please put your bin out for the next three days it will be emptied not good enough
- How a local council can consider increasing council tax at a time like this is beyond me. There must be other ways of saving money and I think a full budget review should be conducted to do this. I would start by reducing the number of councillors - do we really need small areas to be represented by (in some cases) 3 people?
I also think that the the council should sell the property it owns. A local council buying property, is not in their remit. A council essentially exists to provide services that the private sector would not ordinarily provide - it is not an investment vehicle. Sell the property and spend the money on local services.
- It's not enough. The rise needs to be higher to provide funding for essential services.
- I think, like everyone else has the council has to cut spending . The council are delivering less in service but stinging residents for more money. Rent out council properties for public use to raise funds

- Why should we pay more when the council leaders continue to waste money for a sense of grandeur. Not allowing themselves to be held accountable which was the reason for the previous failures. more services are being privatised so we pay more for a worse service as now directors need to make a profit
- Why 1% for social care when we will be paying 1.25% extra national insurance to supposedly cover this cost
- It is this increase and waste in money in creating the new North Northants Council that I object to. No doubt the proposed 1.99% increase will pay for yet more 'hot air' to be produced from this new ivory tower!
- You bankrupted the council a few years ago. Who knows what you'll do if this increase goes through. Absolutely no way should you be trusted with any money, let alone more money. You're a disgrace.
- We are struggling with all the increases and now council tax?? Too much
- Fed up of helping fund others when only just surviving
- Yet another unsustainable rise just as the cost of living is rising. Poverty in increasing
- Too much wastage by the council and too many over paid staff
- The salaries are stagnant. I do not use any of these council services. The only service I use is the bin collection - which I use about once in six weeks. My earnings do NOT entitle me for any help/benefits, as it is above average.
- Expensive enough for what we get
- 1. There's too much fly tipping due to shortage of bins and the new sizes of the bins and the fact the black bin is only emptied once a fortnight - if the waste want a bigger percentage they should be emptying the black bin weekly and switching between garden and recycling
- 2. We live in a place where the pizza delivery comes quicker than a police officer - police want an extra percentage they should come out quicker than they should – [relation] was attacked [place] in [year] were now in 2022 and I'm still waiting for a police officer to come and take a statement - people like police are supposed to make the community feel safe
- 3. Why should adult social care slack the most what because they are old they don't need the facilities they deserve
Council tax should be equally divided and if there's such a huge increase then people of the public should benefit what they are paying for
- Because it's not true. With the man winning millions in damages then the council tax will go higher
- You already have enough money off me and I cannot even get the basic service off you when needed. 3 months trying to sort out my missing bin. 12 months for a refund for my [relative] which you admit is due but will not pay!! Still waiting for someone to call me back regarding my deceased mother in laws council tax - 4 calls and 6 emails - no response.
Why should I pay for this type of service. In the private sector, you would be sacked and have no further money wasted on you!!!!
- Year on year increases in CT is yet another increase to households; the energy crisis will add an additional 50% increase in running costs, on top. Maybe look at the top management pay scales. This extra monies will not level up service offerings, why should the general public be subsidising business services.
- We shouldn't have to fund for services, you take enough money from us already

- Working people are struggling to pay bills and put food on their tables. To ask residents to pay more is a disgrace especially considering the financial mess the county is in if no fault of the residents. To ask those already struggling financially to make up the shortfall due to the incompetence and criminality of those put in power would be a complete kick in the teeth to residents of the county.
- Unitary is supposed save us a great deal of money, hence why spend millions doing it
- You don't offer value for money. The more money you take, the more you will waste.
- I am a single person running a 2 bed household alone. My salary has been blocked by the government from being increased multiple times since I began working and therefore hasn't reflected increases in inflation and the cost of general living.
- As a resident of kettering our council tax is already one of the highest in the country . With the cost of living going up putting up council tax will really affect the people who are already struggling to pay household bills. The county council has had its finance mismanaged and it is totally unacceptable to put council tax which already is high in order to generate more money
- The amount of money wasted by the council is appalling. Millions of pounds spent on litigation with a pub landlord. I know it was the previous council's problem, but as a tax payer I don't understand why we should pay for their mistakes. The individuals involved at the time should pay!
- Because the government is going to also impose tariffs for social care
- My general belief is that the council tax should be higher, in order to pay for a wider range of well-managed non-statutory services for the WHOLE community, thus stimulating a more thriving economy, rather than the dustbowl that we currently have.
- I don't have the money
- Cost of living is increasing dramatically for most people and this would just add more misery to people already struggling.
- People are already struggling with higher bills and food cost but not higher salaries. We never actually see anything being done with the money except for bin collection
- Low income family we struggle daily as it is with increase in energy bills even this increase can have a big affect on us
- I haven't seen an improvement in services with previous increases, if anything it has worsened. What is going to change to justify the increase?
- Council services are being cut all the time and putting the community especially the vulnerable at more risk.
The Council needs to reduce its outgoing from within first (ie the leadership)
- Because in addition to this there will be the Town Council addition plus the police and fire addition. So this will push the increase up. Last year we had a 6.7% increase which equated to £11 per month. It was called a levelling up increase but we are still paying for brown bins but Wellingborough are not!!!!The triple lock has been removed from pensions so senior citizens will receive a meagre 2 - 3% increase, energy bills are rising by 25%. Our services have not improved at all in the past year our roads are atrocious!!!
- with the curent situation regarding covid pandemic people out of jobs and low income wages this would mean more prssureon households meaning poverty less money for other bills ie gas electric

- All bills are going up along with inflation so another council tax rise is tough timing. Maybe more info on the breakdown of where it all goes like you posted through the letter box last year?
- With the heating bill increases that have already occurred and with more increases on the way people just do not have any more money to spare, in fact they need a reduction
- I feel as though the amount I pay is sufficient. Coming from [name of town], my council tax used to include the garden bin collection so I was not impressed when I found out I had to pay extra for this. If council tax is going up my garden bin should be collected.
- There is enough pressure on people with increase living costs without council tax too
- A Unitary Authority should be cheaper to administer by rationalising staff and Councillors working more efficiently. There seems to be little understanding of the high cost of the rises in taxes and other bills related to the high cost of living for normal families. An increase on Council tax plus an increase in the Police and Fire tax will increase taxes to above 2.99%. Most people cannot afford a penny more.
- Residents are already struggling to make ends meet with increase in cost of living and it is not necessary for the increase.
- The quality of adult social care has decrease over the years ,
The service is worse than it ever was,all access to service are accessible on line which can prove to be ridiculous , especially for those who don't have access to a computer or able to operate and navigate through these sites.
We carnt get a decent road or pavement to use but we had increase in council tax every year, an increase won't improve the service we get so no I will not pay for a increase I my taxes
- Ask the people if they really want to pay for "climate change" measures. Save that Million.
- We had such a large increase last year.
- At a time when utilities, fuel and other essential services are skyrocketing, to then add on more tax is unjust. It's no good giving the age old excuse of rising costs having to be passed down, because the people you are claiming to serve are the people who are being punished. The very people who's pay increases (if not pay cuts) are not enough to cover this. We simply cannot afford the increases, and will suffer financially, physically and emotionally from the increase.
- This increase is only 1 part there is Adult Care , Local council. and Police to add so 59p is just the start.
- With RPI now a whopping 7.5% and CPI 5.4% this doesn't seem to be enough!
- My salary has not gone up but my cost of living has gone up considerable more, this is another bill increase for my household. As the main income provider to meet just basic needs of my household it's another cost/ bill to pay.
- Year on year increases can't keep going on relentlessly, and as long central government refuse to give councils the funds they deserve, this ultimately becomes a self defeating exercise. As a pensioner, council tax now takes up a third of my annual government pension. This is without annual cost of living rises on everything else! It is not sustainable.
- Because we watch local services waste huge amounts of money. Eg re paving Kettering

- 1. Due to poor health I have dropped down to three day week and then will stop working in June, with a much reduced income where am I supposed to find the extra money.
- 2. There is some council owned land behind our house and this is never maintained, the over growth comes into our garden and our request to get this cleared falls on deaf ears. Not getting the service I am entitled to right now.
- I'm already paying higher council tax than other relatives with bigger and more expensive houses in Northamptonshire, as well as having to pay for a management company to look after all green spaces and upkeep of roads in the area. I already feel I'm not getting value for money from council tax, and this will only get worse if tax is increased even further
- Because every year the cost goes up. and we get less in return.. Roads falling apart. Rubbish public transport, streetlighting not maintained, crime rising, endless greenbelt developments without regard for local opinion or the health of our countryside..
- Because you have not levelled out garden waste bin charges and revenue could have been raised by charging all residents instead of a select few which is discriminatory and unfair.
- You are again putting our Council Tax up and cutting services instead. You need to chase the people who had nice holidays and the like with our money and never payed it back from Northampton County Council! We haven't forgotten.
- Currently North Northants Council are not demonstrating any value for money. I strongly believe that you need to demonstrate that you can manage the funding you have before demanding higher payments from residents who are ill serviced by you.
- Every year you state that it is to maintain and improve services, when all that happens is that the service decreases. Roads, pavement conditions are appalling, totally unnecessary draconian rules at recycling centres meaning that our once pleasant countryside is blighted with fly tipping, and you'll waste thousands of pounds of taxpayers money trying to get one conviction from a fly tip instead of putting that money into letting people use the recycling centres more freely thus alleviating much of the problem. Leave a bin lid 2 inches open and it doesn't get emptied. Little wonder you have lost much public support.
- Too many additional admin posts not well considered budget
- I do not see why my council tax will increase and yet I am still getting a lesser service than other areas (brown garden waste) in my opinion you have had enough time to deal with this as usual you want more money and I get nothing in return
- The level of service provided in my area is different to others within the same council. Why should mine when services around me are limited.
- Because we are not getting the services we should and other councils do not pay for their brown bin to be emptied
- It was said that the reorganisation of local government into the two unitary authorities instead of the County Council would lead to savings of between £40m to £85m a year. Surely these 'savings' should be used to fund local services instead of an increase in council tax at a time when the cost of living is increasing dramatically? Especially after a 4.99% increase last year after the government exemption.

There appears to have been little attempt to explain how the reorganisation has actually benefitted residents, and this leaves me wondering what exactly residents are paying for.

- What do we get for council tax have to pay for garden bins .The roads are terrible with potholes and street lighting is very poor
- Services have not been levelled across the county previously split in to separate councils meaning those who lived in east Northants council previously have to pay for garden waste which equates to more than the rise
- Services offered have greatly diminished in the level of coverage.
- I don't mind the 1 percent for social care but I live in Irthlingborough and don't see why I should have an increase for other services when we don't receive as much in the way of services as other parts, eg, Wellingborough. I believe their garden waste collections are free whilst we have to pay !
- As an Irthlingborough resident, year after year we pay the highest amount of council tax for no additional benefits. Some services offered to neighbouring areas are free (garden waste collection for example) but have to be paid for by Irthlingborough residents, in addition to the inflated council tax levy. If you are looking for support regarding an increase in the council tax, you need to begin by aligning the current charges and services first.
- The Unitary Council split was expected to provide greater efficiency and cost savings. Not an apparent reduction in services and increase in expenditure.
- The services are getting worse. West Northamptonshire get garden waste included in their council tax we do not. Roads are worse, money needs to be spent better and not by charging customers more.
- Us residents have been hit with increases from left to right. How can you justify these increases every year! The state of the roads around irthlingborough is a joke. We pay more for services that Wellingborough get included for free. (Green waste) not acceptable at all.
- There was a huge increase last year.
- Northamptonshire residents have already received unreasonably and exceptionally high increases in the prior year due to the local authorities own failings and there are further increases this year, with no improvement to services, in fact services provided are less than adequate and do not represent value for money. Also why are we (Irthlingborough residents) still having to pay for a brown bin, yet other areas which are also included in the north northants remit, pay nothing. How is this fair? The amount paid for council tax is disgraceful.
- The proposed rise is below the current level of inflation, so it would seem a fall in revenue in real terms. No one likes cost rises, but personally I don't want to see reduction in services. And I would like to those providing services, paid at least the living wage.
- I live in Irthlingborough and have to pay an additional cost on top of my council tax to have my garden waste taken away. Since the council's have merged other areas for example Wellingborough will still get this as part of their council tax again this year? We are not receiving the same services as others at the same cost, why? You increased my council tax, last year, to make the cost unified across the towns but not the services? You have had a year to sort this out but still not sorted? This will now be my second year of council tax with the new North Northamptonshire council but already paid £55 more than other residents in a

different area but same band so I can have my garden waste collected. By the end of the council tax year in 2023 I will have paid £110 more, how is this fair?

- In the past few years everyone has struggled and cost of living is rising it's crazy! So many people are in poverty already and yet more price rises.
- The constant rises in everything are causing people to suffer, its enough with the utilities being horrendously risen people don't have the money to keep up with these rises. Council tax is astronomical as it is
- Irthlingborough does not get the services that it should get.
- Why is more not being done to standardise services following the merger? Why, as a former East Northamptonshire District Council resident am I still paying £55 per year for a garden waste bin. Wellingborough, Corby and Kettering residents are not. This increase is effectively over 4% for me given that extra charge I have to pay for a garden waste bin, plus the 1% social care precept.
- Because an increase in pay doesn't mean an increase in the already non existent services we receive
- How are we pensioners on fixed income supposed to find this increase along with the high cost of living, fuel ,food .excetera ?
- The cost of living right now is increasing well beyond pay rises. There should be no rise in council tax this year.
- Because the Council will only squander it on things that don't benefit the residents
- The council tax that we are paying is absolutely disgusting. It is way too high & it's coming at a time where utility bills are shooting through the roof. My landlord wants to put up my rent by £200!! With that & everything else going up I can see my family struggling like we've never struggled before. There is nothing bringing people into the town which should be a priority. Bring back our market & don't rip the traders off with stupid fees. Get the traffic wardens out there and make money from fines. There's plenty in the area that park where they like & where they shouldn't. I think you need to look at what other councils are doing.
- Adult social care should not ban e increase, as we are going to pay through NI increase this April.
The fact local and Central Government get to slices of the cake from us
- The increase never goes towards services, most of the money raised is wasted
- Because increases seem to make no difference to the despicable service in my area. The school is rubbish, police don't respond, council don't respond. No amenities in our town. My town does not get the same services as others so why should we pay. Let's face we're paying for the criminals that were pocketing our money twice over. Yet if I miss a council tax payment I would be prosecuted, noone would pay it for me. Are you ever going to address our issues or shall you just keep making us pay for an awful service and continue to ignore our issues?
- I strongly disagree and reject this proposal for council tax increase. Families and people are under heaving financial pressure, petrol prices risen, gas / electricity prises risen, mortgage rates risen, COVID impact resulting in sick pay or loss of work causing financial burden. Streets still dirty in Wellingborough town area, lights are still off in some places - roads are congested - it doesn't feel like we are getting value for money at the moment.
- You waste quite enough money on over staffed departments with inflated salaries and pensions.
Plus with the current increases in the cost of living you need to cut your cloth according you cannot just keep squeezing more and more out of people.

- There is too much waste in the local Council I have seen no savings from the merger of effectively 5 Councils into one which should produce substantial economies of scale from management posts and estates
- The council tax is unaffordable a month for working families i do not think this is acceptable rising the council tax again
- I feel that it is awful to have to have a 3% increase in council tax when there is no chance that council staff salaries will increase by 3%. This after years of public sector pay freezes is disgraceful.
- East Northants residents already had an enormous increase when had the enforced change to north Northants. A lot of our facilities have been withdrawn and the roads are very poorly maintained. I wouldn't be happy at all with an increase
- Council tax is already too high
- there is now an ever increasing price of energy which is hitting the public very hard without further increase in council tax to contend with
- I do not believe that we get value for the money that we already pay.
Bin collection is atrocious and now you also want us to pay additional money for that service and increase council tax too.
LA staff are treated appallingly and are vastly understaffed in some areas whilst there are way too many top level staff and not enough staff on the ground to ensure that services run smoothly and with value for money.
Libraries have been closed, childrens services cut back the list goes on and on.
For too many years top level staff have paid themselves well and not considered the true value of services provided. There have been numerous cover ups and lots of housing plans gone through which are said not to be of impact to local schools and roads which is frankly untrue. The Farndish Rd development in Irchester being just one of many.
The cost of council tax has risen above the rate of inflation for way too long. Those who work hard to pay their way are being hammered constantly and made worse off and for what better services? There are no better services that are visible.
The local councillors only seem to be interested in what will be their own advances the Authorities should be ashamed and made fully accountable for their actions and proper standards of service be provided; not just take folks money at a higher rate each year.
- I think this is disgusting we shouldn't have to pay
- The proposed increase has already been wasted by paying an extortionate sum of money to cover up for the past malfeasance of the former ENC, before increasing the burden on the local residents, what steps has or will NNC be taking to recover these losses from the responsible individuals including the former leaders (for example forfeiture of pension and benefits, reclamation of costs and other asset seizures)?
- It will effect the working class people as it is already hard for some people to make ends meet as they are less work and the cost of living is high with no increase in salary
- Lost job due to poor mental health, no support, drawing private pension early, increased pressure on food heating already struggling and worrying. bin collectors do a fantastic, thorough job. Put a charge on garden waste collection instead like other councils first and use that money? An offer of solution not aggro to you.
Thanks

- The increase to council tax is needed as a result of the failings of East Northants Council. Why should residents stump the bill of an inept, arrogant group of people who made bad decisions and were corrupt. How dare you put this on residents shoulders! I am disgusted at the audacity.
- Usually I have no issues with the rise, however this years hikes should be held due to the cost of living going up dramatically from Brexit and the pandemic. Councils should be looking at ways to save money. Not spend more! Employ a better procurement team to challenge current prices and costs going forward. Look for better deals etc and look for ways to reduce the council tax. Get residents on your side, rather than push them further into debt.
- Because of your stupidity why should honestly working people pay extra - already we pay to much for the worst town centre in the country
- When residents pay more the services get worse, it only pays the council staff wages.
- I just feel that council tax payers are being penalised due to Northamptonshire county council being unable to balance their books before it became north Northamptonshire council & west Northamptonshire council.
It is unfair to penalise council taxpayers due to the councils incompetence.
- Struggling to at the minute heating bill has gone up, everyday essentials have gone up but my wages haven't!! There has been no movement on them for 2 years!!
- We already pay enough
- How do you expect pensioners to be able to afford this increase, the Fire and Police Commissioners increase, fuel cost increases, and all the other cost of living increases that are on the way when the government have given 3.1% increase in pensions from next April which is approx £5 per week. Time to live within your means like the BBC is being told.
- Residents are facing extremely high increases in the cost of living, and wages are no where near the level of costs increase. Placing the costs burden to the maximum level is inappropriate. The funding needs to be from Central Government. The cuts since around 2010 of around 40% to Local Government is at the root cause of the increase suggested.
- Appreciating all the issues with pandemic etc the public cannot afford anymore rises we work hard and money is thrown down the drain this money can be made elsewhere with better management
- The cost of everything is rising at the moment. We had a large increase in council tax last year and a further increase at this already difficult time is inappropriate.
- Any further cost going up push families into more financial trouble
- I CANNOT afford an increase. I haven't had a pay rise in 10 years
- Previous increases have led to poorer services. I can't see any reason to believe the council have suddenly gained sufficient capability to change that.
- Not enough service in area
- No increase in wages and cost of living rising sharply!
- "My payments continue to rise year on year but I see little benefit.
- East Northants still have to pay for a brown refuse bins when other areas are getting theirs free.. Its disgusting!"

Don't know

- *No comments were received*

Q. If you feel this proposal would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be, along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 146 responses to this question.

- Due to Covid and people struggling
- My niece lives with me, but i recently lost my husband and so i have lost an income. Although i am not on minimum pay, wages are a serious concern on how i am to pay the bills with all the pending increases and the minimum the Council is prepared to pay its employees.
- The proposal will have a negative impact on people's finances as we do not have money council tax is already expensive. There is no data to show the
- money we are currently contributing is making a difference to social care in the first place. This will have a negative impact on people's mental health the only suggestion I have is to NOT increase the council tax given human being a break people are struggling to make ends meet.
- For example an increase to fund the setting up of an architects department will save NNC millions of pounds in the future. A fact that has been proven in the local Authorities that have reintroduced them. If nothing else they provide in-house advice to other offers and to councillors about architecture and the built environment that no other profession is qualified in.
- We are all struggling to pay bills but I don't see the council cutting an unnecessary overstuffed workforce who are always off sick
- There are always winners and losers , the trisck is to create more winner/benefits to the larger group of users and to support thos in hardship or or worse off by other means.
- 1.Residents in rural areas have seen nothing and for those less affluent, this increase plus those planned for parish precepts are a real worry.
2. Bring affordable buses into the old East Northants villages, so people can endeavour to get gainful employment.
- It will on the lesser well off. Government should incorporate it in the tax system.
- Robbing the public will always have negative impacts, the NNC should cut its coat to the cloth.
- less services - pavements all cracked - leading to accidents - then pay outs. People need to take more responsibility for their own health, walking, keeping fit, stop smoking - getting copd. Stop drinking, Stop eating so much junk food. Its a shame we can't have a local tax on some of these things. Corby should start paying for green/garden bins. More housing will attract more council tax but are there the services? Do we really want to concrete over green land? Causes flooding,less wildlfe etc
- This proposal will nave a negative impact on the funding of the essential services it is intended to fund.
If the council is so sure of its priorities, it should go for a financially realistic settlement reflecting the dire situation faced by funded services. Go for a proper referendum on the increased settlement show a bit of financial courage rather than hiding behind 'the gov maximum', adding extras to council tax in the small print.

- Positive it would make people think about occupying family homes and space they don't need
- what exactly is Adult Social Care precept,
- Help for any households struggling with the new increase
- Of course it's negative. More rubbish services costing more money. What a stupid question. Mitigate it by reducing the cost.
- This increase will squeeze the hard working who are already facing increasing bills (energy, fuel, food for example) with no benefitting service. An increase to something they will not see any advantage of. Services are in demise and have a no approved regardless of annual increases.
- We will have to reduce our spending in other sectors because of our fixed income It could be mitigated some what by reducing transport costs to and fro our town centre offering more local bus services for instance. Since we have none.
- We are paying more for less services. Streetlights have been switched off. Road surfacing is shocking, trying to contact you to sort out my sons school bus pass (you logged him incorrectly at the wrong school) was a farce.
Until the basics are fixed within the council, I don't believe you have the right to ask for more from the community.
- At a time when incomes are squeezed by rising inflation, the last thing anyone needs is a cash grab by local councils.
- With rises in council tax, rent, electricity and gas and no means of increasing my salary, I would have to look for a new job where my salary would cover all of the increases
- When you are told that by merging the Councils money is saved, there should be no reason on the increase. The money saved should be spent on a fair wage for the Council employees to be competitive to other similar jobs in the private sector.
- I am already in a 'heat or eat' position and can no longer afford travel to medical appts etc. These increases have become a greedy tradition, an excuse to normalise annual increases while services are diminished. This could all be mitigated by better, cost effective management
- None.
- Yes it will have a negative impact especially on the youth, the poor, the ill and the disabled people; see above comment for mitigation
- As above .
- Large numbers of people unwilling to pay resulting in legal costs, ill will etc. Can mitigate by being generous on spacing out payments, introducing relief for those under mitigating circumstances, flexibility I suppose.
- If there needs to be an increase, make it a smaller increase. The Council Tax already increased last year, it is not proportionate to incomes to make another increase so soon.
- People are struggling to pay the current rates, if the rates are increased then people are in more debt and you will would have more debt to recover as they wouldn't be able to afford the increase.
- Residents/ Media might be hard to manage - perhaps ensure we are making key statements to assure residents that the extra funding will be spent on things for their benefit.
- Review the number of managers employed by the council to save money

- Please see above response. Also my view would be that if the increase is too dramatic in the current financial climate you would be more likely to push more vulnerable families toward some of the support services offered by the authority and or charities and actually have the adverse affect of increasing cost to the authority. The organisation needs to become more commercially aware, offering not just the statutory services it is obliged to provide but also offer services that can generate real income. The stock of buildings currently held by the organisation could be either sold or transformed into commercial, income generating businesses. A bespoke wedding venue would be one such idea. (It has to be said many of the venues currently used for civil ceremonies and weddings are hardly romantic.) The money raised from selling some properties could be reinvested in others. Another idea would be to turn Newland Street in Kettering into a bus lane, this would get around the current issue with Hackney carriages having access, would allow ANPR cameras to be used for the issue of Penalty Charge Notices. Thus generating income that could be reinvested into vital highways, gain compliance and resolve the current customer dissatisfaction. Another consideration would be that whilst the funds being made available for carbon reduction are great, over a three year period are not that high. The government seem to be offering a lot of incentives to private companies and schemes with regard to climate change, if these same incentives are not being offered to local authorities could consideration be given to setting up "arms length companies" that could avail of them?
- more support for those who are struggling with debt and mental health issues. The wait to access services to support debt, mental health is not acceptable.
- This proposal will have a negative impact on all residents in North Northants, especially following the pandemic, people having lost jobs and been furloughed etc.
- People will have less money for other outgoings, such as food bills and other utilities.
- The negative impact it has on me is that I have not had a pay increase in seven years yet my living costs go up each year!
- Negative impact, you have high deprivation areas in your local area as indicated by the levelling up reports.
Nothing has changed, yet, their costs are going to increase, on top of utility bills, fuel and groceries. Without understanding what is currently being spent across the departments, how can you justify increasing this further? Where are the savings? Efficiencies promised as part of the amalgamation of the councils?
- It would have a positive impact on the hard working tax payer who is fed up with funding those who won't do it for themselves, charity is a personal thing and my taxes should not be used to help those less fortunate. I give lots of money to local charities and that is my choice it is not your choice to do this for me.
- get more efficient and stop wasting tax payers money on subsidising car parking in Wellingborough for example
- this will be hard on everyone who has not had a pay rise in years. All the low paid care staff and anyone on universal credits.
- The biggest negative impact is that not every household will receive any pay increases. Therefore an increase in bills can cause financial hardship.
- This would further erode whatever trust the residents of North Northants would have in their council to handle their money properly.
- There will be presumptive exodus of business activity and certainly deleterious impingement on nonprofit venues and activity.

- Cut the pay of the council leaders.
- As above. Suggest Council Tax is frozen for current year as last year was a significant of 4.99% if I recall correctly.
- Hold your cllrs responsible for their actions
- Your question already assumes that people may feel that this has a negative impact so it's most likely you know the answer to it yourself.
- A negative effect on domestic budgets!
- Negative impact would be going without food and/or heating, clothes etc. . Stop wasting tax payers money and use the monies collected more wisely.
- People do not have money in their pocket to fund this. With inflation rife and/or interest rates rising this rise will contribute yet another significant problem for them. The impact of not having money in your pocket is pretty obvious but particularly for the local shops (the few that are left) it could be devastating.
- I'm now unemployed and I can't afford to pay. As are many other people. Sell off some council assets. Cut costs and raise taxes as a last resort
- so taxes are going up , energy prices through the roof , food prices increasing . and you guys wants even more money for the same service and its clear on a daily basis the amount of money your wasting due to lack of accountability.
- 1.25% from government and 1% local council
- You have a history of corruption and bankruptcy. More money is an absolute no no for you lot.
- Less money to look after myself and family
- Higher tax rates for large companies
- Reduce staffing levels and sell redundant/empty council buildings either for development or reuse
- Giving the fact that council tax is based on the value of your house which is extremely unfair as someone who lives in a Band C house does not mean I have more money than someone living in Band A but merely down to circumstances and a government help to buy scheme as buying a house within in the lower bands is impossible due to them being sold to private landlords and being turned into HMO's the result being a bigger mortgage and living on a month to month wage hoping the bills can be covered, and lets face it it is not like I get any more for my money than someone in band A just an assumption I have more money which is not the case.
- It is mentioned above. Council tax should be calculated on the number of employed people living in that property. At the moment, even ten people can be living in a property, using council services x 10, but they just pay a set rate.
- Households are being squeezed for finances in 2022 with increased national insurance, high utility bills and high fuel bills for cars. Wages are generally not increasing so the cost of living is becoming a much higher percentage of income. I realise increases in council tax are inevitable.
- As above
- People all over the county, country and around the world are still struggling to make ends meet after almost two years of a pandemic. I don't believe that this is helpful to a single resident in Northamptonshire unless you are earning £100,000 + a year and do not already struggle. For every working class family or individual this increase is alot, when it's not needed. The increase last year and previous years is more than enough.

- Households are already struggling and are likely to do so further given the rise in energy prices expected.
- As someone who is unable to work, and struggles with making payments currently, this would add further burden personally and to a high proportion of Households; not to mention NI contribution increase, utilities increase, cost of living exponentially rising. Working from home has seen above the average 4.6% rise. Increase by 1% for the adult services, is acceptable.
Rather than a blanket increase, look at NHS point of contact charging, this would reduce the 7.2 million missed appointments costing £216million a year! There's your savings, and improved service! should also see an increase, and possibly reduce the wage bill of the council
- It would have a negative impact on many people, it would put people out of pocket. I'm loving paycheck to paycheck as it is
- The council will be taking money from people struggling. It would be so wrong to do this
- You are taking money from people already struggling from higher food, fuel and energy prices along with higher taxes from the government. More residents are going to struggle if you raise their taxes. You can mitigate it by cutting your services instead.
- Myself and thousands of others will struggle with such a big rise! I've worked since 13 and never claimed a penny....
- It will have a negative impact on residents who are already finding paying household bill a struggle. Many people are on low income with energy price rises , national insurance tax rise coming this is the totally the wrong time to put council tax up just because everything else is going up . In the past when increases have occurred I have not seen any improvement to the area where I live so this increase is total unjustified and come at the wrong time .
- The working population will be the ones suffering
- Reduction in personal standard of living - loss of income available to spend locally affecting businesses in N Northants.
- The council appears to have the limited overall objectives of delivering statutory services and charging as little council tax as possible. Since most statutory services (with the exception of dust bins and street lighting) are only available for a very small proportion of the population, this means that the majority receive very poor value for money. What is actually needed in the area is an improved and fully up to date integrated local transport system, sensible addressing of the commercial depression in the town centres (particularly in Kettering), restored Trading Standards services, improved libraries and accessibility to residents (by public transport) of public facilities at times when they are actually operating. The way ahead, therefore, is to stimulate the local economy by providing carefully managed non-statutory services in the above areas, paid for through the council tax where appropriate. Simply trying to "dine out" on low(ish) council tax is going to lead to further decline, in an area which is already under-invested, ugly, dirty, over-criminalised and poor.
- With everything going up I am sure people are going to find things hard, but with careful budgeting then these council tax rises should not be a problem. If people can afford luxury mobile then the safety and welfare of children should not be a problem
- I am skint I cannot afford another bill to rise

- Do not increase its a struggle to pay bills already without another increase
- Fuel price hikes, unemployment (loss of incomes) are impacting every household in the county and country (unless very well off).
Adding further financial burden (even small small increases) will force more people into poverty.
- I have given the reasons above you can't keep squeezing the retired fraternity. I feel that councillors allowances should be reviewed - a blanket £12,500 a year for just attending one meeting is wholly wrong. The law needs changing to sort this as it is breeding complacency. Councillors should account for every penny of their allowance as it is public money.
- with the curent situation regarding covid pandemic people out of jobs and low income wages this would mean more prssureon households meaning poverty less money for other bills ie gas electric
- Pushing low income families into futher poverty
- Personally council tax is one of my big bills so any increase is noticeable and could make me and others have to chose between heating or eating
- Whilst the increase in the cost of this element does not seem to be very large in terms of the weekly change, there is also the 1% increase for social care to consider, plus the ever increasing cost of living: significantly higher gas and electricity charges, rising petrol and diesel costs, prescription charges, increasing food prices and the rise in costs of everything that is imported. Wages are not keeping pace with these rising costs, particularly in the lower paid and public sector jobs.
- its only the precepts for me
- So called improvement projects like Kettering High Street are just a waste of money, when the Council cannot even keep the streets and car parks clean. Parking costs in Kettering are destroying the foot fall in the town centre and the filth of litter everywhere (School Lane car park) are a disgrace. Cut out the waste of new projects and get some of the basics done first. Cut the number of Councillors and reduce their expenses.
- It will be increasing stress for residents who are already struggling to pay the current council tax payments. You will compounding to the suffering of people who have already been so impacted on the situation that we have all been affected by. This will then impact on the wellbeing of all residents young and old.
- Those on low income will not be able to afford to pay the increase ,young families and elderly in fact all residents will feel the pinch we had our energy bill rise by 50percent, where will the extra money come from to pay for these extra charges. It appears all these increase are imposed upon us with very little regards to how we feed ours selves.
- Wages are not increasing yet inflation and everything else is sky rocketing. Why not bring the brown bins in line and charge every one who wishes to use the service. This will genirate extra income. Instead of just charging the East northants area whilst the others get the service for free!
- As above
- With all other increases and more tax to pay this increase will not help the lower paid .
- NNC unable to provide adequate services
- Increase will have impact on poorer families.

- As above.
- After the past decade of austerity which disproportionately impacted the lower wage earners it's about time that higher taxes were targeted at the higher earners.
- See above comments which affect thousands of constituents. Ever thought of reducing payments for senior citizens, or base payments on actual services used. How about some creative thinking for once, not same old same old. Even the Tax Payers Alliance believes the current system of council tax is a complete sham!
- Cost of living increasingly enormously and its cruel to increase another bill
- People will struggle to find the extra money, council should look at improving efficiency
- As stated above, it's already unfair that we are paying full and more expensive council tax rates, the only way to make it fairer would be to give a discount to people who are also paying private management fees for services that should be (and in a large number of areas, are) provided by the local council
- More tax for less service as always
- As per my comment above, charge everyone the same for a service you provide.
- People will get fed up with you and you are being greedy. We know you are getting thousands for the Migrants and the Afghan resettlement programmes.
- The bills and tax burden on people far outstrips any wage increases. To further burden people would be obscene and unwarranted. North Northans Council need to be more prudent with thier spending on current budgets. A lot of unnecessary spending has taken place visibly around Corby when funding could be better put to use in the community. There are also many houses with multiple occupancy which go uninvestigated when reported, perhaps this additional revenue stream should be tapped?
- I have answered this above.
- Reduce admin overhead not so many new directors
- The best thing you can do is make services the same to everyone across the council. Brown bins for garden waste paying extra should be scrapped. Council had a year to decide how to even out but hasn't. Now wanting to charge areas more but still same services?
- You are taking more money from people who don't have it with all the price increases
- Sugfestion would be to remove the free garden waste collection for all Northants to raise money that way
- Aware if you made the long term sick/disabled.
Pay less would have an extra burden on the budget.
1%is very low for adult social care.I not allowed to use excess money I. My social care account.
It is my payment that increase the balance and j have to pay money back .which I have struggled to put In
- Review and re level the charges and services currently offered to each area within the county instead of yet another unfair blanket increase.
- Adult social care and policing should be separate for north northamptonshire, not amalgamated in with Northampton and other high cost-drain centres. Otherwise the unitary model simply quadruples job roles while retaining the outdated status quo residents voted to break away from.

- Charge developers more money. The amount of new builds around here, building companies are making huge profits and then residents are left to foot the bill. Developers, builders etc should be making less profit. Every new house should have solar panels installed and developers should be made to maintain local roads that they damage with heavy goods vehicles.
- I will strongly consider gathering locals and protesting.
- Cost of living has already raised a lot this would just push households past their limits
- Make all the services and costs the same across the whole of North Northamptonshire and I will be happy to pay the increase
- It's going to make the difference between some families eating or not. No one should be prioritising a bill over living life.
- As above
- Fine
- Cost of living is rising whilst wages aren't and there is nothing extra to show for it
- I am not entirely sure where I am supposed to be finding the money for all these increases, because my wages are definitely not rising at the same pace.
- If contributions had been increased to local voluntary organisations eg MIND, SERVE, Homestart etc it would have enabled more people to help each other and there would have been less pressure on the council to pay for some additional services. I believe this to be very short sighted.
- As I said National Insurance is being increased for this National issue!!
- Families budgets are more stretched now than they ever have been. An increase is not the right move at present.
- There are too many increases in bills and pensioners can't afford it
- There's a lot of people in Wellingborough that are decent & hard working who are just keeping their heads above water...an increase like this could cause a lot of problems with people's mental health if they start getting into debt & having money worries.
- Drop the increase in adult social care
- We are already on a band 5, which is unjust and wrongly banded - as it's the only one in our close on that band. We are already paying so much more than a lot of people and get nothing more or extra for it. We cannot afford this extra with all the other extra cost increases rises. The wages have not gone up to reflect paying for all these rises
- Yes, as a family of 3 with 2 adults working full time we are financially struggling as it is and with bills on the rise I do not see how you can justify doing this to people.
- We need to make Northamptonshire a place that people want to live and work in. The Council needs to take a look at itself and start caring again.
- It is another cost on top of a number of others; the negative impact will be the perspective of people who already find a disorganised and chaotic council that is impossible to contact. The disorder caused by the re'ordering' of the councils has not gone down well, and people find it impossible to get hold of the help they need, but see all the new logos on the vans and paperwork and wonder if they're taxes are being spent wisely.
- Managers Council leaders have no incentive to be more efficient if granted continual growth

- Increasing council tax salaries inline with the % increase we are expected to be paying.
- Less money for struggling families
- An increase would make it even worse for the public to contend with due to massive increases in the cost of energy and fuel and would be the straw that broke the camels back for many people
- See above. Everyone is worse off financially yet you want to make this even worse when you already provide sub service standards. If folks could see housing available for all who need it and bins empty each week at the correct times and recycling centres open all week then there may be more support given. You will end up with more folks being taken to court for non payment if you keep increasing the tax
- It will put more people into poverty so they money your trying to raise would be more stretched as more people will need help
- Many householders are struggling as it is with spiraling bills. Increasing the Council tax will add more pressure to those already struggling.
- Trust is gone, your reputation is in tatters and I am embarrassed to say I live in Northamptonshire at the current time. Residents have already accepted increases to council tax. Yet another increase is unacceptable.
- It will add to the ever growing pressure of people not being able to afford homes. They will have to choose to pay their council tax or utility bills. Non payment of council tax is a criminal offence, potentially leading to prison. You're making people choose to be locked up or heat their homes for their families health.
- Money we give already is not being used in the right way, the town is going backwards due to kid management from the council
- When the police and crime commissioner puts there increase in we never see more police on the beat.
- How much did it cost to rebrand when the councils merged? I'm sure the tax payer didn't agree to that costing
- It would be in addition to the household costs that has significantly increase in the recent years - electricity, gas, fuel, insurance, groceries etc.
- If the money is not assigned in a 'visible' manner (where you can see the effects the increase has had, such as increased bus services, road being looked after by removal of pot holes, re painting of markings, making public areas more presentable as well as accessible and just generally reinvesting into the town), you will just continue to loose the faith of the community. Be transparent and give an accessible way for as many people as possible to have their say.
- We already have to pick litter ourselves, street lighting is awful, and the care services are a disgrace. Pay carers what they are worth, bring down the amount of managers and ensure vulnerable people are supported to live healthy happy lives rather than the extra cost of agency
- This will have a financial impact, families are already worried due to the increase in cost of living. Extending free school meals to all primary children would help. Reduce council spending and improve resource management would reduce the need to increase costs for local residents.
- see above.

- Why does Irthlingborough have higher council tax than Raunds and Higham, it is smaller than Higham, larger than Raunds and provides no extra facilities than either.
Why have garden waste collections not been made comparable across the county?
- Putting a laud of druggies in area, not good for vulnerable children that have nothing to do in area
- Give East Northants residents free brown bins in line with the rest of North Northants... It's the least you can do

Q. To what extent do you agree or disagree that we should increase Council Tax by a further 1% as part of the Adult Social Care precept, which would be used to directly fund Adult Social Care? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

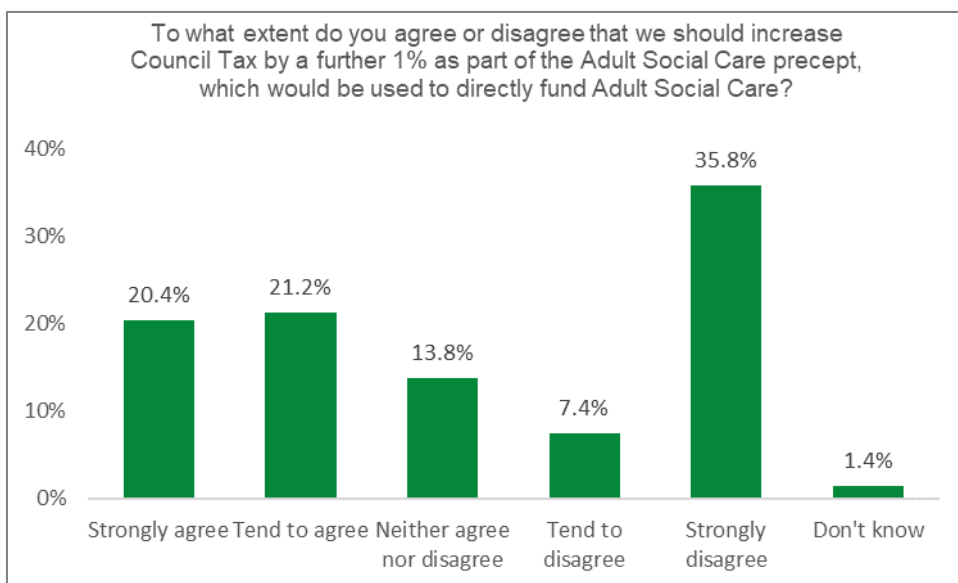
What would a 1% increase mean for a Band D property?

As an example, a 1% adult social care precept increase would result in an increase of £15.33 per year (£0.29p per week) for 2022/23 for the average Band D Council Tax payer.

The following table shows what the proposed 1.00% increase would be for each Council Tax Band.

Band	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase
A	£10.22	£0.20
B	£11.92	£0.23
C	£13.63	£0.26
D	£15.33	£0.29
E	£18.74	£0.36
F	£22.14	£0.43
G	£25.55	£0.49
H	£30.66	£0.59

There were 363 responses to this question.



	Response number	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	74	20.4%
Tend to agree	77	21.2%
Neither agree nor disagree	50	13.8%
Tend to disagree	27	7.4%
Strongly disagree	130	35.8%
Don't know	5	1.4%

Q. If you would like to tell us why you answered the previous question in the way that you did, please do so here:

There were 165 responses to this question.

Strongly agree/ Tend to agree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still not enough money given in this area. Care workers should get more money than minimum pay. I used to be a carer at home with no financial gain and still working full-time. There should be more assistance to those people too. • At least until the national government funds its health and wellbeing obligations properly is there any other option? • As before , previous councils have decided to 'freeze' the council tax often (my opinion) for political reason. I do not feel that the increase is unreasonable given current ,inflation, energy prices , etc • Again - services and social care has to be paid for. • As previous • Social care has been woefully neglected by this and previous government and councils. <p>I've seen first hand how stretched the services are, as I have recently cared for a terminally ill relative.</p> <p>Appointments and home visits were missed, and the wastage of funds in this area is frankly criminal.</p>

There should be budget to give vulnerable people the dignity and care they deserve, and since those in office have not tackled the issue, the tax payer is now being asked to bear the brunt of this serious problem.

- Only if this money is spent on wages and improvement to services. The living wage is not enough.
- Social Care is an important thing and should be funded adequately.
- Adult social care needs proper funding to provide compassionate care.
- I am happy to have my council tax increased to maintain vital services. I get disheartened however when I see the council squandering funds on useless vanity schemes or excessive personal expenses.
- Adult Social Care is understood to be significantly underfunded already.
- This is a service that is vital but employs people at living wage levels which does not reflect their worth. Any increase in this sector is to be welcomed.
- Previous decades of underinvestment in ASC has resulted in poorly rewarded care workers. Investment in the sector is required to enable providers to deliver efficient services.
- Always going to be a big cost for us, extra funding will be needed to deliver the best results so increase is reasonable.
- again - happy to pay more if it improves pay and conditions, but not to put profit into private providers
- the adult and child social care is equally as important. we need to ensure that these services are able to cope with demand.
- Adult social care requires a complete overhaul
- We need to adequately fund social care and the government won't.
- Care for all sectors of the population is much needed and I have no objection to paying for an increase in my Council Tax for this purpose, provided it actually goes to the 'front line' services.
- There is not enough support for the elderly and vulnerable which should be given a high priority when the budget finances are evaluated.
- It should be more than 1%
- It's an important part of what the council do.
- Refer to previous answer
- People need care in later life, but should be means tested.
- Recognise increasing cost of adult social care - need to explore cost effective but socially aware opportunities to meet this demand
- Much needed funding for this sector.
- We must put up the council tax rises for the services on our county
- Need much more spent on social care
- It is accepted that social care costs are increasing and this increase is required
- The population is aging and we are in a higher than average disability area. As the [relation] of someone with dementia I am already struggling to cover and access social care
- Currently the support available via adult social care is still very much cost-driven rather than being person-centred. Far greater resources are needed to pay for social care for those who are not in a position to pay for it themselves so that people can have much more tailored support to enable them to live a fulfilled life. Social care is in crisis, underfunded, poorly paid, shortage of workers across the board, lack of resources for people with complex needs, lack of recognition for the

importance of the role which carers and social workers perform. Massive investment is needed, particularly in areas such as respite provision as this is woefully inadequate in North Northamptonshire and the provision of services for adults with complex care and support needs to enable them to spend time with other people outside of their own homes engaging in meaningful activities.

- with everyone coming out of covid, most people being isolated its going to be a strain. we need to support each other as much as we can.
- Reasons as previously mentioned.
- More needs to be done for our seniors
- More Money must be put in to the adult social care to keep it running as good as possible
- Social care is needed council staffing increases at high levels not
- Social care needs all the help it can get. As long as all the money goes to the correct people the workers and development in workers. Not the managers and department heads. Who does the work.
- It needs to be recognised that it will cover all adults that need social services
- Although I tend to disagree with the general council tax going up, I do feel it is important that the adult social sector continues to be funded appropriately during a pandemic, so would tend to agree with this level of social care precept.
- I feel that the services are inadequately funded. For a long while.
- Agree with rise with the caveat let's see if the NNC can improve local services
- I have an elderly relative in a care home, and funding needs to be increased to allow her and others some dignity at this stage in their lives.
- Feel it is currently underfunded
- Adult social care must have an increase in funding.

The population is living longer and Governments cannot be expected to fund this, despite the Government's pre election pledge. Covid 19 has over ridden any election pledges.

- As long as it happens and not a mamby pamby effort to help those that need social care seriously get helped
- Because we have reached a stage now where there is no choice. Poor housing, lack of teaching life skills, lack of adult further education and rampant drug abuse has led to this situation. We need to put money into preventative work instead of paying money out which is often too little, too late.
- The decrease in adult social care in Corby has been disastrous, with a number of people put at risk. Defunding adult social care in recent years has been detrimental. An increase is much needed... but how long will the direct funding be in place before the council find some way of defunding again?
- As long as the precept is focussed on adult social care only and not dissipated in general spend
- Necessary
- See reason above
- I would be prepared to pay an even greater increase to this element of the local tax if it could be guaranteed that it would definitely be spent in our area to enhance our adult social care facilities.
- I would agree to an extra 1% but only if it did improve the service offered, and these benefits were visible to the council tax payers. I would expect to see an improved service to all concerned.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to ensure that vulnerable people receive the care they need • Adult social care desperately needs the money to reduce severe rationing in the allocation of resources
<p>Neither agree nor disagree</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you would like to tell us why you answered the previous question in the way that you did, please do so here: - 1% CT why TEXT • This is a slightly better increase • As above • I am well aware that adult social care is in need of more financial input but perhaps you need to look at other ways this could be funded. Perhaps the government need to be reminded that they should offer more financial support for this service • There should be a complete overhaul of Adult Social Care services. Then it would be more evident as to what/ how services can be improved. • I accept that adult social care needs funding (as do many other things) but worry about the impact on my own household. • You need to get more money for social care • My observation is that local adult social services are poorly provided, expensive, of low quality and with usually very poor outcomes. Whether they would be improved by having available this further tranche of money is unclear to me, and, rather obviously, unclear to the council too. • With the new adult tax being introduced in April. Is it right that we pay through other means too. • I think the 1% increase for ASC only should happen • I think a lot of benefits should be means tested so that they go to the needy. • Adult Social Care does need to be increased but why through taxing property. With rent so high even a small increase in Council Tax can make a big difference to affording food and petrol to travel to work to earn the wage to pay those bills • Adult Social Care implementing the strength based approach is positive. Social Workers need to be financially recognised for the role they play Northamptonshire pays the worst . • Adult Social Care needs a large increase in funding. This however should be from Central Government, rather than from residents. The recent cuts are simply being passed on to residents and that is unreasonable. • I would happily agree if I believed the increase would lead to improved adult social care services. • I have an elderly parent who has seen all her social events run by the council stopped.. The council does not care about the elderly
<p>Strongly disagree/ Tend to disagree</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Again as stated in my previous response I strongly disagree with this we just do not have enough money to fund for this we are struggling as it is already. Wages remain the same taxes increasing how is this fair why not take all the money you make from PCN parking fines and invest that into adult social care we do not have the money to fund for this especially with the pandemic were suffering alone. • Waste of money • Council tax is enough of a burden already on hardworking people. • People should take more responsibility for their own health. Family members could do more to help instead of expecting the state to provide everything. People should

be encouraged to save for old age. Council tax should be fairer within areas after all Corby has changed into flourishing middle class area of private houses and they have services on their doorstep unlike country areas.

- What does the public get with tax increases.?
- The settlement should be greater than 1% reflecting the real shortfall in funding social care during the years of maladministration by NCC.
- The funding of social care is critical - but in the hands of the council it will just be wasted. Those who need care will continue to suffer while the council continues to waste the cash. It's just another grab for cash under the pretense it's for the people. Horrific.
- See above
- In our recent experience the social care sector is hugely fragmented. Incredibly difficult to navigate through the multitude of departments , many of who seem to work in a vacuum.
It could be benefit from combining and streamlining as has happened with our new NNC unitary authority.
- As above. Show us you are responsible with our money before demanding more if it.
- I am single and have no children or elderly parents yet I continue to always pay for schools and adult social care via my taxes
- Responsibility lies with central government to increase funds according to the ageing population it serves.
- as above, throwing money at a problem does not provide a satisfactory solution
- People pay enough in National Insurance etc, cut waste ad manage resources and finances better!
- It won't just be spent there. The liars in charge have broken all their manifesto promises or you wouldn't need to make these raises... Every day items, services, essentials and utility prices are going up in price i.e. becoming much more expensive. However wages in real terms are coming down i.e. they are now worth less per hour. Benefits for the ill, unemployed and the like are have been reduced by our nasty and greedy government ministers, We the people can't afford these increases at all; do we heat ourselves or feed ourselves? The only people getting richer are government ministers and their friends; ask them for the money you need
- As Above
- Review the service instead to save costs
- Why should council tax payers pay more for years of mismanagement.
- I believe an overall figure of between 1.25 & 1.75% should be considered. My belief is that if you try and "bracket" amounts, rather than give the clarity you may hope to give, you in fact allow the potential argument that you are using differing amounts to give the perception that the overall increase is not that high.
- As above
- There is already too much moeny spent on social care its time to cut it not expand it, ahve you not heard the country has no money and neither do the tax payers!
- i dont know just how efficient the services are and where the cash goes
- The councillor perpetrators who harassed, stalked, and defrauded [legal case] should pay this themselves.
- It means people who don't use this specific service are paying more for it. Suggest look at other options.

- You've already increased it last year.
- What adult social care is available? How can we be sure this 1% will be spent on Adult Social Care.
- We will be paying an extra 1.25 % in April out of our wages and you now want us to pay another 1% on money we have already been taxed on for the same cause???
- Like others, I am facing a 1.25% increase in NI from April this year to fund social care why am I paying for it twice? My questions on this to my local MP and Savid Javid on this issue remain unanswered.
- This should be funded by central government. Simple. It isn't nut as we have a conservative council/MP surely they have influence on this decision?
- Social care services should be managed locally but funding should come from Westminster
- If the money went directly to employees and not companies i`d be happy to pay more but it does`nt it goes into company profits who run these services.
- As stated above we are already having 1.25% extra from national insurance for this
- Why should working people pay for lazy ones ...get them to help
- If you have any savings you have to use them for you care and sell your house. Adult social care precept means you lose your savings sell your house and on top of that have to pay an extra tax for yourself in old age
- Reasons mentioned above apply to this section too.
- We are SKINT, struggling to pay our own bills.
- Unitary is supposed save us a great deal of money, hence why spend millions doing it
- Won't be value for money
- This does not concern me
- Adult social care is going to be funded by the further increase of national insurance that the government has announce . The council tax money spent needs to be better managed
- The same reason all the increases will be higher than any pay rises that might happen
- In the document you say this is the maximum you can take this means you would have taken more and will continue to do so at every chance
- I don't have the money, I have to buy fuel and food
- Same as above
- Normal family are struggling to pay bills
- We were already paying a local council precept to cover this but now the government & local council is taking money to cover this. Why hasn't the 'local' precept been removed rather than increased? Two taxes to cover one thing - standard political ploy.
- NI is to increase for NHS and Social Care, therefore it should not be also added to Council Tax
- Because we are all responsible to pay a minimum £85,000 of our care costs irrespective of our house value!!! This law was passed in Parliament in the autumn.
- Need better explanation of why it's needed
- People cannot afford increases. Reduce Council staff by combining the four Councils staff into more efficient units. Do not employ Council staff until

reductions have been managed or re-deployed. Think of the Council tax payer first and foremost.

- Because there is no evidence to show that the funds that you already have been efficiently been utilised and managed properly. We need to stop paying expensive care to private firms that are not looking after patients. The extra funds should be completed from the government.
- the service had decreased despite the yearly increase in our taxes. Ordinary people cannot afford the continuous increase
- Why
- That is 50% of council increase on top. now it is 88p what next?
- as above.
- Takes the responsibility away from central government who should have sorted out social care in this country year's ago!
Instead they have continued to cut services and budgets for years.
- Pay too much already and never see any police
- Any increase eats into my savings
- If it is policed more strictly and stopping care to those who don't actually need it this 1% could be covered
- Same answer.. We already pay a vast amount in direct and indirect tax. Why?
- As before!
- As above, Prove you are worthy of managing any increase in funding before taking the money arbitrarily from the tax payers.
- How are people going to be able to live with everything rising very fast fuel ,food utility bills .Wages aren't going up in line with cost of living
- Reasons already stated
- Funding should come from central Government.
- You have had plenty of time to fix this last year. Why do you need more money.
- I can't afford it
- If you manage the budget properly you could get that easily out of what's paid already.
- We pay enough yearly considering we hardly see a traffic warden or a policeman.
- I cannot see it making a difference, It will get swallowed up in more bad accounting.
- If we own our homes we may well be made to sell to fund any care we may need
- See above commented in the wrong box.
- They are a service that offer no value. Having dealt with them myself for a family member I can honestly say their service was shocking!
- Because, as the council has wasted a HUGE amount of money on replacing their fleet of vehicles for brand new (petrol) white liveried ones, they obviously have plenty to throw away
- Because you could make money in other ways ie parking tickets.
- Adult social care should not ban e increase, as we are going to pay through NI increase this April. The fact local and Central Government get to slices of the cake from us
- Money never gets spent appropriately in the right areas
- Because the money won't be spent where needed. It doesn't need more money ploughing into it, the system needs a completely renovating, you need to loose a few pointless over paid chiefs and use that money for the workers that are really

<p>needed. This is coming from somebody who works in healthcare and sees daily where our money is wasted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We cannot afford it • The service is so poor. No services available. • I would agree is council staff salaries increased by 4%. • house holders have been forced into absorbing massive increases to budget and really cant afford to pay out any more money • See above. Folks cannot afford this • More financial increases will add pressure to those struggling to pay bills. • I do not believe the increase is needed for this it is needed to cover a 4million pound hole created by a corrupt and now defunct East Northants Council. • Again look for ways to cut costs elsewhere to contribute to this sector. We have masses of unemployed people at the moment. Get them contributing to the district where they can to save on employment costs. Why pay people twice, one for working and the other for not. Offer the unemployed an incentive to get out. You may find a permanent candidate whilst doing that. They do exist! • We are being charged to much already • The government have already put up the NI to cover this, so why pay twice? • We are already having to pay additional National Insurance for this • I don't believe the right care is being offered to adult social care • This cost should be paid for by Central Government and you and other Councils should push harder for this. So many Governments have been promising to fix this issue for years and done nothing. Too much money is wasted by whitehall departments. • Effective recruitment and management of vacancies would easily generate this money not the constant sticking plaster of agency • See above! A small increase is bad enough, but a larger one will be worse. • Nothing has been done previously
<p>Don't know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not know enough about current council spend to understand why the increase for Adult Social Care can't be funded directly from the existing budget. Feel Council has other areas of concern to be focusing on to be moving onto the next thing.
<p>Not answered previous question but still made comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a nurse I know that this increase will have no effect whatsoever on adult social care as councils get out of paying for it al, ways and it is left to families or the patients

Q. If you feel this proposal would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be, along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 83 responses to this question.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal will have a negative impact on people's finances as we do not have money council tax is already expensive. There is no data to show the money we are currently contributing is making a difference to social care in the first place. This will have a negative impact on people's mental health the

only suggestion I have is to NOT increase the council tax given human being a break people are struggling to make ends meet.

- If the funds are abused as was the case with NCC then the Council should stand down with immediate effect for re-elect EXCLUDING all current councillors found to be guilty.
- Not everyone needs social care that claims it, it's mainly for people who have never worked
- People may be worse off financially, but with communication and information about where the funds an increase is going and the reality of cost, I believe most can be won over.
- As above question and reply
- The jam will have to be spread more thinly
- More and more people will expect help, there will never be enough money. could be mitigated by encouraging better health / lifestyles, now is the time with covid around. Make council tax fairer across the areas. Charge for lost wheelie bins - they do in Cambridge.
- The negative impact of this proposal will be on the service providers and the service users.
It is woefully inadequate as a settlement.
- It will be negative as it will achieve nothing. The money will just disappear in "admin" costs etc. The council can pretend it's doing something when it isn't. Typical politicians at play. Disgraceful but they don't care.
- Pushing working families into further poverty. Where do you think they have the money to pay for these increases?
- I thought I had answered this previously?
- If there was less money spent on flash council buildings, bonuses and ineffective management, we would have adequate funding for social care. The issue needs tackling. However, the negativity will be directed at those who have failed to budget for the increasing social care issue - while we all pay the cost of the incompetence of governments not taking the issue sooner.
What were you expecting from the question?
- As above. Inflationary pressures are already present.
- With rises in council tax, rent, electricity and gas and no means of increasing my salary, I would have to look for a new job where my salary would cover all of the increases
- As above, I am struggling as it is and this constant squeeze is pushing me deeper into potential crisis or even homelessness.
Mangle the tremendous sums you already get and pay less to senior managers etc. These increases have purely become a licence to take money from the already overburdened payers. Too much waste happens at senior level while the frontline is squeezed...Reduce the terrific pension and other benefits etc that managers get as a start....
- None.
- Yes it will have a negative impact especially on the youth, the poor, the ill and the disabled people; see above comment for mitigation
- Financial hardship is already crippling family at present and this could lead them to take out forms of loans just to make ends meet and using food banks. Also they

may already have stopped paying the council tax to be able to provide the basic needs for their family as I am sure your aware .

- Misspending or inappropriate redirecting of new income to areas within Adult Social Care where it's not really needed. You need a strong finance and/or budget team to mitigate this, which in itself would be costly.
- As Above
- Would have a negative impact on services and service providers. An inadequate settlement and assumes all residents paying a penny pinching miserly supporters of low / no tax ideology.
Good public services cost good money.....use your responsibility to raise these funds!
- i still feel any increase in household costs will see people struggling to make payments, see more people in debt and see a greater influx on services that support budgeting, financial aid and mental health.
- Without a thorough audit on all areas, we could be increasing on a regular basis.
- As above
- My living costs are increasing but my wages are not and have not for many years.
- None that I can see
- The councillor perpetrators who harassed, stalked, and defrauded [legal case] should pay this themselves.
- I think there are going to be a lot of people strumonkggling to make ends meet in North Northants in the coming months and years, for a variety of reasons. It could help if the eligibility criteria for the 25% reduction in Council Tax was expanded.
- Be more efficient, cut costs, stop overspending on unnecessary things.
- As above, you can't keep taxing people, at this rate would be better off not working with such a high percentage now taken in taxes
- The national insurance increase from central should be used for this service.
- It has the same negative impacts as I have previously stated regarding the general rise.
- Family finances are stretched enough already
- So many people suffer mental health wise and this department suffers the most because they go off donations also women who suffer domestic violence don't have anywhere to flea to for safety because the majority of womens refuges were shut down also these are important factors that shouldn't be slacked upon
- People all over the county, country and around the world are still struggling to make ends meet after almost two years of a pandemic. I don't believe that this is helpful to a single resident in Northamptonshire unless you are earning £100,000 + a year and do not already struggle. For every working class family or individual this increase is alot, when it's not needed. The increase last year and previous years is more than enough.
- As before.
- Local gov wanting more money, which the increase will not cover, this is just a means of generating additional monies rather than looking at the overall problems. Local government need to be more in tune with its electorate. The consultation is seen as a forgone conclusion, based on trends. Stop paying obscene salaries to upper management, empower departments to make changes and reduce your running costs, before you add additional burden financially, mentally, socially. There are savings to be made internally but a council that sees itself infallible is

laughable, general opinion is that the council is just perpetuating further unrest and causing society to continue to implode.

- We'd be even more skint, in more danger if losing out home.
- Same as above
- It will push people into further poverty as there are increases in national insurance Energy prices all coming in soon
- Again will people budgeting carefully then people can afford these rise, they are not as high as I thought they were going to be, they are very reasonable
- Less money to put food on table
- It's a reputation thing. as mentioned, I haven't seen an improvement from previous increases so any further increases will need to be justified carefully
- Once more indirectly taxing the council tax payers when the Conservative mantra is they are the party of low taxes!!! As above review excessive allowances and use venues already owned by council instead of hiring expensive venues for council meetings
- I feel that the customers finances need to be looked at lots of the customers are sitting with thousands of pounds unused and they should be charged more for there care
- As usual its the working people paying this tax and yet its those on benefits that will get the help from it
- Whilst the increase in the cost of this element does not seem great there is also the 1.99% increase for all services to consider, plus the ever increasing cost of living: significantly higher gas and electricity charges, rising petrol and diesel costs, prescription charges, increasing food prices and the rise in costs of everything that is imported. Wages are not keeping pace with these rising costs, particularly in the lower paid and public sector jobs.
- The negative impact is on families that have to find the extra funds to pay this and how this impact can be mitigated is not to increase it.
- The impact has been showed during the past few years, more people accessing food bank increase in people begging and stealing, suicide ,and depression on the rise. Breakdown of family unit's, Which then put demands on the health services.
- Again rising costs but no rise in wages. Where are we sposed to find the extra money from?
Why not bring the brown bins in line and charge every one who wishes to use the service. This will genirate extra income. Instead of just charging the East northants area whilst the others get the service for free!
- I repeat - After the past decade of austerity which disproportionately impacted the lower wage earners it's about time that higher taxes were targeted at the higher earners.
- Already specified in previous question. Prove to me that further increases won't go on year after year. The more constituents cough up, the more central government cuts council budgets, and so it goes on. Why do people not see this.
- Unless you are reopening police stations in town centres this will increase negative opinions of the council and police
- as above, council should look at savings through efficiency measures
- Same answer.. You steal our money with menaces with no value given in return
- As before!

- Review your projects with residents, ensure what you believe to be a priority is what the tax payer believes to be a priority.
- I feel that the poorer population will be more adversely affected North Northants has a large wealthier population. Why? Should the lower income pay the same rate? Aware of benefits but they fall short now. Since the change
- See above
- Funding should come from central Government.
- All bills are sky rocketing and we need to be able to afford to live
- Like I've said before there isn't a need when so much is paid already. Once cost of living is sorted out properly and families aren't struggling like they are then look into it. To increase now is ridiculous.
- No as long as it is achieved
- As above
- We are probably all in for a rough ride for a few years now financially.
- See above commented in the wrong box.
- Sort out the managers first and then look at getting staff in who care and have compassion.
- See above
- Drop the increase in Adult social care
- People can't afford any further increase on top of other cost of living increases. We see so much less services for our more input of money. The council waste money, lose public money, and can't be trusted to appropriately allocate the funds where it is really needed
- Already stated.
- I would agree council staff salaries increased by 4%.
- There would be large increase in council tax defaults as we cannot afford to pay out any more money
- See above
- It will have a negative impact on the common person or would suggest the council have a pay cut and stop giving them self's bonus and pay outs
- Fuel prices - gone up Energy prices - gone up Cost of goods - gone up Rents - going up BOE interest rates - going up Council tax - going up Wages - staying the same. Employment - going down (from the pandemic)
The cost of living is astronomical for the average person. Why use the next financial year as an excuse to get more money. As residents we want consistency, we would prefer little improvements whilst maintaining costs. If this current council can't do it, then it is being managed poorly.
New tendering and quoting processes need to be looked at. Votes to the constituents should be sent out before proposals for works agreed. We should have a say how our money is spent. Not you! We are already having to segregate and wash our waste for you. The slightest error in this, we have to dispose of it. A service we pay NNC for! Can you see where I'm going here. It seems you'd like maximum input for less output. We have people working 60+ hours a week and can still barely put food on the table for their families due to the cost of living. They have no access to benefits from NNC. Yet the unemployed it seems get everything handed on a plate, no questions. Whilst the government pay their council tax. You need to start looking after the people who pay your wages, sorry this tax.

- People's living standards will go down, and it all bad management from previous district, and county council.
- Training the right staff would be a massive benefit
- Lobbying Central Government to fund Adult Social Care is necessary.
- More money thrown in to think tanks and endless echo chambers when the solution is more people to do the job
- As above. Better management of council resources and better staff would help.
- Make council tax fair across the county!
- Already paying too much

Draft Capital Programme 2022-25

The [Draft Capital Programme](#) and its appendices includes all capital expenditure and income, including the acquisition, replacement and enhancement of assets financed from government grants, external contributions, revenue contributions, capital receipts and borrowing.

It sets out the key objectives and broad principles to be applied by the Council when considering capital investment and its funding, and provides the context for how the Medium Term Capital Programme seeks to support the realisation of the Council's vision and corporate priorities.

The Draft Capital Programme has been developed to ensure a robust mechanism to deliver our priorities within the finances available.

For further information please see the [Capital Programme 2022-25](#) and its appendices, which contain details of each scheme:

- [Appendix A - Capital Programme 2022-25](#)
- [Appendix B](#) – is regarding the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme 2022-25. Council tenants will be consulted via a targeted consultation on the HRA proposals via their respective Tenant Forum's
- [Appendix C - Development Pool](#)

If you would like further details about any of the schemes please contact us at CET@northnorthants.gov.uk

Q. If you have any comments you would like us to know on these schemes, please tell us here:

There were 38 responses to this question.

Name of scheme(s):	Comment:
no fee	no fee
Any!	If NNC needs any architectural advice there are local architects born in the town willing to assist, for a fee smaller that architects based outside the area.

Capital Programme	I believe its well considered and appropriate as a next step for the authority
Capital Programme 2022 - 25	Considering this Council claims to have residents at the heart of everything it does - how on earth is Joe Public meant to follow this document? Key thing I say was 'Amber' suggesting we will be in trouble, and there is no Angel Square to sell this time!
Capital programme.	<p>Community Impact</p> <p>6.7.1 No distinct community impacts have been identified as a result of the proposals included in this report, however, the successful delivery of various projects will have a positive result in the local communities once completed.</p> <p>7. Background Papers</p> <p>7.1 The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report This is tokenism at its very worst!!</p> <p>As statements they serve to demonstrate the full extent of the corporate bulldozer being employed to deliver an ideologically driven budget, rather than a budget directly responding to the needs of the 'county'...'district'....entity that is NNC.</p> <p>Over £1/2 million on Corporate IT systems over the budget term!!</p> <p>Add a further £375K IT device management funding for the council!!!</p> <p>An asset management plan costing £75K</p> <p>Repairs to NCC...yes NCC properties £1 million!!</p> <p>Set these against a miserly £15K for adult leisure services....Northants Care Record funding of £50K and an NCC self serving budget proposal starts to emerge, especially given the discretionary nature of much of the listed expenditure.</p> <p>Just how likely is it that grandiose IT schemes will be cut in the event of yet more budget mismanagement?</p>
	I'm sure whoever writes these comment understands what they mean so how about making them easy to understand. I bet many people don't fill anything in as they don't understand what is actually meant
Appendix a+b+c	Waste of money - all will cost ten times more than they should & the quality will be a joke. Nothing here suggests value for money - just jobs/cash for the boys.
	I am not able to grasp the huge amount of gargon so cannot comment.
Capital Programme	<p>On the RAG model, I gave concerns that every project is on Amber already, especially with the capability to deliver.</p> <p>Also £2m on IT strategy is very wooly phrasing - how will this be allocated?</p> <p>Appendix B 'unallocated labour and overheads' again, there is a lack of detail - what specifically will this cover that isn't already on the list?</p>
All	Very thin on detail, how are we supposed to assess these schemes based on the information provided?
All of them	I don't feel qualified to comment on these schemes, not having relevant expertise or experience.
	I have no particular issues with the proposed schemes.
superfast broadband : IT strategy	<p>Both these schemes appear unnecessary use of Council tax resources.</p> <p>superfast broadband should be the responsibility to profit making businesses, not subject to subsidy.</p> <p>£2m for IT strategy - but no details for such a huge expenditure.</p>
Wellingborough [redacted]..... [legal case]	<p>£600 000 income in ten months....</p> <p>Money not specifically mentioned in ANY scheme or project in your budget.</p>

	<p>So where is the cash going?? The [legal case]....£Millions?? Where is this settlement coming from...not mentioned...in fact secret from media and public...apart from Northants Telegraph! So [name] leads negotiations with [name] representatives....how much has [name] been mandated to spend...where does it come from, why is it not budgeted for in any project or scheme. Which service gets cut to finance Council incompetence?</p>
Depot / Recycling / IT / General	<p>Do not understand with the shared depots in Kettering and Corby being used by the existing services, why almost £4m is being spend on new ones? Stock improvements increase of £0.25m - where is the associated cost savings relating to this? You wouldn't implement a stock solution without any benefit? £2m on IT - what is this?</p>
All schemes	<p>Any scheme that is not a legal responsibility of the council need to be stopped, we have no money and I am fed up with you grabbing more to waste in places I do not live.</p>
Chester House	<p>How are we going to generate substantial income from this site? It was always a 'vanity' project and now needs to be working hard for us to cover its costs and generate revenue for us.</p>
Bin collection	
Draft capital plan	<p>Why has the Corby Town plan been prioritised? Corby has had much more successful investment over recent years than Kettering - just compare the town centres! Put money where it is needed. Sell all property and don't buy any more - this is not the purpose of a local council. The risk assessment shows all items as amber - i.e. not sure if they can be delivered. If that is the case why not cut the spending back to levels that can definitely be achieved? This report is too vague. It repeats itself but doesn't say specifically where most areas of attention are. There should be an itemised budget to show, project by project, where the money is expected to be spent. At the end of the year, the actual spend against budget should be analysed and explained.</p>
Appendix A, B and C	<p>You allow developers to build houses all over the county but you don't invest in the hospitals. Who is going to take care of all of these new people you're driving into the county? Stop building new homes and start thinking about caring for the people already here. Oh and, maybe you should think about the environment and all the green space we are losing, too. Just a thought, you know, with the massive threat of global warming being seen all over the world. Open your eyes.</p>
Capital expenditure on new homes is excessive	<p>Corby council spends nearly £400k per bungalow for new builds, using existing land. A private developer using existing land would have built 4 4 bed homes for that price, it is either corruption or profiteering</p>
	<p>Too hard to understand for the average person. Make it easier by speaking in plain language and not depending on graphs or whatever else.</p>
	<p>I strongly object to any substantial increases. I would like to start a family but my options as a single straight female are limited. I need every penny I earn and work hard for, to make my dream come true</p>
All	<p>Where is the infrastructure for all the housing in the county? Not just schools, but shops and doctors, dentists surgeries.</p>
(All)	<p>I am glad to see no allocation for a replacement swimming pool in Kettering, which, I believe, would be a White Elephant. I am not at all</p>

	happy to see the limited remarks regarding capital investment in local transport. There is a reference to a "North Northamptonshire local transport plan", but no such thing seems to exist. So, to be specific, If there is a plan to fund and develop a public transport hub at Kettering Railway Station (as in the Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan), and make it accessible by public transport from all parts of the Kettering area, then that is a good and necessary thing. If there is not, and if the transport hub at Kettering Station has been abandoned/permanently delayed, then my suspicions will have been confirmed and I will react accordingly!
Flood Alevation	I hope that the Flood Alevation scheme will be implemented as there is a need to protect the vulnerable areas in our regions
	Which scheme is being cut to fund [legal case]?
Tresham Garden Village	Additional costs to the Council tax payer who will have to service a small community of housing in a rural location. It sounds like agricultural green land will be be changed to building land so that the land owner will be able to make a huge amount of money. The rate payer will have to soak up the running costs later on. Discontinue the scheme and save money in the long run. Our County cannot continue to absorb more people.
	We note that there is no planned investment in the repair of the roof at Kettering Swimming Pool, which has been leaking badly for several years. Leaks are damaging new ceiling tiles and have caused electrical faults related to the lighting and air circulation.
	Where is the scheme for private residents.
Rushden pool	1000s have just been spent on wellingborough pool how many Olympic pools does a county need ?
Garden waste collections	Make the scheme fair and charge all your residents for this service or none of them. The urgent situation is unfair and discriminates against the residents of the former ENC.
IT strategy	Why is the cost so high seems too large compared to other areas that would offer more to the public
Brown garden waste collection	Why do some pay and some dont. This should of been priority to sort out. Now an increase to people who already have to pay more than a place down the road with more amenities and service because they live in the town?
Green Waste	NNC was keen to harmonise how much residents pay in CT across the 4 areas from day 1, but has failed to harmonise charges i.e. EN area still have to pay extra for Green Waste bin collections.
Any housing support	My [relative] has been desperate need of support and been to council several times over last 5 years and still in list and still waiting for support
Flood Alleviation; A509 Isham Bypass	Following devastating flooding in Wellingborough last year Home Insurance has gone up. Insurance Companies want to know what measures the local council has put in place to prevent flood damage in the future. What is the plan to prevent flooding in the town area of Wellingborough and surrounding roads - 3 mile radius. A509 Bypass with the massive house building and new road initiatives in and around Wellingborough what is the plan to prevent flooding due to building on flood plains.
IT Strategy	Where can we see the IT strategy and the intended approach to achieve it?

Other comments

The budget report sets out the latest estimated funding position, service budget pressures, key financial risks and challenges influencing the development of the new North Northamptonshire Council's financial plans for 2022-23 and the ongoing financial impact of those plans, together with the longer term estimates of funding and spending requirements.

This questionnaire focusses on the new proposals for the draft budget 2022-23 that will likely affect residents and service users. However, you can comment on anything within the Draft Budget.

You can view the suite of [budget papers](#) on our website.

Q. If you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this draft budget that you have not already told us, including any alternative ideas about how we could save the same amount of money or generate the same amount of income as outlined in the proposals, then please tell us here:

There were 45 responses to this question.

Name of proposal(s):	Comment:
	Rushden needs a train station maybe that should be considered!
	Key areas of public concern left poorly funded set against the funding of in house NNC services.....even the contentious pot hole fund sees zero inflation proofing over the two year budget...realistic?? In fact the budget as a whole is devoid of any mention of inflation or interest payment increases over two years. Even household budgets are having to factor this in! Banks and building societies certainly do when assessing mortgage-applications...yet the NNC can ignore it...?
Wages	Reduce wage for people working from home and increase wages for people who have to be out doing face to face job even in lockdown. Early years
	do you actually make a profit and if so where does it go
All	Rubbish - scrap the lot. This is a council noone wanted that is alien to the people of Northants. No guarantee of value for money or accountability. This whole process is shallow & a nonsense - you'll do what you want anyway claiming you've consulted but this won't count for anything. A sad joke.
Outside bodies	I am assuming you are referring to contracting out some services, such as street clearing. My view is that contacting out exchanges changes performance for profit for the contractor. This should be in house and grants given to volunteer groups who are willing and able to carry out local cleansing.
Education	Education funding is pitiful and has been historically badly managed by NCC. The AD for education requires a much greater budget that reflects the many services and statutory responsibilities of the department. Some of this can be taken from DSG but there must be an additional realistic budget for education. Without this the council will continue to fail in its statutory duties.
Appendix A	It appears that the budget for highways and waste will decrease over the next few years. Given the poor condition of the roads I do not think this is good.

	Also, having seen the random way in which the few road repairs are carried out (e.g. 1 team come round to mark potholes that need filling. A year later the same team come round to mark them again as the lines have worn out. The holes are never filled. Waste of money), I believe a better management approach could achieve more with the same budget.
Adults Communities & Wellbeing	Positive increase in funding for Adult Social Care
Childrens' Trust : Adult services	I think it may be difficult to ensure Children's Trust services priorities and effectiveness are under NNC control, properly managed and provide value for money. Monitoring that service effectively will in itself cost. The same applies to Adult Services, run by WNC.
[Redacted].....[legal case]	The huge elephants in the Council Chamber! Is the [redacted] cash windfall going to be used to plug the [legal case] scandal? A real need for Council transparency. [Redacted] provides more cash in ten months than is budgets for pot hole maintenance/repairs...how? Why?
	While it is good to focus on new proposals, where is the current budget, what is it being spend on, how effectively is it being spend, what are comparisons to similar council of size? Very difficult to wave through increase in council tax for new things, without first understanding the base.
All proposals	Cut the number of staff across the board, all back office staff, close all 25% of office space as this is no longer needed with people working from home. Cut the pay of the Chief Exec, Directors (inc Section 151 Officer) and the 3 levels of staff below this, give extra money to those on the lowest 2 pay scales and bank the rest.
EDucation/SEN/EHC	Are you sure that there is sufficient funding to cover the loss of the government DSG to the LA? This service is already in crisis in North Northants with more temporary staff than permanent, no stable management (the [job role] got rid of all the experienced staff). There are too many interim staff from [place name] and not from Northamptonshire. Permanent staff would be cheaper than agency staff
All budgets	All budgets should be cut, not increased.
	More income could be generated by a graduated percentage increase depending on the band of the property, I would suggest any property above Band D would generally have higher earner owners who could afford a little higher increase.
Payment of damages in respect of abuse of process by the [job role] of ENDC	This imposition on the NNC taxpayers is scandalous. The former [job role] should be prosecuted for [their] actions and made to pay appropriate damages to offset the burden on NNC taxpayers.
	1% rise in council tax and 3% rise in social care. If people feel they're spending their money on something worthwhile then they will pay. It also feels like a win because they've reduced the council tax rise.
	Save money by reducing duplicate staff and the vast number of offices you still keep open even through it is clear not many people work in the office!!! Also there are too many senior managers with too high a salary
Costs	It would be helpful to obtain a summary of the cost savings achieved by the introduction of the unitary authority replacing the

	previous two tier arrangement - I appreciate that no one could have anticipated covid but having seen my council tax bill rise it would be helpful to have a BAU comparison.
(All)	I may have missed something in the morass of documents provided, but I will comment on Trading Standards, of which I have not found a mention. These were more-or-less cut completely by NCC during their idiotic and self-created budget crisis of a few years ago, to the considerable dis-benefit of consumer confidence and, as a result, of the local economy in general. These need to be restored to at least the resource level and quality that they were at before this cut was made. The seeming absence of a plan to do this, and budgetary provision to make it possible, is a serious weak point in the budget.
New assistant director of legal services	Hasn't there just been a restructure and appointment of senior staff and several made redundant? Why are more staff being employed?
	Unhappy to read about the [legal case] is having to be paid as compensation to an East Northants resident. Quite rightly [they are] entitled to this but as this was East Northants victimisation campaign not sure why all of North Northants tax payers are having to pay for this. In fact those members of staff/ councillors should be sued personally rather than expecting us to pay for their childish behaviour.
	If you use OUR reserves to settle [legal case], how will you recover that money?? [...].payout to [legal case] does not show in hour draft budget...WHY NOT?
Local business card	Preloaded card for use in local businesses with rewards. Trialled in wales and Ireland
Kettering Swimming Pool	<p>Kettering Swimming Pool is approaching the end of its life. It is 38 years old this year, which is the average life of a swimming pool built in England since the 1960's.</p> <p>It is a poor example of a leisure facility, and, in comparison to facilities in other parts of North Northamptonshire, it is well below average.</p> <p>There is insufficient water for swimming in Kettering and an expectation that local residents will travel will have a negative impact on the environment and is unfair to residents that are unable to travel.</p> <p>There is around 10 sqm of water per thousand people in North Northamptonshire. This is less than the Regional and National average. Corby, Wellingborough and East Northants have more water than the National average. Kettering has one third of that figure.</p> <p>There are no economies of scale or co-location benefits.</p> <p>There are multiple examples nationwide of modern facilities increasing uptake / usage and increasing revenue: Hinckley Leisure Centre generates £900K pa, of which £400K is a surplus; Horwich Leisure Centre (Bolton) saw a 23% increase in footfall in its first year compared to its predecessor, which was next door.</p> <p>There is no teaching and learning pool in Kettering, so parents of young children are forced to travel or their children have to learn to swim in deep water which can affect water confidence.</p> <p>A 25m competition standard pool would generate additional revenues - local Clubs, in Kettering and beyond, and the [name] would be able to host events. This would generate additional</p>

	income for the facility, and within the local community as visitors would access local shops, hotels and businesses.
Unitary Authority fresh start	I would like to know more about the change management programs you are running for the UA. The efficiency improvements. The focus to customer service. The cost savings by reviewing staff requirements. The improvement in purchasing from the economy of scale now available.
General	I'm amazed in this day and age that the government expects you to save Any money. I guess it shows just how out of touch the Tories really are. Do they live in the same world as the rest of us? Highly debatable!
	Stop using consultants at enormous cost to the public. Eg the dreadful extension to Kettering museum when the main area of town is dead and tatty.
The great Brown Bin con!	We are fed up with paying for our Brown bin when others get this within their Council Tax. Formally East Northants residents have to still pay this and it is not fair! :(All should pay the same.
Garden Waste Recycling	I am absolutely disgusted that we in East Northants have to pay for garden waste removal and all others in the so call unified authority do not. West Northants has managed to sort this matter out but it appears it is too complicated a matter for North Northants. This is just not fair to council tax payers in East Northants when we are paying the same amount of council tax as all other areas. I will not be continuing with my brown bin collection.
Fly Tipping	You need to apply common sense. Spending thousands of pounds of taxpayers hard earned money trying to get a paltry fine for one person caught fly tipping instead of putting that money into improving access to recycling centres is shameful. Spending thousands more of taxpayers money on expensive scanners to scan every vehicle that looks remotely like a commercial vehicle at recycling centres is also shameful and just leads to fly tipping, why can the public see this but council personnel cannot?
	Corby Borough Council has been traditionally underfunded. By Central government
	Absolutely disgusting that the green garden waste bin has not been sorted to be equal across North Northamptonshire
Garden Waste Bin Collection.	The council needs to set one rate for Garden Waste Bin Collection. It is unacceptable that I have to pay for the collection of Garden waste when Wellingborough residents get this service for free. There is one authority & all residents should be treated equally. Please address this issue.
	Maybe to help the people give extra support for once rather than taking as much as you can from everyone. Covid has ruined many things it's not the time to take money you should give back.
Garden waste	I find it totally unacceptable that residents in the east northants area of NNC have to pay for their garden waste. I was told by one of your employees when I rang to enquire about this that in other areas the cost was included in the council tax, if this is the case how come East Northants had one of the highest council taxes in the area.
	Just get decent contractors
	Sending five workers and two lorries to mend one post on the pavement is not cost effected. The jobs must be costing three times more than they need.
	Well you could start with banning councillors expenses for a start

	<p>Get traffic wardens by the schools in the mornings & afternoons. You'll soon make a fortune in fines</p>
Charring for garden waste bin collection	<p>We already pay for collection of refuse within council tax fee. No one should be expected to pay any extra on top of yearly rise for this service. Especially as tips are opening less and are restricted on amount of trips to tip allowed. There will be more fly tipping which will ultimately cost a lot more - coming out of the money we are putting in</p>
Waste incineration	<p>We must find a way of getting rid of our waste that does not require us to bury it or send it abroad at great expense to us. An incinerator would create energy as well as provide an income by selling the service to other councils and get rid of waste in a controlled manner.</p>
Improvement in technology; Service Redesign, Promoting and Inclusive workforce starting with Senior Managers / Councillors, Unsafe Discharges	<p>Improvement in technology and service re-design. Does this really include disabled employee's who are often not considered or consulted on any service re-design within the council. The split in unitary authorities being a perfect example of this - what has the council learned from this current state of redesign and introductions of I.T systems and processes not fit for purpose at the time of implementation e.g Eclipse, Searchlight, TOM processes.</p> <p>Does re-design take into consideration work - home life balance, is there flexibility and opportunity for homeworking as a natural option when working for the organisation. Is suitable accommodation and work stations included in the costings of service re-design and costings / equipment needed for reasonable adjustments in the workplace. Does the Council have systems in place to ensure that equipment such as Laptops, DRAGON SOFTWARE, and other relevant equipment is available for disabled employees with 2 weeks of any service re-design to promote equal opportunity within the workplace.</p> <p>Will NNCC insist on ensuring reasonable adjustments are in place in an acceptable timescale of the new employee starting their job and not having to wait for 12 months+ as is the experience of many disabled employees. How will this be implemented and reviewed to ensure changes are in place and disabled employees are able to do their job.</p> <p>Is NNCC keen to build relationships between staff and senior leadership team by introducing a 'staff care' element to H.R and support the Union Representatives to do their jobs by having time set aside to do their Union Rep duties by having a reduced workload to enable them to facilitate their Union Rep role with the time and professionalism required of the role.</p> <p>What is NNCC doing to protect their Black Social Workers and other disciplines who are discriminated in the workplace e.g overlooked for promotion and/ or when in the community when assessing the people who are abusing them e.g calling them names and refusing to be assessed by a Black worker. How are the senior leaders demonstrating their commitment to promoting that race equality matters.</p> <p>Is the Council Disability Confident? What does the Council know about the impact of service redesign on someone who has a disability - how will you manage this?</p> <p>What is the consequence for those individuals / service areas that facilitate unsafe discharges. How many has there been in the last 12 months and what happened to those individuals.</p> <p>Discriminatory Service Provision - some people do not want to be cared for by someone who has had the COVID vaccine, some</p>

	<p>people don't mind if they are cared for by someone who has had the COVID vaccine and some people are not bothered either way - what is the Council going to do to ensure those citizens who do not want to be cared for by someone who has had the vaccine has this choice. The Council is making it mandatory for all care staff to have this vaccine hundreds / thousands have left the industry as a result. What does the Council plan to do about this to promote choice as far as practicable especially given the law makers are giving mixed messages themselves.</p> <p>People from Black/Caribbean background often feel discriminated and not included in social groups that are set up due to different cultural identities, and white carers who provide care to black people often don't wash the persons hair or prepare their food because they don't know where to start - this is inequality in care provision - what is the Council going to do about it.</p>
<p>Funding for Contracts</p>	<p>These are the most common issues that are experienced by the VCSE Sector in Northamptonshire and we ask the council to review their budget to ensure that the sector is afforded the maximum opportunity to have the greatest impact on the community through commitment, partnership, transparency and appropriate funding :-</p> <p>Contracts are for periods of delivery that are too short, not a longer term commitment to the future delivery. (Often work is offered in response to an immediate crisis or funding availability.)</p> <p>Contract funding does not allow for suitable uplifts due to wage inflation or inflation generally</p> <p>Contracts are often too weighted in relation to the outcomes (reduction of hospital re-admissions) that need to be achieved rather than the inputs or outputs (hours delivered, clients supported). This is too high a risk for many organisations given the uncertainty of 'cause and effect'.</p> <p>Contracts are often too widely drawn rather than a focus on a specific or clearly defined area of work or responsibility. This favours large scale contracting and national providers, rather than local delivery. (Local consortia should be considered and encouraged explicitly.)</p> <p>Contracts can be curtailed or ended at short notice for many reasons, notably performance. Whilst this reduces the risk for the commissioner it does not allow for the charity to build up their delivery accordingly. (This also supports the point for the need for a longer term investment.)</p> <p>Funding is often available for a short term need with expectations that the delivery or service will be self sustaining. The timescales for this to happen are often unrealistic and good provision is lost for the sake of a longer term core commitment.</p> <p>Contracting and funding is often too narrowly focussed. The value added of many voluntary organisations is that they bring excellent knowledge and connections of onward referrals and support. This wider network of referrals is then not rewarded or recognised. This can create a lack of capacity downstream.</p>

Demographics

Q. Are you responding to this questionnaire as an individual or on behalf of an organisation/community group? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 305 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
As an individual	299	98.0%
On behalf of an organisation/community group	6	2.0%

Organisation/community group respondents

Q. If you're replying on behalf of an organisation or community group please tell us the name of your organisation and your job title/role:

Name of organisation:

There were four responses to this question.

- Wellie wombles
- Kettering Amateur Swimming Club
- Stanwick Parish Council
- Northamptonshire VCSE Assembly

Job title/role

There were four responses to this question. We have not listed the job titles / roles of respondents within this appendix in order to ensure respondents' anonymity is retained.

Individual respondents

As an organisation, we collect specific demographic information from the people who take part in our consultations or complete surveys to build up an accurate understanding of the communities that we serve so that services and policies can be delivered to meet the needs of everybody, and ensure that everybody has an opportunity to have their voice heard.

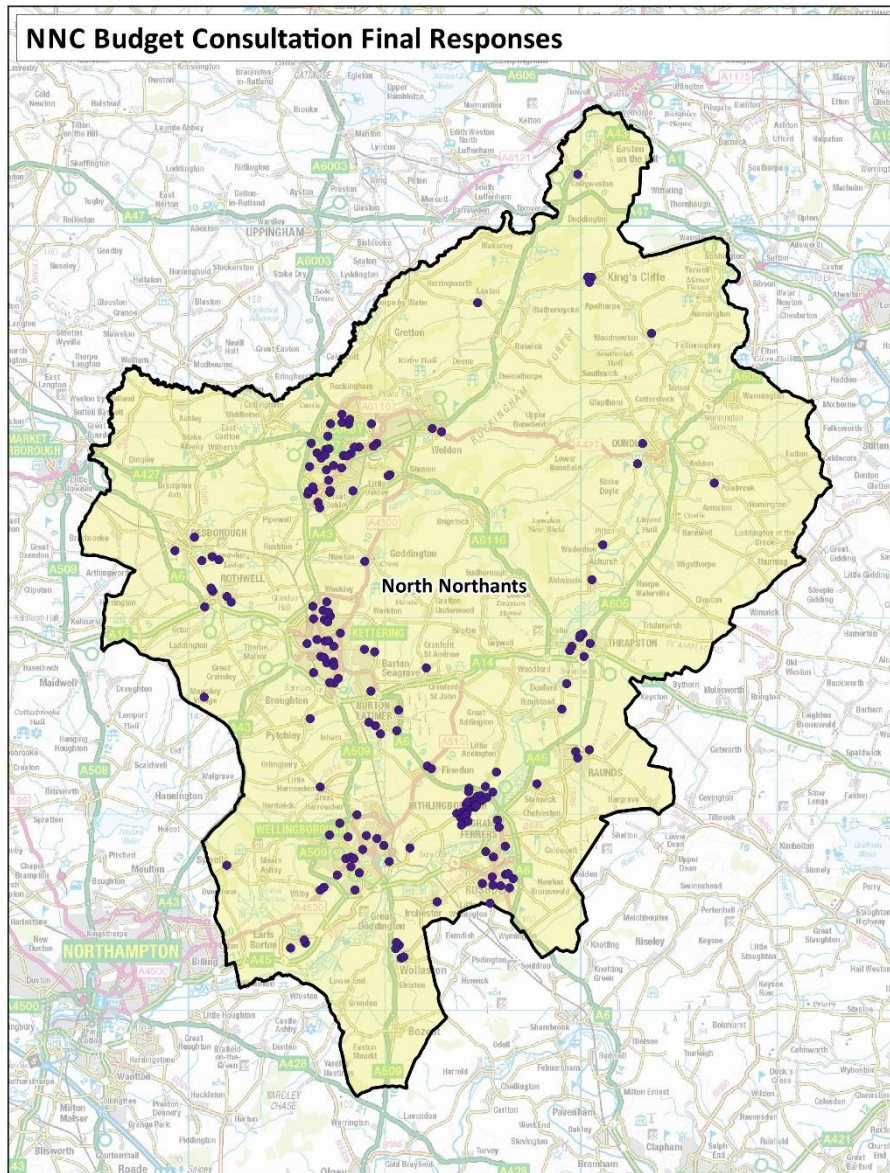
Please feel free to leave any questions which you do not wish to answer.

Any information you chose to provide will be treated confidentially and in accordance with data protection legislation and regulations.

Q. What is your postcode?

By providing us with your postcode, you are consenting for us to use this information to understand where respondents live. If you do not consent to us using this information in this way, please do not provide your postcode.

There were 191 valid postcodes provided within North Northamptonshire, 28 were incomplete and three were from outside of the area.



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Q. Are you: Please tick (✓) the appropriate box
 There were 278 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Male	129	46.4%
Female	124	44.6%
Other	1	0.4%
Prefer not to say	24	8.6%

Other (please state):

- None of your business
- Martian

Q. Are you currently pregnant or have you had a baby in the last 6 months? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box

There were 270 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Yes	3	1.1%
No	248	91.9%
Prefer not to say	19	7.0%

Q. How old are you? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box

There were 280 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
0 to 9	0	0.0%
10 to 19	2	0.7%
20 to 29	7	2.5%
30 to 49	86	30.7%
50 to 64	92	32.9%
65 to 74	49	17.5%
75+	15	5.4%
Prefer not to say	29	10.4%

Q. Do you have a disability? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box

There were 275 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Yes	50	18.2%
No	199	72.4%
Prefer not to say	26	9.5%

Q. If 'Yes', please tick the appropriate box(es) which best describes your disability?

Please tick (✓) all that apply

There were 59 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Mental Health	21	35.6%
Physical Disability	27	45.8%
Hearing Impairment	7	11.9%
Learning Disability	5	8.5%
Sight Impairment	3	5.1%
Other	10	16.9%

Q. What is your religion or belief? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box

There were 273 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
None	97	35.5%
Christian	116	42.5%
Hindu	3	1.1%
Jewish	0	0.0%
Muslim	1	0.4%
Sikh	0	0.0%
Buddhist	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	44	16.1%
Any other religion (please specify)	12	4.4%

Other:

- 1st Advent Pagen
- Existentialism
- Agnostic
- This has nothing to do with anything and none of your business
- Catholic
- [...]has that got to do with anything
- Humanist
- Pagen
- Wiccan
- Humanist
- C of E
- Why does this matter?

Q. How would you describe your ethnic origin? (Please tick (✓) the appropriate box

There were 258 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
White – British	213	82.6%
White – Irish	4	1.6%
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0	0.0%
White - Other White Background	11	4.3%
Asian or Asian British – Indian	4	1.6%
Asian or Asian British – Pakistani	1	0.4%
Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi	0	0.0%
Asian or Asian British – Chinese	0	0.0%
Asian or Asian British – Other Asian Background	1	0.4%
Black or Black British – Caribbean	1	0.4%
Black or Black British – African	0	0.0%
Black or Black British – Other Black Background	0	0.0%
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background – White & Black Caribbean	1	0.4%
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background – White & Black African	0	0.0%
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background – White & Asian	0	0.0%
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background – Other mixed / multiple background	0	0.0%
Other – Arab	0	0.0%

Any other ethnic group (please state)	1	0.4%
Prefer not to say	21	8.1%

Other:

- Martian
- white english male
- NOne of your business and stop asking as this create division in society but I can tell you I am from the most discriminated groups there are.
- White English
- White English
- Welsh/british
- I'm a human!! Is anything else relevant??
- You do not need this to gain comment on a draft budget, but you might to establish how ineffective your communications are.
- Why does this matter?
- White english
- English
- European
- English

Q. If you are 16 or over which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box
There were 269 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Bisexual	5	1.9%
Gay Man	5	1.9%
Gay Woman / Lesbian	1	0.4%
Heterosexual	200	74.3%
Prefer not to say	58	21.6%

Q. Is your sex (called your gender identity) the same as the gender you were given when you were born? Please tick (✓) the appropriate box
There were 269 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Yes	229	85.1%
No	2	0.7%
Prefer not to say	38	14.1%

Q. Are you: Please tick (✓) the appropriate box
There were 275 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
Married	157	57.1%
Single	41	14.9%

Civil Partnership	3	1.1%
Co-habiting / Living together	25	9.1%
Widow / Widower	12	4.4%
Other	3	1.1%
Prefer not to say	34	12.4%

About this consultation

Q. How did you find out about this consultation? Please tick (✓) all that apply

There were 287 responses to this question.

	Response number	Percentage (%)
From the local media (i.e. newspaper or radio)	54	18.8%
On social media	126	43.9%
As a member of the North Northamptonshire Residents' Panel	35	12.2%
From an email alert from my local council	47	16.4%
From a voluntary sector organisation providing me with support and advice	3	1.0%
Other (please give details)	35	12.2%

Other:

- Workplace email (I'm an NNC Employee)
- Pigeon post
- Through work at NNC
- NNC employee
- Bulletin at work
- Internal comms
- NCC comms team
- Council employee
- word of mouth
- This has bnot been widely publisieed because like everything you just want to be able to say well we did ask but you did not say, It should be splashed across local media, social media, local radio, etc....
- the council site
- NNC employee
- Website
- youtube add
- Evening Telegraph
- Irrelevant
- Google News
- NCALC
- On NNC website
- Tom Pursglove MP weekly email
- my MP
- rob bridge
- from emails
- Twitter

- work email
- NNC
- Nextdoor
- Weldon Parish Council
- Work
- Local parish councils
- Looked for it
- I googled it

The next steps

Once the consultation period closes on 28 January 2022, we will analyse the results and then final budget proposals will be developed before going back to the North Northamptonshire Council Full Council meeting on 24 February 2022.

Your feedback on this consultation is really important to us, and all consultation feedback will be analysed and considered, and will help Councillors make a final decision on the budget for 2022-23.

This meeting is held in public and anyone wishing to speak at the meeting must contact democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk once the agenda is issued on the Council's website on 16 February 2022. Details of how the public can address the meeting will be given on the agenda.

Appendix 2: Other responses

Feedback receive via letters / emails

There were five written responses received.

I might over looked but there seem to be no support for private residents who contributes to to council tax heavily please inform me what is there for private residents.	
I feel as we have gone into 2022 it seems to be the year the people of Britain are going to be leaning more towards the poverty line than ever before,what with the national insurance on the up also wages being taxed more plus we have extortionate energy bills landing on or mats with alot of familys choosing between food and heating. And council tax rises With this in mind,what are the plans to help familys localy who will fall into poverty,and is it the right time to be thinking about rising council tax? I feel the people of Northamptonshire and across the country deserve a break maybe consider these factors be making any harsh decisions	
This is all very well but then the town council add on and the village and pensioners suffer they have no way to increase their incomings it's a disgrace when ten million went missing never been found and no one cares. We pay more and more in villages and get less and less as it mainly goes to towns etc. with all the building it should be less more houses more revenue. I object most strongly to this increase at this time.	
The council tax rise each year since the central government had approved to increase 5% if local council wants to for adult care. This was good idea when really introduce that th Eminem collected will go towards the care. But have any thoughts been put in towards the people who really needs the help while they are working and meeting their budget of house expenses gone well beyond the level with all the energy price increase,fuel prices gone up, council tax is going up. There is nothing for working class people to cheer up. There is no consumer protection and all the services are being reduce To nil or nothing. Rubbish collection of three items from working class people is no more. No trading standards services for the people who had been cheated by builders, or to protect them from fraud.working class people get nothing protection. Even the government is going to increase the NI from April.? Great gift. I personally is suffering to get justice from Council in relation to trees going next to my house and next door is owned by council. My gutters are filled up every three months .gutter pipes are blocked up drain water is not going through. No street cleaning since the North Northamptonshire council been formed. Can I have a meeting with responsible officer or leader who looks after the budget and services to local residents please. Hope to hear soon.	
Cottingham Parish Council review of NNC Budget documents Document: Draft Budget 2022-23 and Medium-Term Financial Plan	
Items with particular relevance to rural areas & Parish Councils	CPC comment
2.18 For 2022-23, the Government has indicated that Local Government will be able to increase Council Tax by up to 2% for core pressures, and a further 1% precept for Adult Social Care.	Imposed by Govt
2.19 To help maintain and protect levels of service provision it is proposed that the Council will consult on a core Council Tax increase of 1.99% ... and ... the allowable social care precept increase of 1% in full.	Increase of £45.83 for most Cottingham households. Excludes the impact of CPC's 2% precept increase

<p>An overall increase of 2.99% for 2022-23. This would represent a Band D level of Council Tax for North Northamptonshire Council of £1,578.73 which is an increase of £45.83 (equivalent to £0.88 per week) from the Band D Council Tax level of £1,532.90 in 2021-22.</p>	
<p>2.22 The Council initially had a forecast funding gap of £18.5m for 2022-23 which included an estimate for the loss of income from funding reforms. Having incorporated the announcements made as part of the Autumn Budget, applying a Council Tax increase of 2.99% (including 1% for Adult Social Care) and revising the budget assumptions for 2022-23 including a number of new spend pressures and savings, the Council is now able to propose a balanced draft budget for 2022-23.</p>	<p>Better news than expected – a significant deficit was anticipated, but now looking like a ‘break even’ scenario. This is good news for Parish Councils who anticipated having to plug a deficit hole.</p>
<p>4.10 Core Spending Power (CSP) is a measure of the resources available to local authorities to fund service delivery. For local authorities it is estimated that Core Spending Power will increase by an average of 3% in real terms each year over the three years ... It is not yet known how the funding will be allocated to individual councils</p>	<p>This estimated 3% annual increase in spending power on service delivery is again better than expected news</p>
<p>4.19 ... additional government funding is welcome; however, it is not expected this will meet all the extra cost and demand pressures anticipated over the period, especially as there is no planned increase after 2022-23</p>	<p>The first of several warnings that while 2022/23 might look more settled than expected but the position may change detrimentally in 2023/24</p>
<p>4.22 There was further investment announced for affordable housing, with £1.8bn added with the aim to deliver £10bn of investment during the life of the Parliament, including 1 million new homes in the Spending Review Period. £300m of this will be distributed to local authorities to support the development of smaller brownfield sites</p>	<p>The sooner we get Cottingham’s Neighbourhood Plan adopted the better!</p>
<p>5.53 There was an increase nationally of £4m for Rural Services Delivery Grant, from £81m in 2020-21, to £85m in 2021-22. No changes are expected for 2022-23 and North Northamptonshire Council’s grant in 2021-22 totalled £35k; this remains unchanged and is reflected in the 2022-23 budget.</p>	<p>No apparent increase in funding for Rural Services. But will there be, in real terms, reductions?</p>
<p>7.38 The draft net revenue budget for Place and Economy for 2022-23 is £55.2m (2021-22 is £54.6m). The changes</p>	<p>£0.6m increase to this budget section, which has a degree of relevance to rural Parishes (e.g., environment & connecting communities)</p>

<p>proposed for the budget are set out in Appendix B.</p> <p>7.39 Place and Economy is about shaping great places together – for people, businesses, and the environment. It leads and/or contributes to the following strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling Sustainable Growth • Enhancing the Environment • Connecting our communities • Transforming the way we work 	
<p>7.49 There are a number of service changes and developments which total £167k, including prior year net credit adjustments. Some of the most significant including the implementation of the Bus Services Improvement Plan for £245k and Active Travel £215k</p> <p>7.50 In total there is £2.007m for contract changes and other inflation which includes Home to School transport of £334k, Street Lighting PFI £107k, highways £455k, utilities £228k and other general contract inflation of £875k.</p> <p>7.51 There is also a credit/saving of (£600k) following the disaggregation of concessionary fares.</p>	<p>This is, disappointingly, pretty much the only reference to funding for the Bus Service Improvement Plan. - £245k</p> <p>Ditto for specific references for street lighting (£107k) & highways (£455k). More on these subjects in one of the Appendices (see below)</p>
<p>13.6 The basis of the budget strategy will ensure that the Council delivers a balanced budget for 2022/23 in February 2022; however, there are risks that may cause expenditure to increase or income to reduce. Consequently, income and expenditure levels will be kept under review throughout the budget process.</p>	<p>Warning that things might yet change!</p>
<p>13.36 No distinct community impacts have been identified as a result of the proposals included in this report.</p>	<p>Generally Cottingham Parish Council agrees that, overall, there is nothing in the NNC documents that oblige us to make any radical changes to the decisions we have made about our 2022/23 budget</p>
<p>Document: (ADDENDUM TO DRAFT BUDGET 2022-23 & MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN</p>	
<p>Items with particular relevance to rural areas & Parish Councils</p>	<p>GWR comment e.g., possible impact on CPC budget</p>
<p>2.1 The Local Government Finance Settlement is a one-year settlement for 2022- 23 only. Indeed, more fundamental changes in local government funding have been clearly signalled for 2023-24, so this one-year settlement, which is predominantly a rollover from the previous year, is generally focussed on “stability”.</p>	<p>Another warning that things might change and that 2023/24 might bring more challenges. This is repeated a couple more times in this doc (4.1, 4.2)</p>
<p>2.10 the 2022-23 settlement is a one-year holding position and represents a favourable movement of £6.188m against the Council’s budget proposals.</p>	<p>As above – and identifying that funds in this aspect are £6.188m to the good.</p>

3.5 Council Tax. The Government calculations assume that every authority will increase Band D Council Tax by the maximum amount allowable (core 1.99% (2% referendum limit) and 1% for ASC precept)	A repeat of the point about Council Tax in the main document. We need to be aware of the 'hit' each home will take
3.7 Rural Services Deliver Grant - NNC Allocation £35k. No change to the funding assumption in the budget.	No increase or reduction in Rural Services money
3.17 Ministers have not set a maximum precept increase for any of the mayoral combined authorities and has also decided to defer setting any referendum principles for town and parish councils.	Note: Parish Councils are not restrained in their precept setting– YET!
Document: General Fund Capital Program 2022-23 to 2024-25 – Appendix A	
Items with particular relevance to rural areas & Parish Councils	
<i>Cottingham Parish Council notes these elements as having a degree of direct relevance to our Parish</i>	
Community Fund - £40k	
Grants - Village Halls - £32k	
Northamptonshire Superfast Broadband - £1.5m	
Replacement Wheelie Bins - £52k	
Environment Projects - £105k	
Document: Development Pool 2022-23 to 2023-24 – Appendix C	
Items with particular relevance to rural areas & Parish Councils	
<i>Cottingham Parish Council notes these elements as having a degree of direct relevance to our Parish</i>	
Non-ring fenced DfT grant for the maintenance of highways assets.- £4.9m	
Highways Asset Management - £323k	
LTP Integrated Transport - Non-ring fenced DfT grant for small scale improvements delivering the objectives of the Local Transport Plan - £1.3m	
Ring-fenced DfT grant for the repair of potholes. - £344k	
Flood Alleviation - As bid for from Environment Agency and funding secured from external bodies e.g. Anglian Water. - £357k	

Feedback received via social media

There were 18 comments made directly to our social media channels regarding the consultation. Names have been redacted from social media comments.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are increasing the Council Tax... You can afford to let East Northants residents have free brown bins in line with other towns in North Northants.. Its disgusting that some have to pay while others Remain free within the same county • More tax for less service as usual • All included in North northants should be treated fairly , not one level for the built up towns with all amenities and a higher level for surrounding villages with very little amenities eg public transport , doctors surgeries, policing . All should either pay or not pay for things like brown bins and street lighting not some do some don't . • I thought it said daft budget consultation , just didn't look right |
|--|

- How about an enclosed dog walking field as they have in Higham ferrers instead of having to walk our dogs in parks full of glass and needles
- Drop the planned increase in adult social care. We going to pay for it through an increase in NI from April. It's a joke double taxes for the same thing. It is about times the council stop wasting our money. The General public is not a cash cow for the council
- When was this posted on Facebook ? Today is the 26th,not long to go.
- Why are we only seeing this now on Facebook on the deadline day
- That is the strangest budget statement I have ever seen. The changes to priorities are bizarre.
- [name] will appear to max the Police and Fire precept in order to fund more pet gimmicks.
- Consultation is usually just a box ticking exercise
- More incompetent Tories.
- Take the [swear word], Like they ever listen to the people of Northampton, Get the robbing ,cheating [swear word] out. Tories worse than the Virus.
- What's the proposed adult social care precept increase projected to be?
- ...and where are the [redacted] funds??
...and where is the [legal case] deficit which is coming down the road??
- I read that as DAFT budget!!
- Bus Services ??
- Help for disabled youngsters to becoming independent in their own council accommodation