

North Northamptonshire Council Draft Budget 2022/23

Consultation

Group Facilitator's Feedback Form

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](#)

All of the above documents are available on our website
<https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/budget-2022-23>

Have your say

This form is to help assist a group of respondents to record and provide their feedback as a collective group (for example a community group) to one or more of the consultation proposals.

If you would like to respond to the consultation as an individual, or if you are responding on behalf of an organisation, then we would encourage you to complete the online questionnaire at <https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/budget-2022-23> (paper copies available upon request).

The following sections give details of the budget proposals. Please tell us your groups views by completing this questionnaire.

This questionnaire focusses on the new proposals for the draft budget 2022/23 that will likely affect resident 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.

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

Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.

About you

Name of facilitator(s)	
Name of organisation/group	
Date of meeting	
Number of participants	

Which of the below customer categories best describes the participants?

(Please tick (√) all that apply)

Older People	<input type="checkbox"/>
Younger Adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black or Minority Ethnic Group	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify):	
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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.

2) To what extent do you agree or disagree that we should increase Council Tax by 1.99% to help fund services?

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.

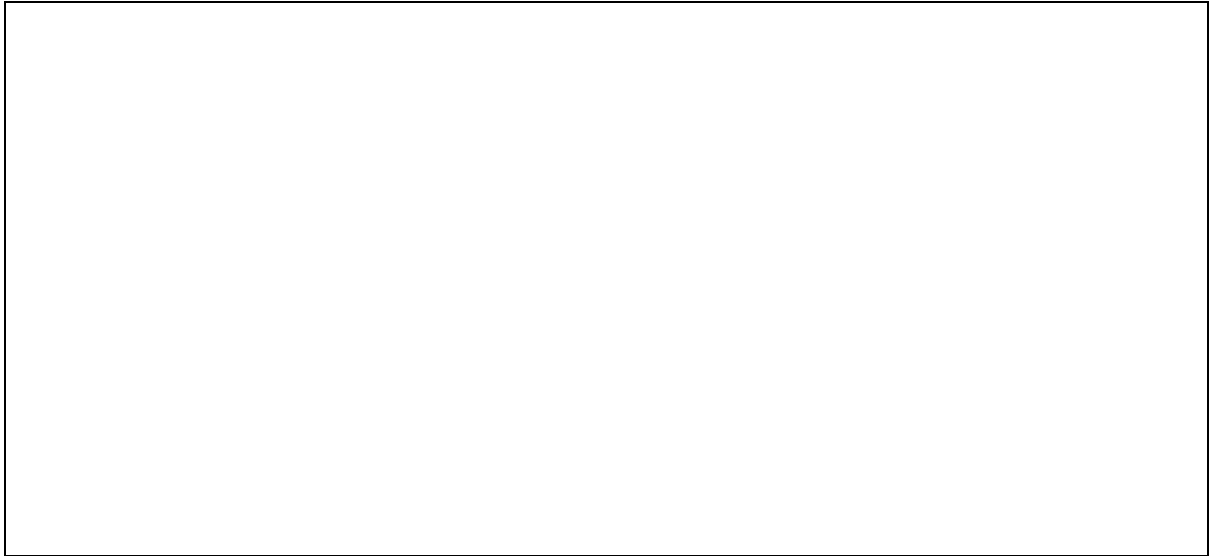
Band	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase
A	£20.33	£0.39
B	£23.72	£0.46
C	£27.11	£0.52
D	£30.50	£0.59
E	£37.28	£0.72
F	£44.06	£0.85
G	£50.83	£0.98
H	£61.00	£1.17

Please tick (✓) relevant answer

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

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

4) 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?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the respondent to provide their answer to the question above. The box is currently blank.

5) 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?

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

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

Please tick (✓) relevant answer

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

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

7) 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?

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

8) If you have any comments to make on these schemes, please tell us here:

Name of scheme(s):

Comments:

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 reports on our website at <https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/budget-2022-23>

- 9) 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:**

Name of proposal(s):

Comments:

10) How did you find out about this consultation?

Please tick (✓) all that apply

From the local media (i.e. newspaper or radio)	<input type="checkbox"/>
On social media	<input type="checkbox"/>
As a member of the North Northamptonshire Residents' Panel	<input type="checkbox"/>
From an email alert from my local council	<input type="checkbox"/>
From a voluntary sector organisation providing me with support and advice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

If Other, please give details:

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.

Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire. Please return it to:

Email address: CET@northnorthants.gov.uk

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

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