



Budget Consultation – 2013/2014

October 2012

1. Introduction

As part of our annual process, we wished to review the Council Tax and Charges strategy for the development of the Council's 2013/2014 budget and ensure that funding is put into areas of highest priority. An important element of this process is to understand the views of residents, businesses, and local community and voluntary organisations.

2. Methodology

An event was held in Ankerside Shopping Centre where the public could drop-in and talk to Cabinet Members about their priorities for spending.

In addition, there were three surveys available – one tailored for businesses, one tailored for the voluntary and community sector and one tailored for residents.

These surveys were promoted through various council-run social media sites and emailed to the citizens panel, the Think Local database and the Tamworth Council for Voluntary Service database.

220 responses were received for the budget consultation residents' survey.

21 responses were received for the business survey and 20 responses for the voluntary and community sector survey.

4. Main findings

From the questionnaires and event we have learned:

Priorities for spending

- There are four areas which are believed to warrant additional expenditure: tackling anti-social behaviour, street cleaning, improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth and parks and open spaces.
- Around half of respondents see littering and dog fouling as a major issue in Tamworth.
- Respondents feel that spending more on areas such as sport and leisure and increasing employment will tackle issues of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Refuse collection and recycling is seen by residents as an area where Tamworth Borough Council performs well.
- The development of the town centre is a priority for residents and businesses. There is much support for linking Ventura Park and the town centre.
- Respondents would like to see more quality employment brought into Tamworth.
- Respondents would like to see a better quality of shops in the town centre.

Charges

- Respondents would not like to see any increase in parking charges or town centre rents and would actually like to see reductions in these charges. Respondents felt that car parking should be free of charge to encourage the use of the town centre.

Saving costs

- Many respondents feel the Council should look at internal cost savings rather than cutting services or increasing charges

Council Tax

- When asked which level of increase for Council Taxes respondents would like, the majority opt for 0.67% or 1%.

5. Survey results

Priorities for spending

Respondents were asked whether we should spend more, the same, or less on services from our major cost areas.

For the majority of cost areas, respondents expressed the view that spending should remain the same.

There are four cost areas where a high proportion of respondents would like to see an increase in spending; street cleaning, tackling anti-social behaviour, improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth and parks and open spaces.

Sports and leisure

Sports and leisure				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	27%	58%	8%	7%
Business	42%	42%	16%	0%
Voluntary sector	22%	50%	11%	17%

Views of sport and leisure facilities

29% of respondents felt that the sports and leisure facilities in Tamworth needed to improve to make it a better place to live.

Many respondents recognise that there is a lot to do in Tamworth but express the view that sport and leisure opportunities, even council subsidised activities such as swimming, are too expensive to access.

"Tamworth's leisure facilities are targeted at the wealthy and therefore the few. Take a trip to Wyndley in Sutton Coldfield or Rushcliffe arena in Nottingham. These are couple of places that are genuinely affordable and offer plentiful leisure options. The Snowdome is monopolising its position as the main leisure centre, prices are ridiculous and the wide range of options is low"

Respondents feel that the council should do more to get residents to exercise as this will help address the national issue of obesity.

Residents are very proud of Tamworth Castle and are supportive of the ongoing work with the Heritage Lottery Fund.

“We have an amazing castle with a wealth of history”

Changes to expenditure

58% of resident survey respondents felt that spending levels should remain the same; a decrease of 18% on the previous year’s budget consultation. 42% of business survey respondents felt we should be spending more in this area.

Respondents felt that the council should do all it could to encourage take up of sports and leisure opportunities; whether this be better promotion of what is available or by subsidising charges to private facilities to make them more accessible.

“free gym membership or heavily subsidised for Tamworth residents. We used to have a residents leisure card scheme which you faded out”

It was suggested that we use the Olympics to make residents aware of sports and leisure opportunities which could encourage more people to exercise.

“The council should really build on the buzz from London 2012 (that must start with keeping the flags/banners along Lichfield Road and making them relevant to Tamworth and adding them elsewhere in the town). Sports are a great way to drive people on and more should be done to make the town proud of its many sports clubs”

Events

Events				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	23%	55%	16%	6%
Business	39%	28%	22%	11%
Voluntary sector	21%	47%	16%	16%

Views of events

22% of respondents felt that community events in Tamworth needed to improve to make it a better place to live.

Many residents who attended the Tamworth Listens drop-in event praised the outdoor events and said that it was one of the things they like about living in Tamworth.

“I love the events in town and they make me really proud to be a Tammy. Thanks for the wonderful Olympic torch procession and the events over the summer in the castle grounds. They were wonderful!”

However, it was mentioned that there seemed to be fewer events in 2012 than there were in 2011. People would like to see more events in 2013.

Changes to expenditure

55% of resident survey respondents felt that spending levels should remain the same. 39% business survey respondents felt we should be spending more in this area. 47% of voluntary sector survey respondents felt that spending should remain the same.

It was suggested that we could save cost within this area by using volunteers to organise the events or by paying for them through sponsorship.

“Try to organise community events by getting community organisers trained”

“I wouldn't want to reduce the amount of events that are held as they are an excellent part of Tamworth but maybe they could be organised within reduced costs or have some sort of sponsorship funding”

Refuse collection and recycling

Refuse collection and recycling				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	18%	78%	1%	3%
Business	21%	68%	5%	5%
Voluntary sector	0%	77%	6%	18%

Views of service

The waste collection and recycling service receives more than a 90% customer satisfaction rating.

Many feel the service has improved since the introduction of the joint service with Lichfield.

Those that are dissatisfied with the service feel that bulky item collection should not be charged for and a few express the view that weekly black bin collection should be reinstated.

“Refuse collections are best I have ever had. Pity you now have to pay to have larger items collected as more people are dumping these items on verges and roadsides”

“Bring back the free bulky item collections to discourage fly tipping and the dozens of scrap vans in the town”

Changes to Expenditure

78% of resident survey respondents felt that the same should be spent on refuse collection and recycling; an increase of 5% on the previous year. The majority view from business survey respondents and the voluntary sector respondents indicated that spending should remain the same.

Parks and open spaces

Parks and open spaces				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	49%	45%	2%	3%
Business	26%	68%	5%	0%
Voluntary sector	26%	58%	5%	11%

Use of parks and open spaces

49% of respondents felt that the parks and open spaces in Tamworth needed to improve to make it a better place to live.

Many respondents use the parks and open spaces in Tamworth and expressed the view that the Castle Grounds was very good but that outside of this area, standards are more variable and it is these areas that require greater focus.

Changes to expenditure

49% of respondents indicated that more needed to be spent on parks and open spaces; an increase of 23% on last year's budget consultation. It was felt that open spaces needed to be better maintained and equipment in the local parks could be of a better standard.

“Let's have more areas for public recreation that are not overgrown or covered in litter”

Around a half of business and voluntary sector respondents felt the same should be spent in this area.

Street Cleaning

Street cleaning				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	49%	48%	0%	2%
Business	33%	61%	6%	0%
Voluntary sector	16%	63%	11%	11%

Views of service

There are mixed views on the cleanliness of the borough. Some feel street cleaning is an area where the council fails to perform while others express the view that Tamworth is a clean and tidy place to live.

55% of respondents indicated that street cleaning was an area that needed to be improved to make Tamworth a better place to live.

Many of the negative comments are around litter, maintenance of verges and hedges, dog fouling and grass cuttings being left once an area has been mowed.

“clean it up and do jobs properly if grass is cut make it tidy and neat don't leave it rolling round the streets check all green areas make sure they are edged, plant flowering shrubs around the estates not just in

the Castle Grounds. Tree are great but only if they are maintained properly”

Respondents see street cleaning as a very important function and express the view that a clean town can have a massive impact on residents' sense of pride and general well being.

“Create an environment that shows that we care for one another, that we want to live in a clean and tidy environment and we are not being dictated to by big business and big government. Pick up grass cuttings, clear gutters and drains make Tamworth a cleaner and tidier environment”

Changes to expenditure

Although respondents accept that residents themselves have a responsibility to not drop litter, there is a belief that the Council should do more to improve the appearance of the local environment, particularly in local neighbourhoods.

Just under half of the residents responding to the survey would like to see more spent on street cleaning; which is a 6% decrease on last years result.

“primarily the streets need cleaning and waste bins need to be installed, as there is a sad lack of them in all areas, people drop litter as there are no bins to put it in. wining town in bloom is O.K. if the street are clean and tidy, but you clean up before you put out flowers”

“Litter is a major issue in Tamworth - you need to 'clean up' before any re-branding of Tamworth!”

The majority of the business and voluntary sector survey respondents expressed the view that spending should remain the same.

5.6 Tackling anti-social behaviour

Tackling anti-social behaviour				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	70%	28%	1%	2%
Business	74%	16%	11%	0%
Voluntary sector	56%	33%	6%	6%

Views of service

All respondent groups felt that tackling anti-social behaviour is a key area for both the Council and the Police.

“Tackle crime and anti social behaviour. This should be a priority”

Many express the view that alcohol is a contributing factor to the anti-social behaviour in Tamworth and blame the night time economy and binge drinking culture.

“Need to tackle alcohol fuelled anti social behaviour and damage especially in town - weekends (not a good look)”

Changes to expenditure

Respondents feel that supporting other services areas such as providing more facilities and activities, particularly sports and leisure facilities for young people and working to provide more employment in the town would help address the issue of anti-social behaviour.

“The town needs full employment. Problems like anti-social behaviour is caused by idle hands and lack of hope”

“Unemployment is the biggest cause of unrest amongst younger people. Perhaps a scheme could be developed that offered out of work youngsters the chance to participate in community projects thus providing them with healthy exercise and a 'feel good factor'”

“Tamworth Police are great but they are pushed to the limits and can't work miracles. Youth need jobs, Tamworth should build more housing giving jobs and more income to the Town”

“If you 'tackle youth crime & asb and focus on this area, less time would need to be spent on the wider spectrum of alcohol abuse / vulnerability etc. Then more focus could be given to those that deserve the opportunity for 'a healthier & safer Tamworth!’”

“we feel tackling anti social behaviour direct will not solve the entire problem and community development is the key to this issue”

70% of resident survey respondents expressed the view that more should be spent in this area; a decrease of 10% on last year's budget consultation.

Almost three quarters of business survey respondents and more than half of the voluntary and community sector respondents indicated that more should be spent in this area.

Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth

Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	47%	42%	5%	6%
Business	68%	32%	0%	0%
Voluntary sector	61%	28%	6%	6%

Views on improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth

Respondents' main concern is about the regeneration of the town centre and they feel that this will have a positive impact for residents and visitors. Respondents still feel that town centre is in decline and only offers low end shopping. There is concern over the vacant shop units in the town centre.

Many express the view that quality employment needs to be brought into Tamworth rather than minimum wage retail employment.

“Bring proper jobs to Tamworth instead of allowing huge warehouses to be built which either stand empty or employ very few people at low wages as automation does most of the work”

Respondents feel that improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth will have a positive impact on health, well-being and prosperity of residents.

Changes to expenditure

46% of respondents to the residents' survey indicated that more should be spent on improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth

This area was more important to business and voluntary and community sector respondents, with 68% of business respondents and 61% of voluntary and community sector respondents indicating that more should be spent in this area.

Respondents still support the linking of Ventura Park and the town centre and feel doing this will help the declining town centre.

“If access between Ventura Park and the town centre was more obvious to outsiders and a pleasant walk made even better, the town centre would perhaps be given a boost. Also walk/cycle links from Sainsbury's to town centre to Ventura would help. Improvements have been made but you could do better!!”

Grants for voluntary organisations and charities

Grants for voluntary organisations and charities				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	23%	55%	17%	5%
Business	26%	32%	26%	16%
Voluntary sector	95%	0%	0%	5%

Voluntary and community sector services

From the voluntary and community sector respondents, 63% had seen their 2012/2013 income affected by public sector cuts and 74% were anticipating the cuts would also affect their income for 2013/2014.

“we have had to cut down on the number of sessions we deliver due to the fact that we can't find funding to support them”

79% had seen and increase in the demand for the services they offer due to the recession and the effect this has had on the general public's finances.

“Voluntary sector organisations - less funding available and more competition for it; greater demand for services as their own service users are suffering. Volunteers - more people out of work, looking to enhance their employment prospects through volunteering”

Changes to expenditure

Residents recognise the value of voluntary and community sector organisations and the majority feel that spending should remain the same.

95% of voluntary and community sector respondents expressed the view that more should be spent in this area.

“Because of the all round cut backs being forced on local councils by both the government and the economic climate it is crucial that voluntary organisations and community groups are supported as much as possible to enable them to fill this void”

Commissioning services from voluntary organisations and charities

Commissioning services from voluntary organisations and charities				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	21%	55%	16%	8%
Business	32%	32%	21%	16%
Voluntary sector	79%	16%	0%	5%

Changes to expenditure

Many respondents support the commission of services to voluntary and community sector organisations as they offer value for money and are trusted by the residents of Tamworth.

The majority of resident survey respondents expressed the view that spending should remain the same in this area. Business respondents felt that spending should remain the same or be more. Voluntary sector respondents felt that more should be spent in this area.

Housing

Housing	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	40%	44%	11%	6 %
Businesses	26%	63%	5%	5%
Voluntary sector	22%	39%	17%	22%

Views on housing

57% of respondents felt that affordable decent housing needed to improve to make Tamworth a better place to live.

There is a view that there is a lack of affordable decent housing in Tamworth, private rent is too high and there are too many Houses of Multiple Occupation,

“We need more affordable housing both private and council”

“Build homes for people who cannot get mortgages before we have people living on the streets”

“I feel very worried at times about the number of flat blocks shooting up all round. Young people take them and then after children need houses with gardens for children to play. There will still be a shortage of housing and flats which will become slums”

“Housing in Tamworth is very difficult to acquire. Even if you're homeless as my son was living on streets and with friends for two months then privately rented which was very expensive”

Changes to expenditure

The majority view is that spending should remain the same in this area. However, 40% of residents feel that more should be spent on housing.

Housing advice and grants

Housing				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	22%	50%	21%	7%
Businesses	16%	47%	32%	5%
Voluntary sector	17%	33%	28%	22%

Changes to expenditure

The majority view is that spending should remain the same in this area.

Improved access to information and customer services.

Customer services				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	19%	61%	13%	7%
Businesses	24%	41%	29%	6%
Voluntary sector	33%	22%	33%	11%

Changes to Expenditure

The majority of respondents indicated that spending should remain the same in this area.

Business support and advice

Business support and advice				
	Spend more	Spend the same	Spend less	No opinion
Residents	29%	53%	10%	8%
Businesses	21%	58%	16%	5%
Voluntary sector	6%	56%	17%	22%

Views of service

Respondents feel this is an important area to generate prosperity within the town.

Respondents express the view that high levels of unemployment and minimum wage employment contribute to many other issues such as poor mental health, obesity and anti-social behaviour.

Changes to Expenditure

Respondents feel that the council could do more to support businesses by offering subsidies or lower rents to start up businesses.

The majority view is that spending should remain the same in this area. 29% of resident respondents and 21% of business respondents expressed the view that more should be spent in this area.

6. Making savings and reducing costs

Respondents were asked to select three service areas that they felt the council could look at to make savings and reducing costs.

Many express the view that they would not want to see any services cut and would rather the council make efficiencies within these services.

	Residents survey	Business survey	Voluntary sector survey
Sport and leisure	21%	26%	26%
Events	41%	53%	42%
Refuse collection and recycling	3%	0%	16%
Parks and open spaces	5%	11%	26%
Street cleaning	3%	0%	16%
Tackling anti-social behaviour	3%	5%	0%
Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental conditions of Tamworth	18%	16%	11%
Voluntary sector grants	34%	47%	0%
Voluntary sector commissioning	43%	37%	5%
Housing	12%	11%	11%

Housing advice and grants	35%	37%	37%
Improved access to information/customer services	42%	26%	47%
Business support and advice	36%	21%	47%

Resident survey respondents expressed the view that, if the council did have to make savings and reduce costs, the areas to look at are:

1. Voluntary sector commissioning
2. Improved access to information/customer services
3. Events

Business survey respondents expressed the view that, if the council did have to make savings and reduce costs, the areas to look at are:

1. Events
2. Voluntary sector grants
3. Voluntary sector commissioning/Housing advice and grants

Voluntary sector survey respondents expressed the view that, if the council did have to make savings and reduce costs, the areas to look at are:

1. Improved access to information/customer services
2. Business support and advice
3. Events

7. Charges

Respondents were asked to select two of the income areas where they think charges should be increased and to select two of the income areas where they think charges should be reduced.

Residents survey: charges for income areas		
	Increase Charges	Reduce Charge
Car parking	23.7%	69.5%
Public charges for leisure and other activities	54.6%	34%
Waste Management	48.7%	11.3%
Public spaces	48.7%	12.8%
Town Centre	20.4%	66.5%

Business survey: charges for income areas		
	Increase Charges	Reduce Charge
Car parking	43.8%	52.6%
Public charges for leisure and other activities	50%	36.8%
Waste Management	25%	42.1%
Public spaces	75%	5.3%
Town Centre	6.3%	57.9%

Voluntary sector survey: charges for income areas		
	Increase Charges	Reduce Charge
Car parking	38.5%	50%
Public charges for leisure and other activities	30.8%	43.8%
Waste Management	61.5%	18.8%
Public spaces	46.2%	18.8%
Town Centre	15.4%	62.5%

Many respondents felt that no increase in charges should be made because residents are already financially strained.

The majority from those that did answer this question in the resident survey expressed the view that, if the council did increase charges, the areas to look at are:

1. Public charges for leisure and other activities
2. Public spaces

Resident respondents would least want to see an increase in charges for car parking and town centre charges. Many felt that car parking charges were too expensive and expressed the view that parking should be free to encourage people to shop in the town. It was thought that a reduction in town centre rents would encourage more businesses into the town centre, helping to regenerate it.

The majority of business respondents expressed the view that, if the council did increase charges, the areas to look at are:

1. Public spaces
2. Public charges for leisure and other activities

The majority of voluntary and community sector respondents expressed the view that, if the council did increase charges, the areas to look at are:

1. Waste Management
2. Public spaces

8. Council Tax Levels

Respondents were shown a series of scenarios describing options for increase in Council Tax, as shown below:

Band B		Band D			Increase in Council Tax Income per Year £'000	4 Year Cumulative Income £'000
Increase £	Charge £	Increase £ %		Charge £		
0.77	117.09	1.00	0.67	150.55	23	92
1.17	117.48	1.50	1.00	151.05	35	138
2.91	119.23	3.74	2.50	153.29	86	344
4.65	120.97	5.98	4.00	155.53	138	550

They were also given the option of selecting a 2.5% increase as outlined in the four-year budget proposal.

Respondents were asked to consider the financial pressures the Council is under, and then asked to make a choice on their preferred level of increase.

Acceptable Council Tax increase for 2013/2014	
Option A – 0.67%	36.8%
Option B – 1%	30%
Option C – 2%	17.4%
Option D – 2.5%	12.6%
Option E - 4%	4%

Many respondents felt that there should be no council tax increase. The majority of respondents selected either a 0.67% or a 1% increase.

12.6% of respondents chose the proposed increase of 2.5%.

Data – Residents' survey

Please tell us how important our priorities under 'aspire and prosper in Tamworth' are to you, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5
Raise aspiration and attainment levels of young people.	58.8%	19.9%	11.6%	6.5%	3.2%
Create opportunities for business growth	53.0%	26.7%	9.7%	5.5%	5.1%
Work with businesses to create more employment locally	65.4%	16.1%	7.8%	3.7%	6.9%
Brand and market "Tamworth" as a great place to "live life to the full".	40.8%	18.8%	16.1%	8.7%	15.6%
Create the technology and physical infrastructure necessary	43.3%	27.6%	14.7%	8.8%	5.5%

Please tell us how important our priorities under 'be healthier and safer in Tamworth' are to you, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tackle poor health in children	55.8%	18.9%	12.0%	6.0%	4.1%	3.2%
Improve the health of older people	45.2%	24.4%	10.1%	6.9%	9.7%	3.7%
Tackle alcohol abuse	45.2%	19.8%	11.5%	6.0%	7.4%	10.1%
Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour	67.6%	16.0%	5.9%	1.4%	3.7%	5.5%
Tackle youth crime and anti-social behaviour.	67.1%	18.5%	5.6%	1.9%	2.3%	4.6%
Protect those most vulnerable in our local communities	55.6%	20.4%	11.6%	3.7%	4.2%	4.6%

Please select FIVE things from the list below that you believe are the most important for making somewhere a good place to live.

85.6%	Low levels of crime	35.2%	Good shopping facilities	68.1%	Good job prospects
58.3%	Good health services	55.1%	Affordable decent housing	11.1%	Community events
44.0%	Clean streets	52.8%	Good parks and open spaces		
62.5%	Good education provision	23.1%	Good sports and leisure facilities		

Please tick FIVE things you feel need to improve most to make Tamworth a better place to live.

77.4%	Level of crime	37.7%	Shopping facilities	28.8%	Sports and leisure facilities
38.7%	Health service	57.1%	Affordable decent housing	82.1%	Job prospects
55.2%	Cleanliness of streets	49.1%	Parks and open spaces		
34.0%	Education provision	21.7%	Community events		

For the following services, do you think we should spend more, the same or less?

	More	Same	Less	No opinion
Sports and Leisure	27.0%	58.3%	8.1%	6.6%
Events	22.6%	54.8%	16.3%	6.3%
Refuse collection and recycling	17.8%	77.5%	1.4%	3.3%

Parks, open spaces	49.3%	45.0%	2.4%	3.3%
Street cleaning	49.3%	48.3%	0.0%	2.4%
Tackling anti-social behaviour	69.5%	27.7%	0.9%	1.9%
Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth	46.9%	42.2%	4.7%	6.2%
Grants for voluntary organisations and charities	22.9%	54.8%	17.1%	5.2%
Commissioning services from voluntary organisations and charities	20.9%	55.3%	15.5%	8.3%
Housing	39.6%	43.9%	10.8%	5.7%
Housing advice and grants	21.8%	50.0%	21.4%	6.8%
Improved access to information/customer services	19.0%	61.1%	12.8%	7.1%
Business support and advice	28.9%	53.1%	10.4%	7.6%

From the services listed below, if the Council had to make savings or reduce costs, which services do you think we should look at. Please select THREE.

21.0%	Sports and leisure	33.7%	Voluntary sector grants
41.0%	Events	42.9%	Voluntary sector commissioning
2.9%	Refuse collection and recycling	12.2%	Housing
4.9%	Parks, open spaces	34.6%	Housing advice and grants
3.4%	Street cleaning	42.0%	Improved access to information/customer services
2.9%	Tackling anti-social behaviour	36.1%	Business support and advice
17.6%	Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth		

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should increase charges for?

23.7%	Car parking	48.7%	Waste management	20.4%	Town centre rental (market and shop rent)
54.6%	Public charges for leisure and other activity	48.7%	Public spaces		

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should decrease charges for?

69.5%	Car parking	11.3%	Waste management	66.5%	Town centre rental (market and shop rent)
34.0%	Public charges for leisure and other activity	12.8%	Public spaces		

What would you consider to be an acceptable Council Tax increase for the 2013/2014 budget?

17.4%	Option A (2.00%)	30.0%	Option C (1.00%)	3.2%	Option E (4.00%)
36.8%	Option B (0.67%)	12.6%	Option D (2.50%)		

Data – Business survey

Please tell us how important our priorities under 'aspire and prosper in Tamworth' are to you, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5
Raise aspiration and attainment levels of young people.	52.6%	10.5%	15.8%	5.3%	15.8%
Create opportunities for business growth	42.1%	31.6%	21.1%	5.3%	0.0%
Work with businesses to create more employment locally	47.4%	21.1%	15.8%	5.3%	10.5%
Brand and market "Tamworth" as a great place to "live life to the full".	42.1%	0.0%	15.8%	21.1%	21.1%
Create the technology and physical infrastructure necessary	36.8%	15.8%	21.1%	15.8%	10.5%

Please tell us how important our priorities under 'be healthier and safer in Tamworth' are to you, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tackle poor health in children	36.8%	0.0%	15.8%	21.1%	15.8%	10.5%
Improve the health of older people	31.6%	10.5%	5.3%	5.3%	47.4%	0.0%
Tackle alcohol abuse	26.3%	10.5%	5.3%	21.1%	10.5%	26.3%
Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour	63.2%	15.8%	0.0%	0.0%	10.5%	10.5%
Tackle youth crime and anti-social behaviour.	42.1%	36.8%	0.0%	0.0%	10.5%	10.5%
Protect those most vulnerable in our local communities	42.1%	0.0%	31.6%	10.5%	10.5%	5.3%

For the following services, do you think we should spend more, the same or less?

	More	Same	Less	No opinion
Sports and Leisure	42.1%	42.1%	15.8%	0.0%
Events	38.9%	27.8%	22.2%	11.1%
Refuse collection and recycling	21.1%	68.4%	5.3%	5.3%
Parks, open spaces	26.3%	68.4%	5.3%	0.0%
Street cleaning	33.3%	61.1%	5.6%	0.0%
Tackling anti-social behaviour	73.7%	15.8%	10.5%	0.0%
Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth	68.4%	31.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Grants for voluntary organisations and charities	26.3%	31.6%	26.3%	15.8%
Commissioning services from voluntary organisations and charities	31.6%	31.6%	21.1%	15.8%
Housing	26.3%	63.2%	5.3%	5.3%
Housing advice and grants	15.8%	47.4%	31.6%	5.3%
Improved access to information/customer services	23.5%	41.2%	29.4%	5.9%
Business advice and support	21.1%	57.9%	15.8%	5.3%

From the services listed below, if the Council had to make savings or reduce costs, which services do you think we should look at. Please select THREE.

- 26.3% Sports and leisure
- 52.6% Events
- 0.0% Refuse collection and recycling
- 10.5% Parks, open spaces
- 0.0% Street cleaning
- 5.3% Tackling anti-social behaviour
- 15.8% Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth
- 47.4% Voluntary sector grants
- 36.8% Voluntary sector commissioning
- 10.5% Housing
- 36.8% Housing advice and grants
- 26.3% Improved access to information/customer services
- 21.1% Business advice and support

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should increase charges for?

- 43.8% Car parking
- 50.0% Public charges for leisure and other activity
- 25.0% Waste management
- 75.0% Public spaces
- 6.3% Town centre rental (market and shop rent)

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should decrease charges for?

- 52.6% Car parking
- 36.8% Public charges for leisure and other activity
- 42.1% Waste management
- 5.3% Public spaces
- 57.9% Town centre rental (market and shop rent)

Data – voluntary and community sector survey

What type of organisation are you?

63.2%	A registered charity	5.3%	Voluntary group
0.0%	Company limited by guarantee	15.8%	Community group
15.8%	Community interest company	0.0%	Other
If other, please specify			
0.0%			

Has your income for 2012/2013 been affected by the public sector cuts?

63.2%	Yes	36.8%	No
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Do you anticipate an impact on your income for 2013/2014 as a result of the public sector cuts?

73.7%	Yes	26.3%	No
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Has the number of services your organisation is able to provide changed in comparison to 2011/2012?

26.3%	Yes	73.7%	No
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Has there been an increased demand for the services your organisation provides since the economic downfall?

78.9%	Yes	21.1%	No
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If yes, what affect has this had on your organisation?

100.0%

In your view is the current economic climate affecting your service users?

78.9%	Yes	21.1%	No
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Please tell us how important our priorities under 'aspire and prosper in Tamworth' are to your organisation, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5
Raise aspiration and attainment levels of young people.	78.9%	5.3%	0.0%	15.8%	0.0%
Create opportunities for business growth	22.2%	22.2%	16.7%	22.2%	16.7%
Work with businesses to create more employment locally	36.8%	5.3%	26.3%	21.1%	10.5%
Brand and market "Tamworth" as a great place to "live life to the full".	38.9%	27.8%	5.6%	22.2%	5.6%
Create the technology and physical infrastructure necessary	15.8%	31.6%	15.8%	21.1%	15.8%

Please tell us how important our priorities under 'be healthier and safer in Tamworth' are to your organisation, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tackle poor health in children	50.0%	11.1%	5.6%	11.1%	16.7%	5.6%
Improve the health of older people	50.0%	0.0%	11.1%	5.6%	16.7%	16.7%
Tackle alcohol abuse	38.9%	16.7%	5.6%	11.1%	16.7%	11.1%
Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour	44.4%	27.8%	11.1%	0.0%	5.6%	11.1%
Tackle youth crime and anti-social behaviour.	50.0%	27.8%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%
Protect those most vulnerable in our local communities	77.8%	0.0%	16.7%	5.6%	0.0%	0.0%

For the following services, do you think we should spend more, the same or less?

	More	Same	Less	No opinion
Sports and Leisure	22.2%	50.0%	11.1%	16.7%
Events	21.1%	47.4%	15.8%	15.8%
Refuse collection and recycling	0.0%	76.5%	5.9%	17.6%
Parks, open spaces	26.3%	57.9%	5.3%	10.5%
Street cleaning	15.8%	63.2%	10.5%	10.5%
Tackling anti-social behaviour	55.6%	33.3%	5.6%	5.6%
Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth	61.1%	27.8%	5.6%	5.6%
Grants for voluntary organisations and charities	94.7%	0.0%	0.0%	5.3%
Commissioning services from voluntary organisations and charities	78.9%	15.8%	0.0%	5.3%
Housing	22.2%	38.9%	16.7%	22.2%
Housing advice and grants	16.7%	33.3%	27.8%	22.2%
Improved access to information/customer services	33.3%	22.2%	33.3%	11.1%
Business advice and support	5.6%	55.6%	16.7%	22.2%

From the services listed below, if the Council had to make savings or reduce costs, which services do you think we should look at. Please select THREE.

26.3%	Sports and leisure	0.0%	Voluntary sector grants
42.1%	Events	5.3%	Voluntary sector commissioning
15.8%	Refuse collection and recycling	10.5%	Housing
26.3%	Parks, open spaces	36.8%	Housing advice and grants
15.8%	Street cleaning	47.4%	Improved access to information/customer services
0.0%	Tackling anti-social behaviour	47.4%	Business advice and support

10.5% Improving the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of Tamworth

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should increase charges for?

38.5%	Car parking	46.2%	Public spaces
30.8%	Public charges for leisure and other activity	15.4%	Town centre rental (market and shop rent)
61.5%	Waste management		

Which TWO of the below income areas do you think the Council could/should decrease charges for?

50.0%	Car parking	18.8%	Public spaces
43.8%	Public charges for leisure and other activity	62.5%	Town centre rental (market and shop rent)
18.8%	Waste management		