

City of York Council

Budget Consultation



2019-2020

The Budget consultation opened on 1st October 2018 and ran until 30th November 2018. Residents were invited to give their views on taxes and service budgets by using an online budget simulator or by completing a paper survey featured in Our City.

A total of 366 respondents participated, 155 by paper and 211 online. Questions on the paper version differed slightly to those online, results have been joined where possible. The offer to make comments was available to online respondents only.

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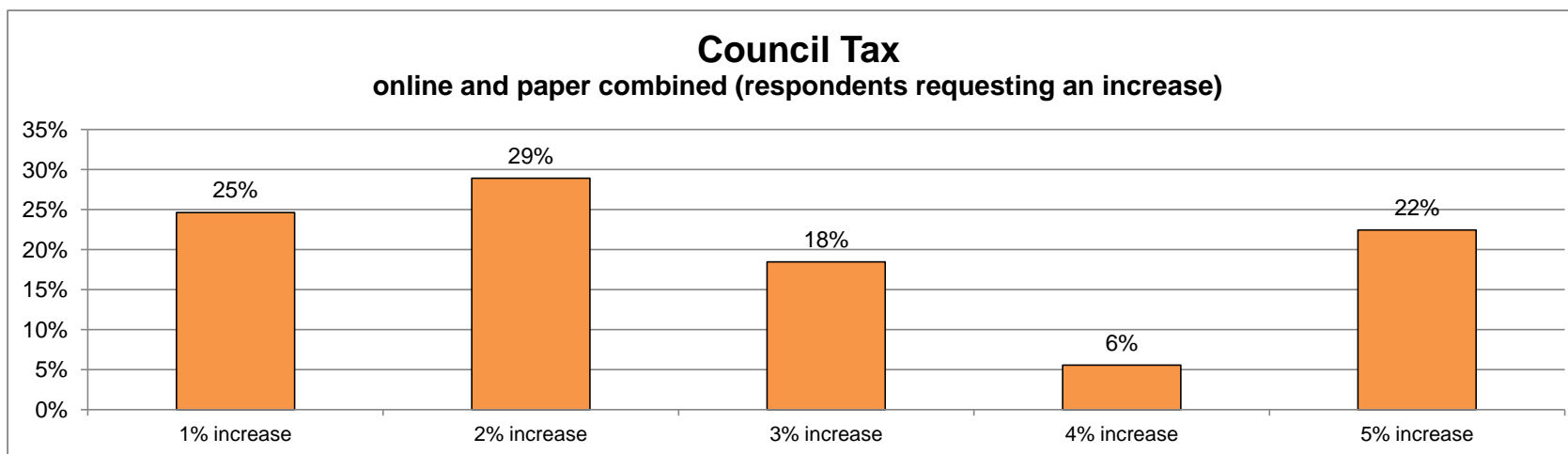
Council Tax

Online Responses

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
1% increase	23	13%
2% increase	34	19%
3% increase	43	25%
4% increase	14	8%
5% increase	61	35%

Paper Responses

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
1% increase	57	38%
2% increase	60	40%
3% increase	17	11%
4% increase	4	3%
5% increase	12	8%



Comments

56

Where possible comments were categorised into those who were accepting of an increase and those who were opposed

Accepting	31	Those categorised as accepting made comments on an increase being realistic and necessary. Comments also related to recognising a need to support adult social care and an increase only being acceptable providing an improvement in council services could be seen.
Opposed	17	Those categorised as opposed made comments relating to the current amount being too high for the quality of services offered and a rise making cost of living difficult.
Other	8	Other comments predominantly related to an increase applying to residents with higher value homes or second homes in order to protect those on a lower income. There was also comment on introducing a tourist tax and being brave.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

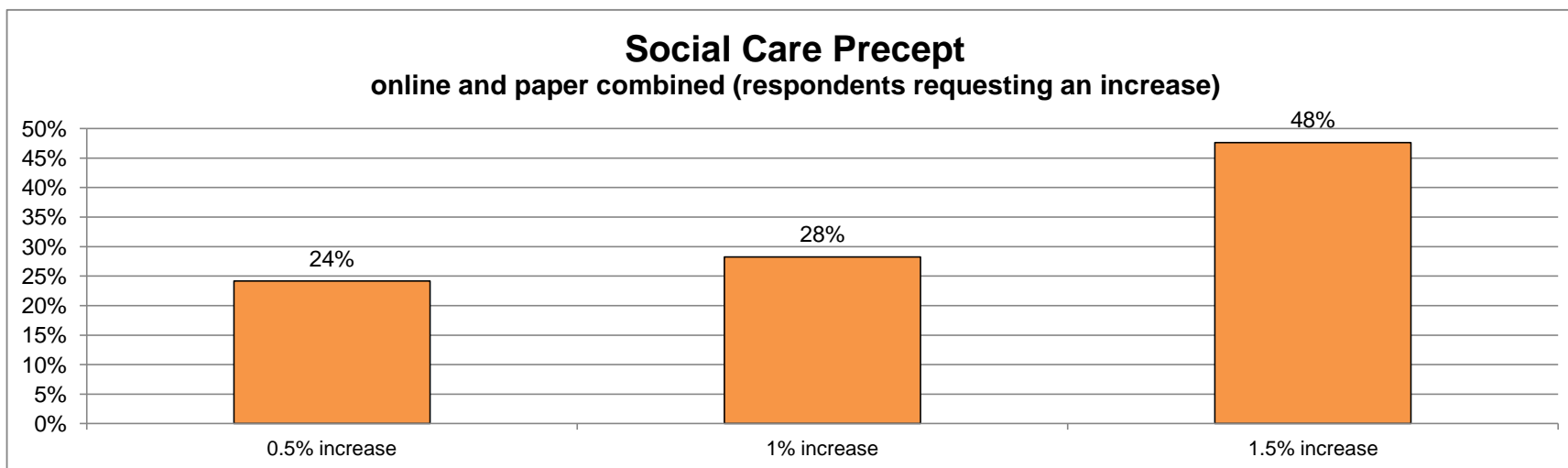
Social Care Precept

Online

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
0.5% increase	32	22%
1% increase	26	18%
1.5% increase	88	60%

Paper

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
0.5% increase	39	26%
1% increase	57	39%
1.5% increase	52	35%



Comments

24

Where possible comments were categorised into those who were accepting of an increase and those who were opposed

Accepting

12

Those categorised as accepting made comments on an increase being realistic and necessary.

Opposed

8

Comments categorised as opposed were split between feelings that the money should come from central government and general comments on cutting this budget.

Other

3

Other comments related to a range of alternative strategies.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

Fees and Charges - Car Parking

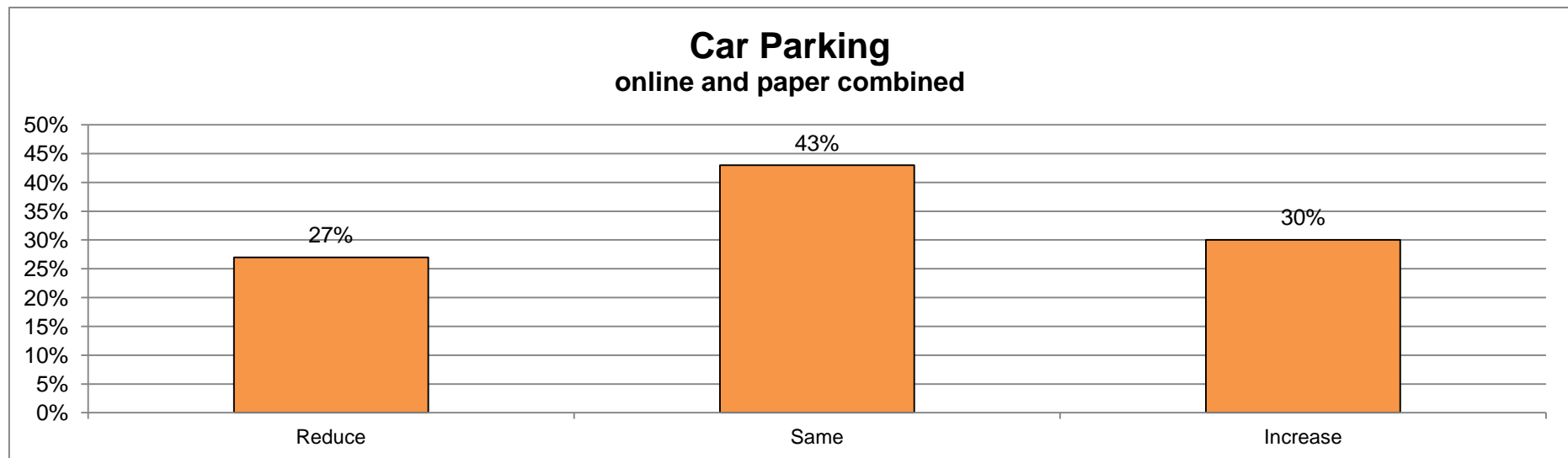
Do you believe that car-parking charges are currently fair, need increasing or decreasing?

Online

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
5% decrease	50	24%
Remain the same	81	38%
5% increase	80	38%
Total	211	

Paper

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
Reduce	48	32%
Remain the same	75	49%
Increase	29	19%
Total	152	



Fees and Charges - Other

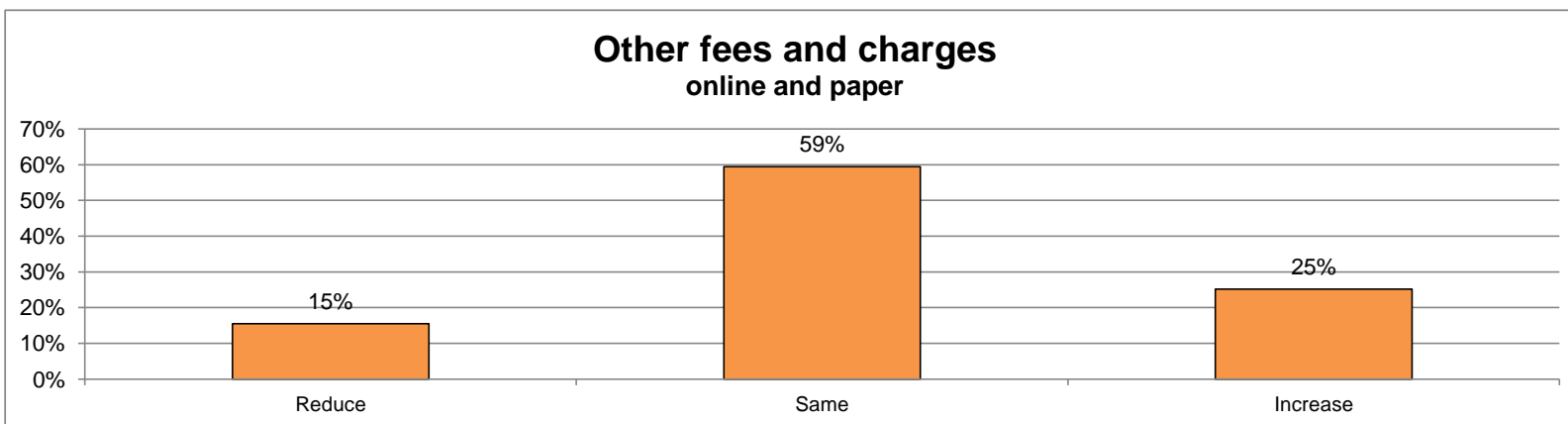
Do you believe that our fees are currently fair, need increasing or decreasing?

Online

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
5% decrease	30	14%
Remain the same	111	53%
5% increase	70	33%
Total	211	

Paper

Answer Choice	Responses	% of total
5% decrease	26	17%
Remain the same	104	69%
5% increase	21	14%
Total	151	



Comments

39

Where possible comments were categorised into those who were accepting of an increase and those who were opposed

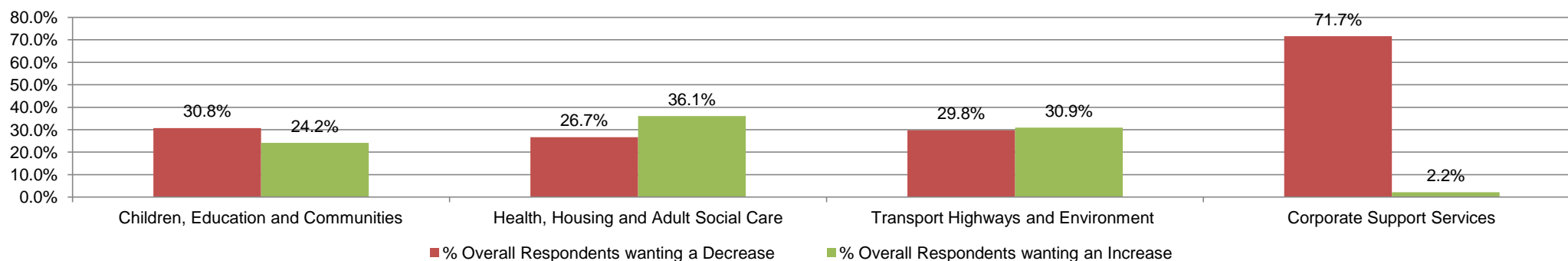
Accepting	12	The most frequent comment for being in favour of an increase related to higher costs reducing traffic pollution in the city along with general acceptance.
Opposed	20	Comments categorised as opposed predominantly related to current costs being too high. There were also comments on the current costs being fair with no need to increase, better resident discounts wanted and concerns about deterring shoppers from the city centre.
Other	4	'Other' comments included donations at free sites and tourist tax.
Don't know	5	

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

Expenditure Summary

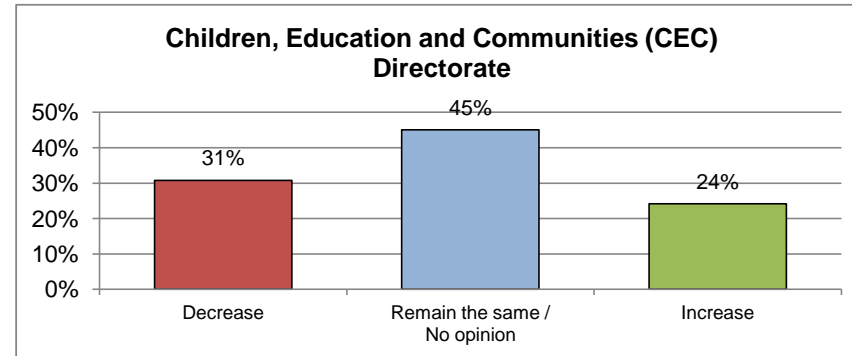
Expenditure Service Group and Item	% Online Respondents wanting an Increase	% Online Respondents wanting a Decrease	% Paper Respondents wanting an Increase	% Paper Respondents wanting a Decrease	% Overall Respondents wanting an Increase	% Overall Respondents wanting a Decrease
Children, Education and Communities	12.2%	47.7%	40.8%	7.2%	24.2%	30.8%
Children's Specialist Services	13.3%	35.5%				
Education, Inclusion & Skills	11.8%	44.5%				
Communities & Equalities	11.4%	63.0%				
Health, Housing and Adult Social Care	13.5%	44.2%	67.3%	2.6%	36.1%	26.7%
Adults Commissioning Services	14.2%	49.8%				
Adult Social Care Provision & Care Management	1.9%	47.9%				
Housing & Community Safety	10.4%	41.2%				
Public Health	27.5%	37.9%				
Transport Highways and Environment	15.2%	49.9%	51.0%	4.0%	30.9%	29.8%
Environment Services	14.7%	44.5%				
Planning and Public Protection	8.5%	53.6%				
Regeneration and Asset Management	23.7%	46.0%				
Economic Growth & Programmes	13.7%	55.5%				
Corporate Support Services	0.5%	88.6%	4.7%	47.7%	2.2%	71.7%

Expenditure Summary (% of Respondents wanting an Increase or a Decrease)



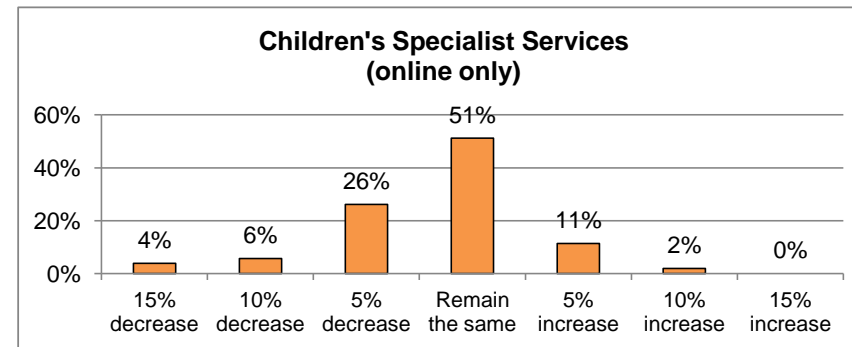
Children, Education and Communities (CEC) Directorate

Answer Choice	% of total
% Overall Respondents wanting a Decrease	31%
% Overall Respondents wanting funding to remain the same / no opinion	45%
% Overall Respondents wanting an Increase	24%



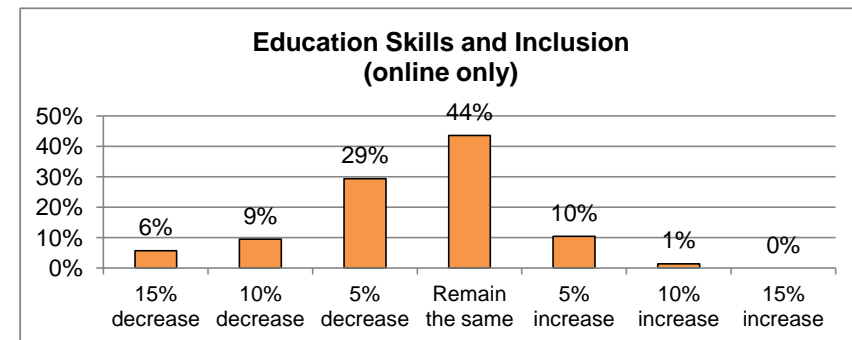
CEC - Children's Specialist Services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	8	4%
10% decrease	12	6%
5% decrease	55	26%
Remain the same	108	51%
5% increase	24	11%
10% increase	4	2%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



CEC - Education, Skills & Inclusion

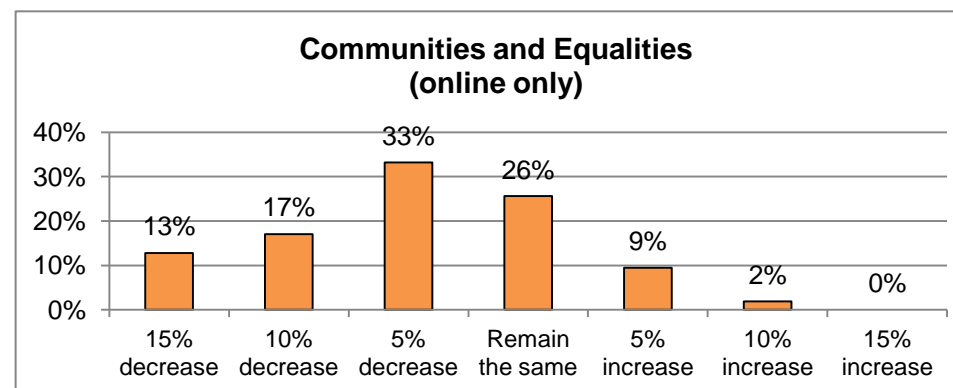
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	12	6%
10% decrease	20	9%
5% decrease	62	29%
Remain the same	92	44%
5% increase	22	10%
10% increase	3	1%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Children, Education and Communities (CEC) Directorate

CEC - Communities and Equalities

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	27	13%
10% decrease	36	17%
5% decrease	70	33%
Remain the same	54	26%
5% increase	20	9%
10% increase	4	2%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Comments

28

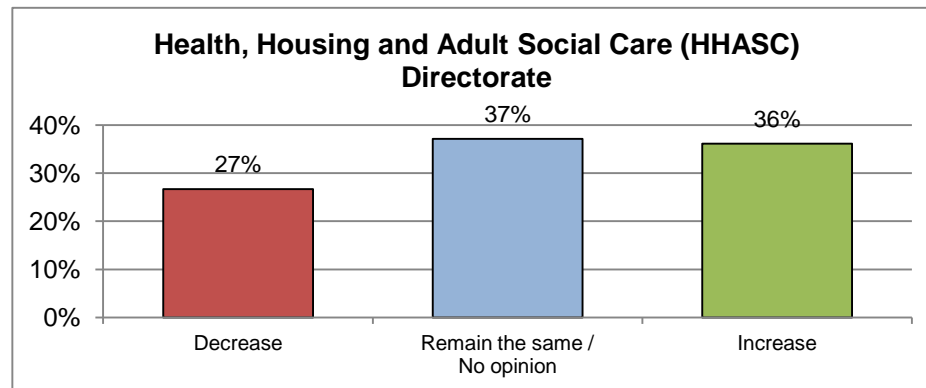
Where possible comments were categorised into service areas with the most frequent themes noted for each.

Children's Specialist Services	4	Comments predominantly related to addressing the cause and working on prevention.
Education, Inclusion & Skills	6	Comments relating to education being important, charities working collectively, cutting funding for pupils who have been expelled, more schools volunteers and funding coming from central government.
Communities & Equalities	12	Comments largely indicated a view that council funds would be better spent on basic services and that private business' should manage promotions. There were also comments on improving affordability of sports centres and swimming pools.
Other	9	'Other' comments covered a range of feedback.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

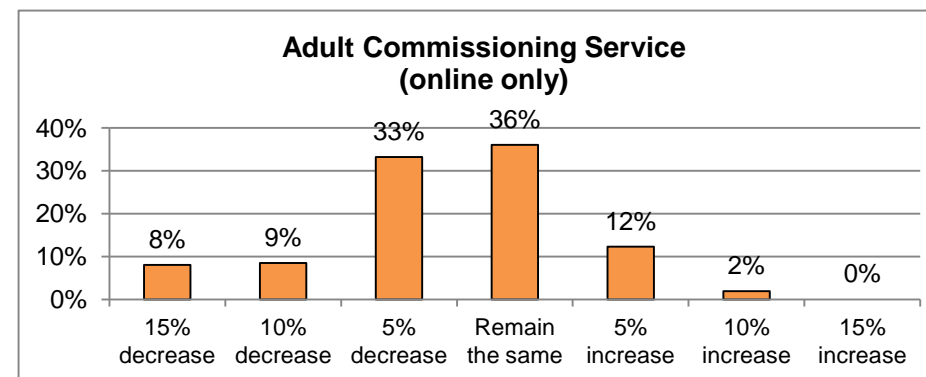
Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (HHASC) Directorate

Answer Choice	% of total
% Overall Respondents wanting a Decrease	27%
% Overall Respondents wanting funding to remain the same / no opinion	37%
% Overall Respondents wanting an Increase	36%



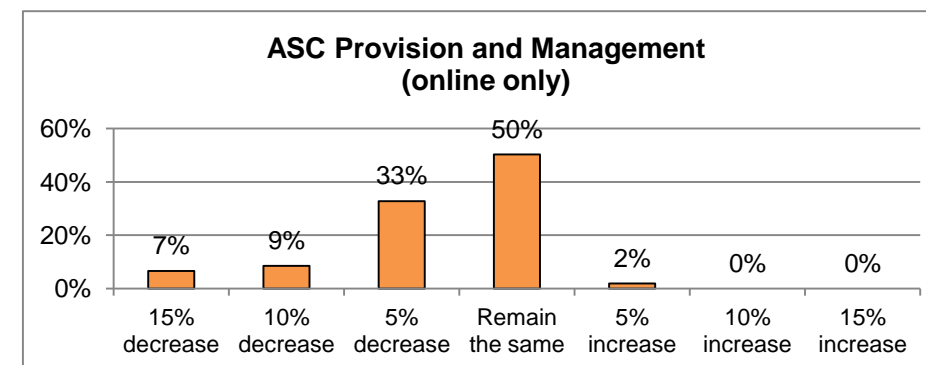
HHASC - Adults Commissioning Services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	17	8%
10% decrease	18	9%
5% decrease	70	33%
Remain the same	76	36%
5% increase	26	12%
10% increase	4	2%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



HHASC - Adult Social Care Provision and Management

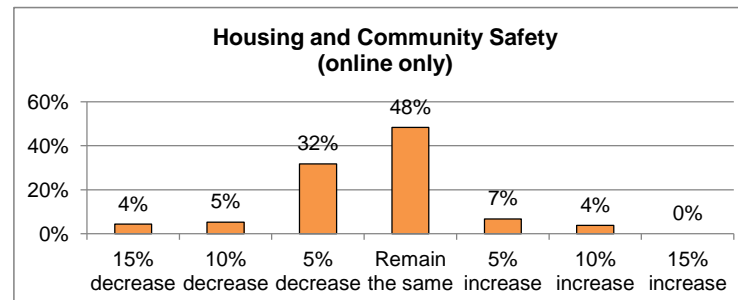
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	14	7%
10% decrease	18	9%
5% decrease	69	33%
Remain the same	106	50%
5% increase	4	2%
10% increase	0	0%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (HHASC) Directorate

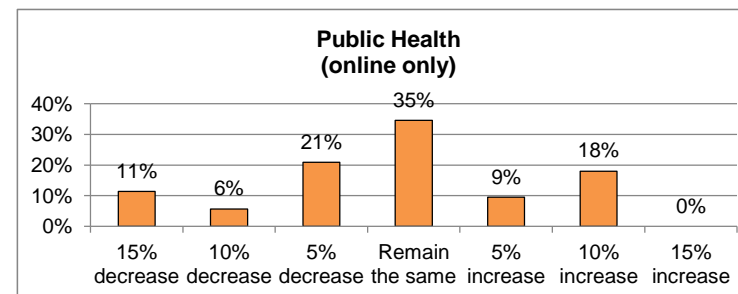
HHASC - Housing and Community Safety

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	9	4%
10% decrease	11	5%
5% decrease	67	32%
Remain the same	102	48%
5% increase	14	7%
10% increase	8	4%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



HHASC - Public Health

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	24	11%
10% decrease	12	6%
5% decrease	44	21%
Remain the same	73	35%
5% increase	20	9%
10% increase	38	18%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Comments 30

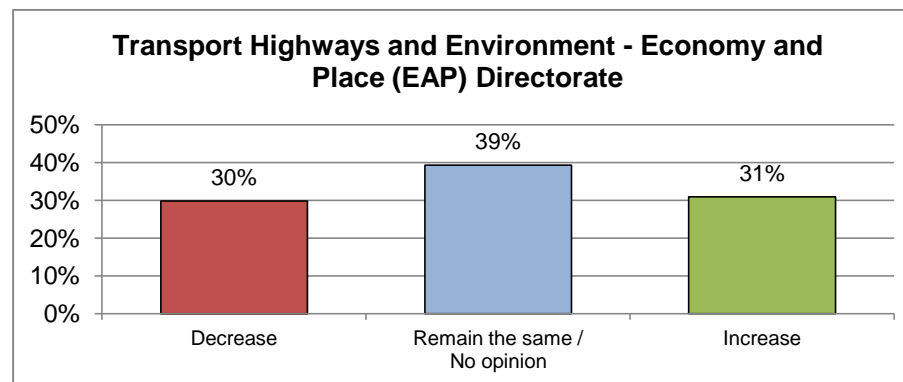
Where possible comments were categorised into service areas with the most frequent themes summarised for each.

Adults Commissioning Services	6	Comments were mixed with some saying more services should be brought in house and others saying to use private companies more. Other comments included funding from central government and identifying services for early intervention.
Adult Social Care Provision & Care Management	4	Comments covered a less flexible service being more realistic, current need for social workers too high and lack of preparation for future demographics.
Housing & Community Safety	8	Comments focused on crime prevention and better housing and services which may in turn promote better wellbeing. Other comments included housing affordability, resident accountability and leaving matters to the police.
Public Health	9	Comments were divided between valuing public health work and feelings that it should be managed by the NHS or individuals. Comments also covered better health education in schools required and more money from central government.
Other	5	'Other' comments covered a range of feedback.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

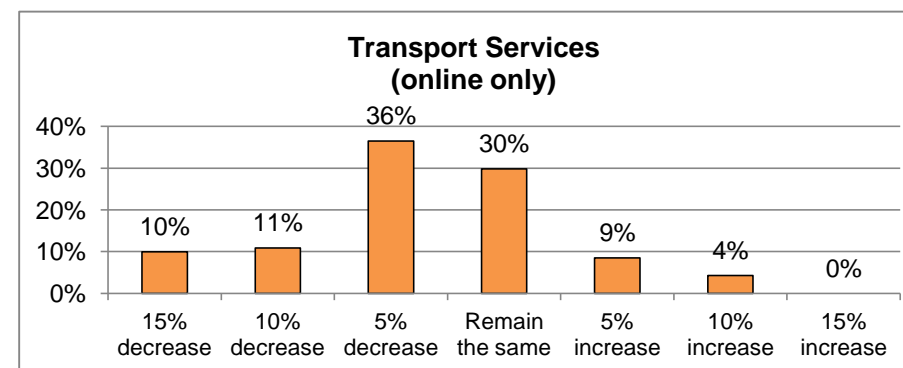
Transport Highways and Environment - Economy and Place (EAP) Directorate

Answer Choice	% of total
% Overall Respondents wanting a Decrease	30%
% Overall Respondents wanting funding to remain the same / no opinion	39%
% Overall Respondents wanting an Increase	31%



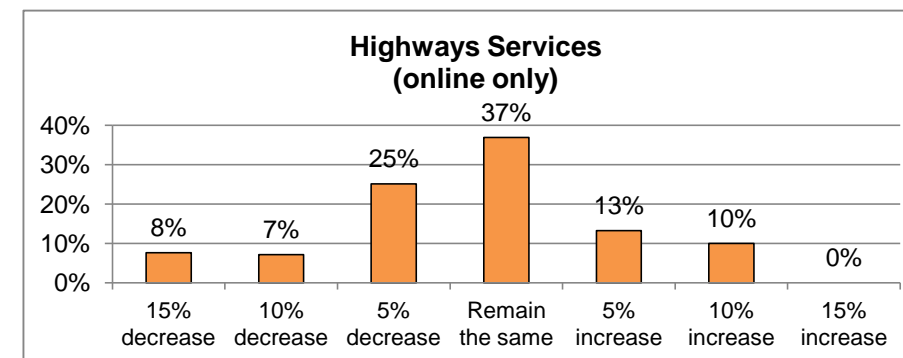
EAP - Transport Services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	21	10%
10% decrease	23	11%
5% decrease	77	36%
Remain the same	63	30%
5% increase	18	9%
10% increase	9	4%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



EAP - Highways Services

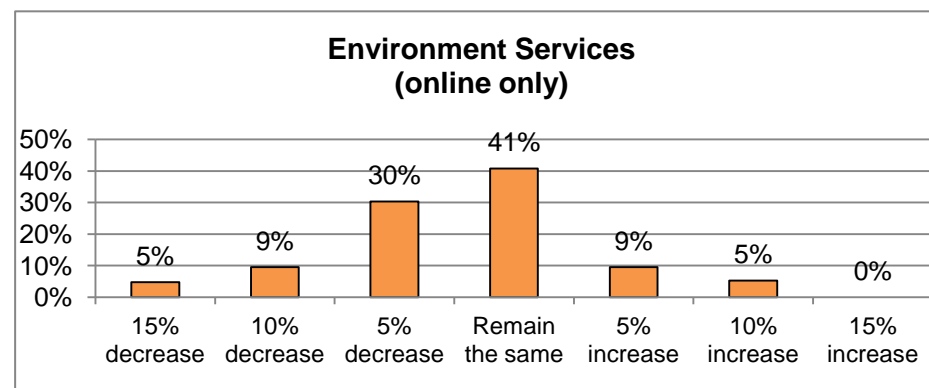
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	16	8%
10% decrease	15	7%
5% decrease	53	25%
Remain the same	78	37%
5% increase	28	13%
10% increase	21	10%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Transport Highways and Environment - Economy and Place (EAP) Directorate

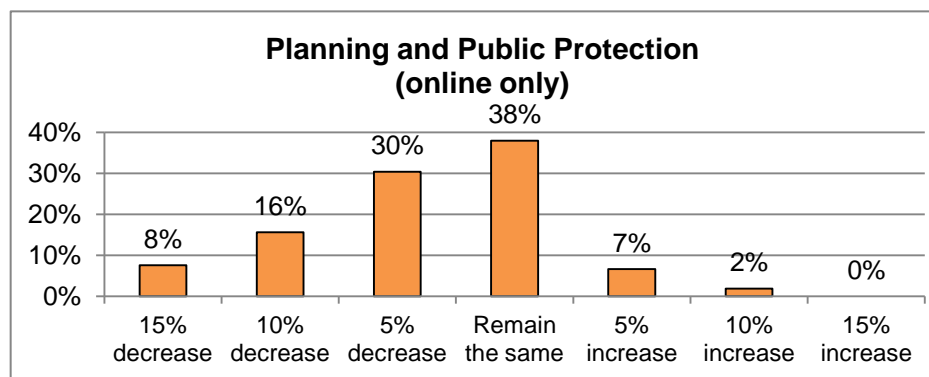
EAP - Environment Services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	10	5%
10% decrease	20	9%
5% decrease	64	30%
Remain the same	86	41%
5% increase	20	9%
10% increase	11	5%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



EAP - Planning and Public Protection

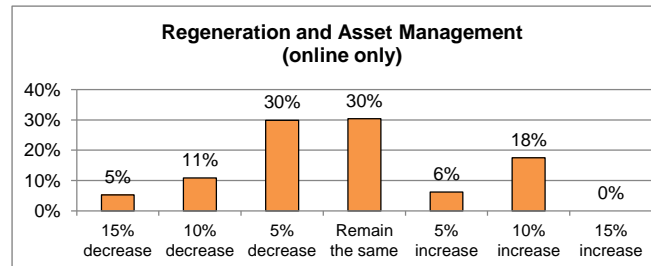
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	16	8%
10% decrease	33	16%
5% decrease	64	30%
Remain the same	80	38%
5% increase	14	7%
10% increase	4	2%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Transport Highways and Environment - Economy and Place (EAP) Directorate

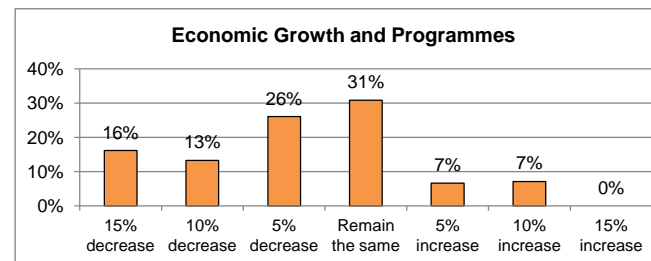
EAP - Regeneration and Asset Management

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	11	5%
10% decrease	23	11%
5% decrease	63	30%
Remain the same	64	30%
5% increase	13	6%
10% increase	37	18%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



EAP - Economic Growth and Programmes

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	34	16%
10% decrease	28	13%
5% decrease	55	26%
Remain the same	65	31%
5% increase	14	7%
10% increase	15	7%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Comments

34

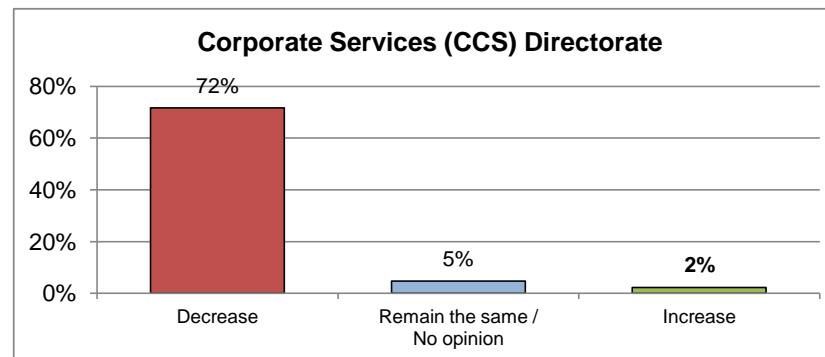
Where possible comments were categorised into service areas with the most frequent themes summarised for each.

Transport and Highways Services	11	Comments predominantly focused on improved maintenance of roads and more research into sustainable transport.
Environment, Plastic and Bulky Waste Services	11	Most comments related to an increase in investment wanted and mentioned areas such as litter collection, resident awareness and recycling facilities.
Planning & Public Protection	1	One comment relating to food hygiene being managed privately and council intervention for worst offenders.
Regeneration & Asset Management	1	One comment relating to community led organisations helping with asset management and regeneration.
Economic Growth & Programmes	5	Most comments in this category either did not value growth programmes or indicated they should be managed more effectively externally.
Business Rates	5	Most comments related to rates being increased or restructured to assess size and type of business.
Other	4	'Other' comments covered a range of feedback.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

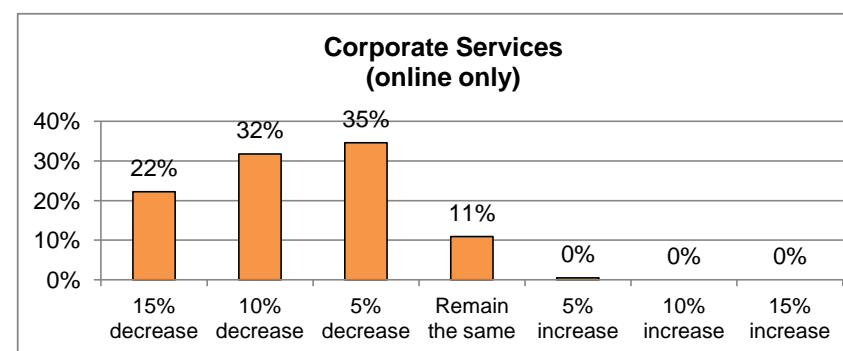
Corporate Services (CCS) Directorate

Answer Choice	% of total
% Overall Respondents wanting a Decrease	72%
% Overall Respondents wanting funding to remain the same / no opinion	5%
% Overall Respondents wanting an Increase	2%



Corporate Services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
15% decrease	47	22%
10% decrease	67	32%
5% decrease	73	35%
Remain the same	23	11%
5% increase	1	0%
10% increase	0	0%
15% increase	0	0%
Total	211	



Comments

26

Where possible comments were categorised into those who were accepting of an increase and those who were opposed

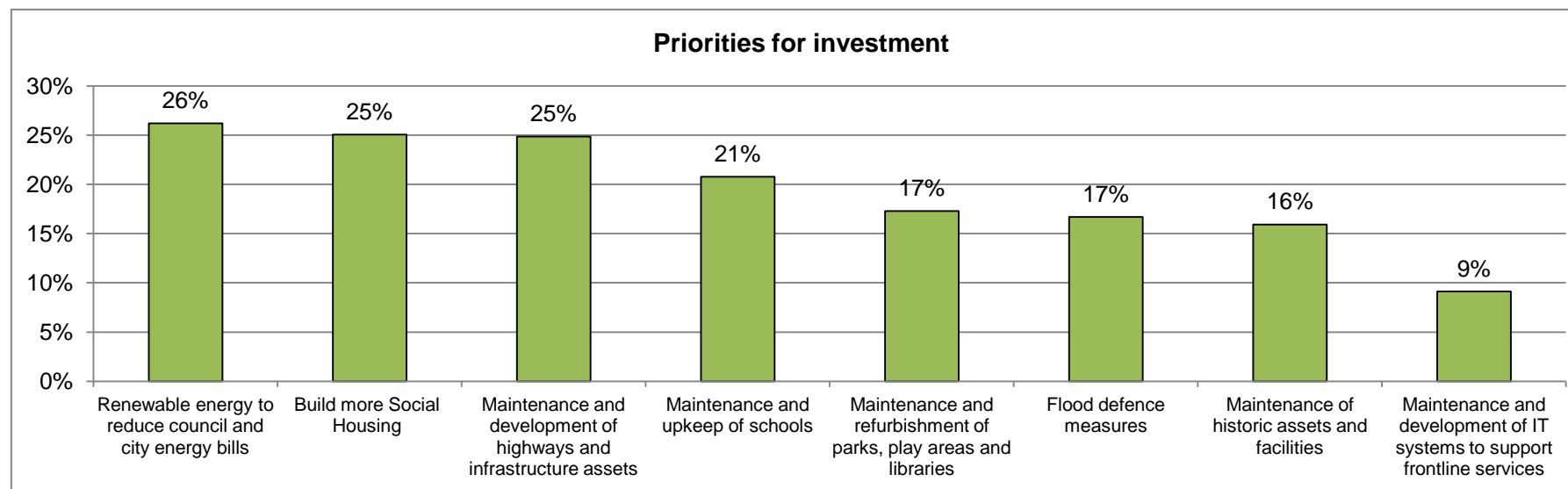
Accepting	5	Comments relating to concerns with functionality if further cuts made.
Opposed	20	Comments largely indicated views that these services should be streamlined and restructured in order to operate more efficiently. There were also comments relating to services being brought in house and also privatised along with a review of IT systems.
Don't know	1	

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

Budget Consultation

Investment Programme

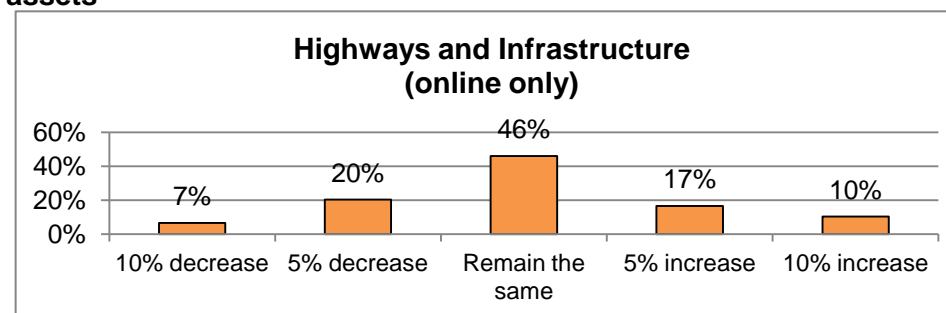
Priorities for investment	Percentage Online Respondents Increase	Percentage Paper Respondents Increase	Overall Increase
Renewable energy to reduce council and city energy bills	45%	13%	26%
Build more Social Housing	38%	16%	25%
Maintenance and development of highways and infrastructure assets	27%	23%	25%
Maintenance and upkeep of schools	29%	15%	21%
Maintenance and refurbishment of parks, play areas and libraries	28%	10%	17%
Flood defence measures	25%	11%	17%
Maintenance of historic assets and facilities	25%	10%	16%
Maintenance and development of IT systems to support frontline services	19%	2%	9%



Investment Programme

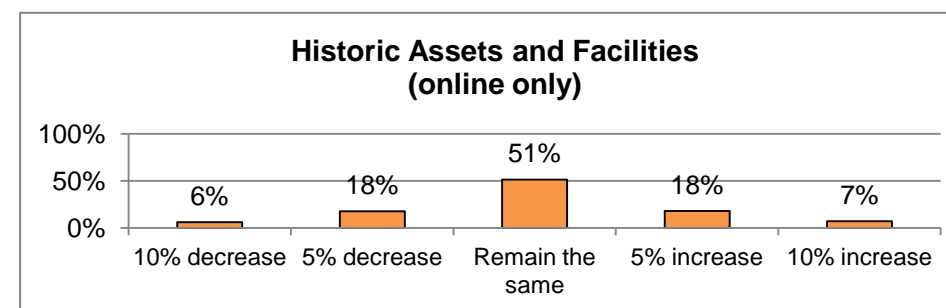
Maintenance and development of highways and infrastructure assets

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	14	7%
5% decrease	43	20%
Remain the same	97	46%
5% increase	35	17%
10% increase	22	10%
Total	211	



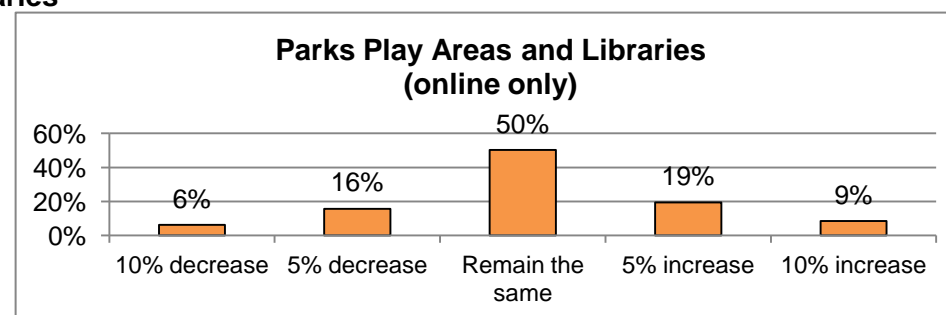
Maintenance of historic assets and facilities

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	13	6%
5% decrease	37	18%
Remain the same	108	51%
5% increase	38	18%
10% increase	15	7%
Total	211	



Maintenance and refurbishments of parks, play areas and libraries

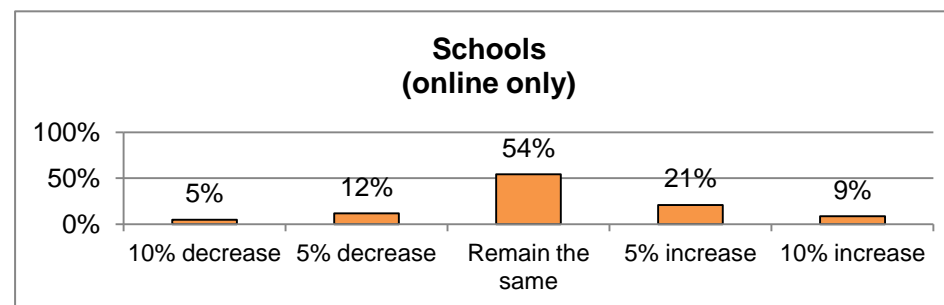
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	13	6%
5% decrease	33	16%
Remain the same	106	50%
5% increase	41	19%
10% increase	18	9%
Total	211	



Investment Programme

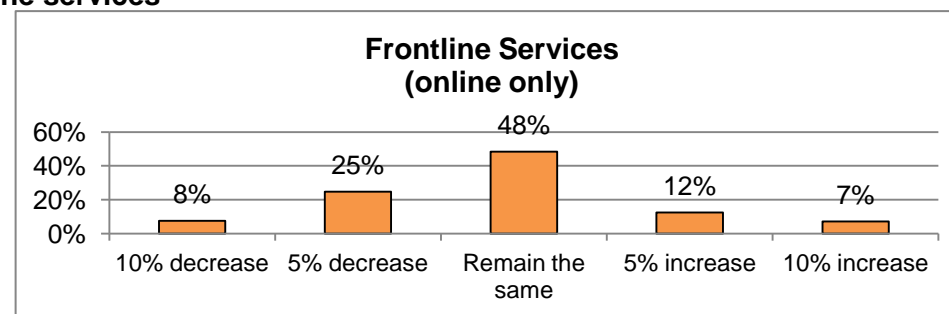
Maintenance and upkeep of schools

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	10	5%
5% decrease	25	12%
Remain the same	114	54%
5% increase	44	21%
10% increase	18	9%
Total	211	



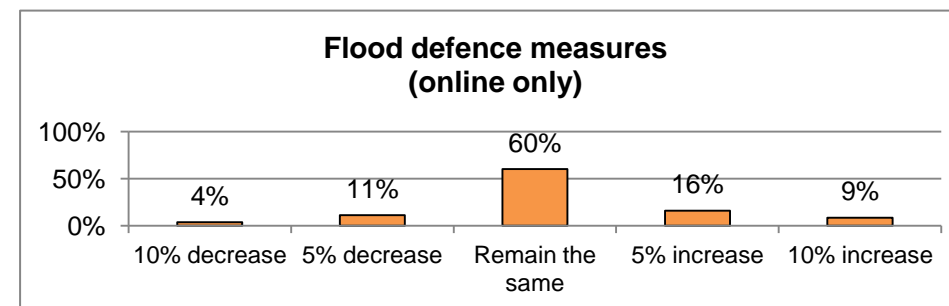
Maintenance and development of IT systems to support frontline services

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	16	8%
5% decrease	52	25%
Remain the same	102	48%
5% increase	26	12%
10% increase	15	7%
Total	211	



Flood defence measures

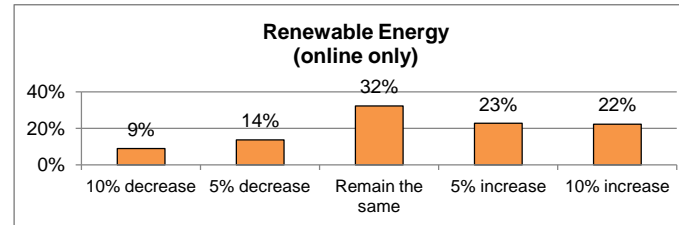
Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	8	4%
5% decrease	24	11%
Remain the same	127	60%
5% increase	34	16%
10% increase	18	9%
Total	211	



Investment Programme

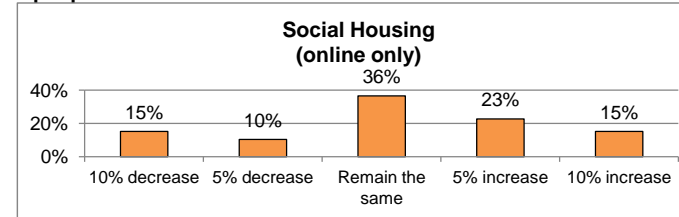
Renewable energy to reduce council and city energy bills

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	19	9%
5% decrease	29	14%
Remain the same	68	32%
5% increase	48	23%
10% increase	47	22%
Total	211	



Build more Social Housing - accommodation that is affordable to people on low incomes

Answer Choice	Responses (online only)	% of total
10% decrease	32	15%
5% decrease	22	10%
Remain the same	77	36%
5% increase	48	23%
10% increase	32	15%
Total	211	



Comments 26

Where possible comments were categorised into service areas with the most frequent themes summarised for each.

Maintenance and development of highways and infrastructure assets	5	Comments were divided between maintenance being a priority due to road conditions and busy usage and wanting to invest in sustainable transport instead to reduce traffic and pollution.
Maintenance of historic assets and facilities	3	All comments supported investment and one mentioned using a tourist tax to raise income.
Maintenance and refurbishment of parks, play areas and libraries	1	One comment relating to parks and play areas and the importance of these for wellbeing in the community.
Maintenance and upkeep of schools	1	One relating to expenditure being covered by government grants and an increase in academies lessening the need for council upkeep.
Maintenance and development of IT systems to support frontline services	1	One comment relating to money being wasted on IT.
Flood defence measures	1	One comment supporting investment to minimise future spending.
Renewable energy to reduce council and city energy bills	4	Comments were divided between supporting investment unconditionally and only do so if it is cost effective.
Build more Social Housing	12	Most comments supported investment particularly for return values through rent.
Other	8	'Other' comments covered a range of feedback.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

Other Comments

Comments 32

Comments tended to focus on final recommendations and priorities and survey feedback the themes of which are summarised below.

Recommendations	14	Recommendations tended to relate to a change in funding from central government or change in structure to local government, specifically reviewing current structures and services.
Priorities	11	Priorities covered a wide range of council services including children's, housing, heritage investment, roads, environment, public safety and putting residents at the core.
Survey feedback	8	Comments relating to the difficulty of the task and suggestions for improvements.

All Comments are in "Comments Index"

Demographics

Are you completing the questionnaire as

Answer Choice	Responses	Percentage of total response
Local Resident	182	86%
Local Business	<5	0%
Community or voluntary group	<5	0%
Other	8	4%
Declined to answer	19	
Total	211	

Age

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage of total response
16-24	23	11%
25-39	87	41%
40-55	47	22%
56-64	18	9%
65+	10	5%
Declined to answer	26	
Total	211	

Gender

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage of total response
Male	111	53%
Female	55	26%
Transgender	<5	1%
Rather not say	20	
Declined to answer	23	
Total	211	

Ethnicity

Groups	Responses	Percentage of total response
White	162	77%
Mixed	<5	0%
Asian	<5	1%
Black	<5	0%
Other ethnic background	<5	2%
Declined to answer	42	
Total	211	

Have you served in the Armed Forces

Answer Choice	Responses	Percentage of total response
Yes	9	4%
No	159	75%
Prefer not to say	16	
Declined to answer	27	
Total	211	

Disability

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage of total response
Yes	18	9%
No	143	68%
Prefer not to say	23	
Declined to answer	27	
Total	211	

Type of Disability

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage of total response
Physical impairment	<5	1%
Sensory impairment	<5	2%
Mental health condition	11	5%
Learning disability	<5	2%
Long-standing illness	<5	0%
Declined to answer	190	
Total	211	

Carer

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage of total response
Yes	14	7%
No	151	72%
Prefer not to say	19	9%
Declined to answer	27	
Total	211	