

1. Results of Budget Consultation

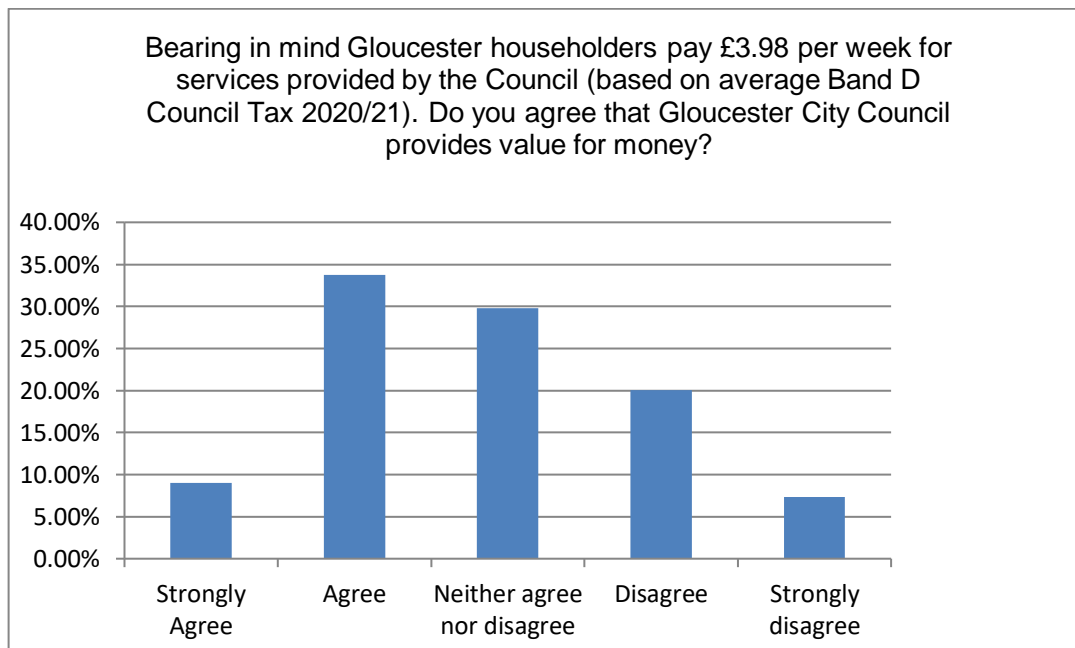
Appendix 7

- 1.1 The council's budget consultation for 2021/22 has used an on-line interactive budget survey a link to which has been available on the council's website.
- 1.2 The consultation period was for six weeks during December 2020 and January 2021.
- 1.3 Throughout this process, views of the public and other partners/stakeholders have been sought on the council's financial plans including levels of spending, potential efficiencies and budget savings, as well as opinions on fees and charges.
- 1.4 There were 305 responses received as part of the consultation process

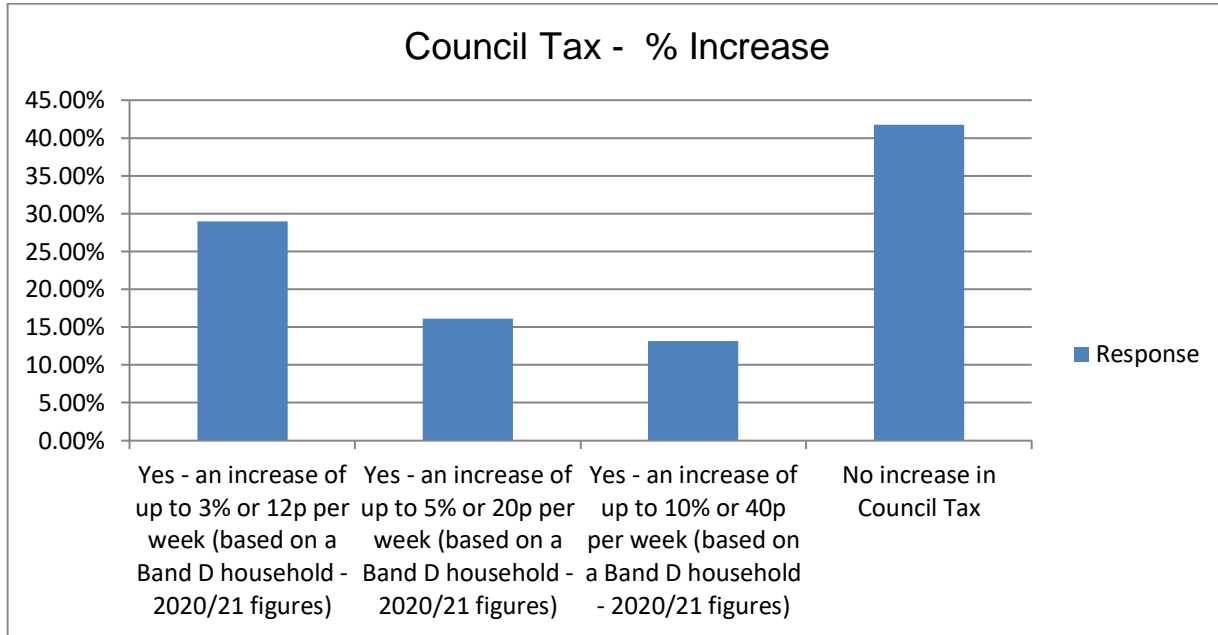
2. Consultation responses

- Q1. Bearing in mind Gloucester householders pay £3.98 per week for services provided by the Council (based on average Band D Council Tax 2020/21). Do you agree that Gloucester City Council provides value for money?

The Chart below provides a summary;



Q2. Council Tax - Increasing Council Tax helps us generate more income to help us balance the budget and prevent reductions in services. The Council increased the Council Tax it charges in 2020/21 to £3.98 per week per household - based on an average band D property. Would you be willing to accept an increase to Council Tax to ensure the Council can continue to provide services?



Q3. Which Council services are most important to you.

The responses showed the following;

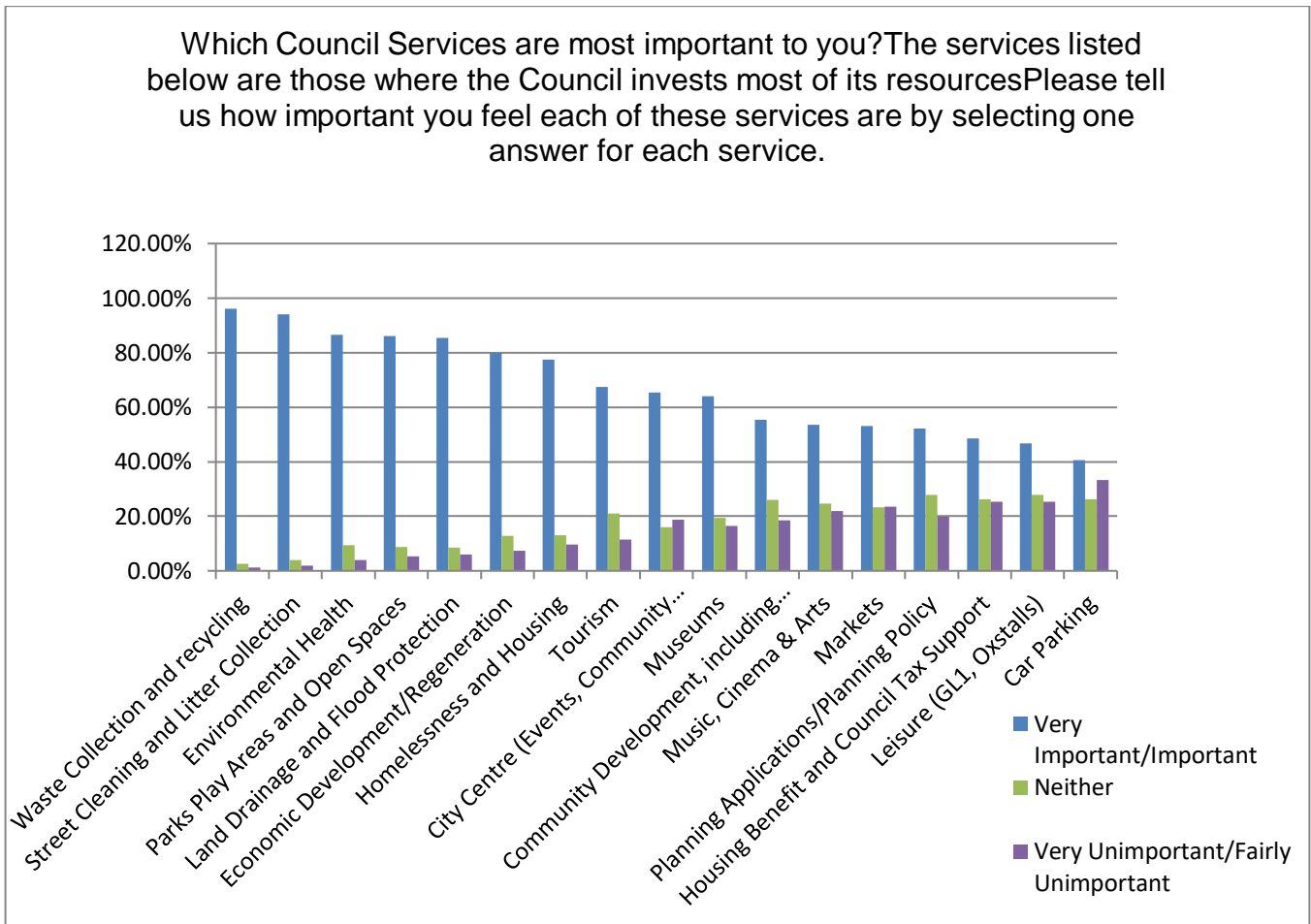
Very Important/Most Important

1. Waste Collection and Recycling
2. Street Cleaning and Litter Collection
3. Environmental health
4. Parks Play Areas & Open Spaces
5. Land Drainage & Flood Protection

Very Unimportant/Fairly Unimportant

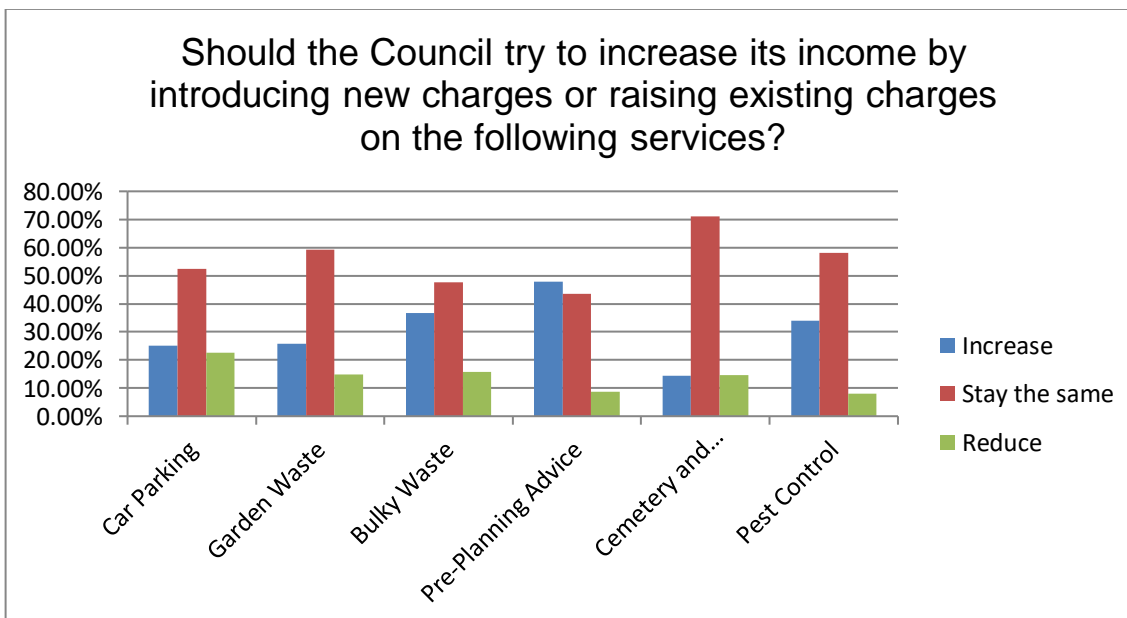
1. Car Parking
2. Leisure
3. Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support
4. Car Parking Planning Applications/Planning Policy
5. Markets

The Chart below details all the responses;

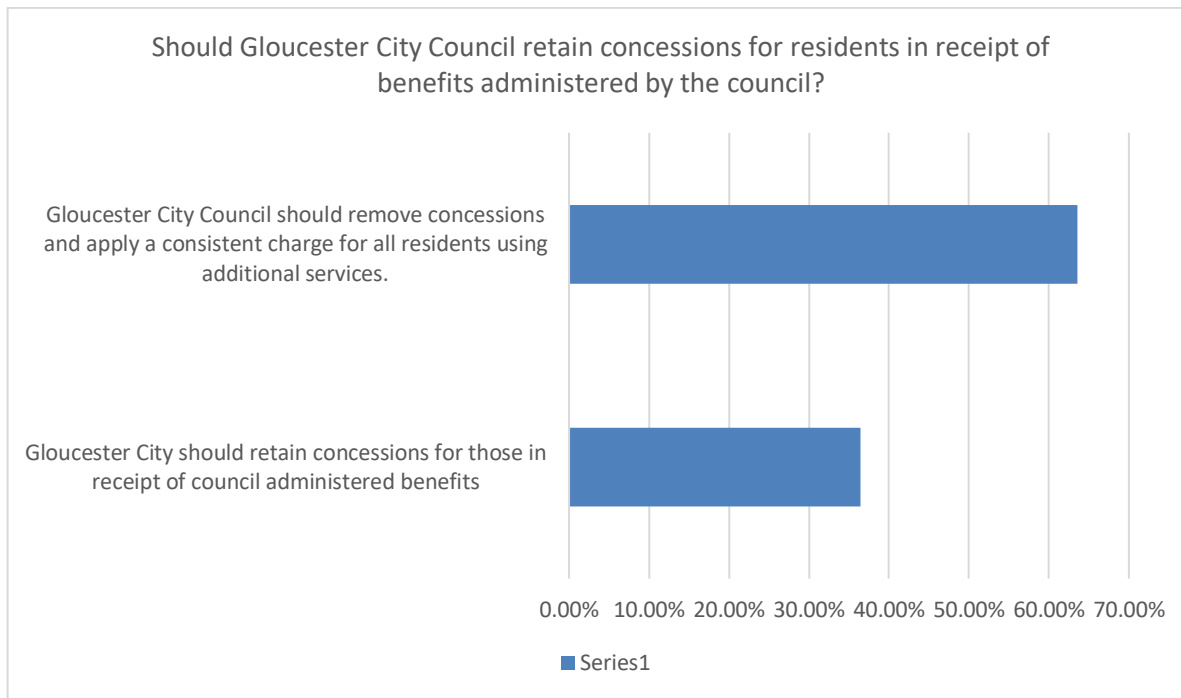


Q4. Should the Council try to increase its income by introducing new charges or raising existing charges on the following services?

The chart below summarises the responses;



Q5. Gloucester City Council is the only council in Gloucestershire to still offer concessions on certain fees and charges - such as garden waste - for residents in receipt of Housing Benefit and Council Tax support, which are administered by the council. We are unable to offer concessions to residents in receipt of other benefits not administered by the council. Because of this inconsistency, and the fact that many other councils are no longer able to offer concessions as the cost for this must be met elsewhere, [from other council taxpayers], we are considering whether we should continue to offer concessions. Should Gloucester City Council retain concessions for residents in receipt of benefits administered by the council?



Q6. Please tell us how you prefer to communicate with the Council?

