

## **Budget Consultation 2018-19 – Library Services**

### **Introduction:**

1. These results are taken from the wider City of York Council Budget Consultation which takes place annually and is aimed to get feedback from residents and businesses as part of the organisations budget and council tax setting process.
2. The Budget consultation was run over the Autumn of 2017 and was launched on 13 October 2017, closing on 1 December 2017 for paper surveys, and midnight on 15 December 2017 for online surveys.
3. An online consultation was made available and promoted to residents through various existing channels via the Business Intelligence team, published on the council's consultation page, and promoted via the communications teams. Paper copies of the survey were available at various council buildings and 3<sup>rd</sup> party premises across the city.
4. The online survey was promoted;
  - within the business community via existing business network links and distribution groups such as Make It York, BID, York Chamber of Commerce, York Federation of Small Businesses and asking them to pass on to their members.
  - To equalities groups via the equalities network.
5. Our City was distributed to all households in the City (approx 89,000) in mid-October, with delivery taking place over a two week period. As with the distributed paper copies of the budget consultation, responses were sent back via Freepost to West Offices.
6. There were four drop-in sessions with both the Leader and Deputy Leader present along with some officer support at these events.
7. The consultation included three questions that referenced libraries and library services alongside question sets from previous years on Council tax and Social Care precept.

### **Key results for Library Services: (828 responses)**

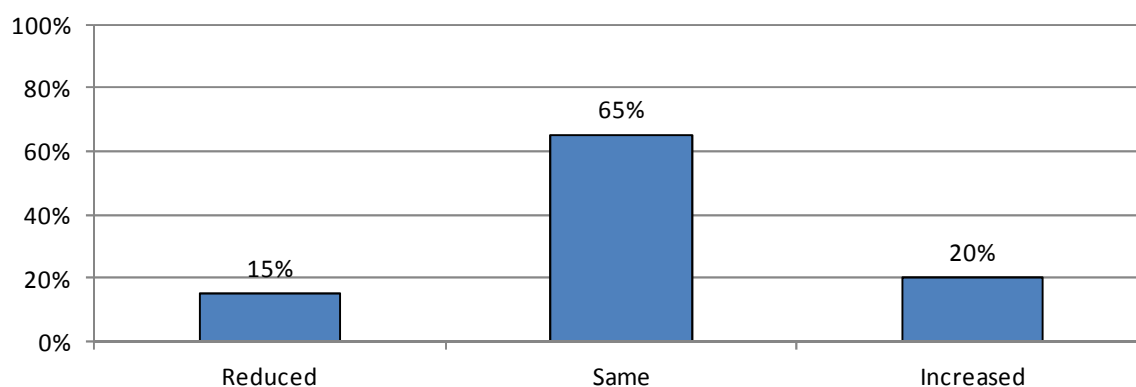
8. **Capital Investment:** Respondents were asked to consider whether certain areas should be a priority for investment by the council. This question did not ask specifically about library services, rather the refurbishment of parks, play areas and libraries. 78% agreed that 'maintenance and refurbishment of parks, play areas and libraries' should be a priority. A table has been included below to compare this figure to other areas for investment across a

wide variety of council activities.

Areas for Investment	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Neither (%)
Maintenance and upkeep of schools	82%	5%	13%
Maintenance and development of highways and infrastructure assets	81%	7%	13%
Maintenance and refurbishment of parks, play areas and libraries	78%	7%	15%
Flood defence measures	78%	9%	12%
Renewable energy to reduce council and city energy bills	72%	13%	15%
Maintenance of historic assets and facilities	70%	11%	20%
Maintenance of council houses	58%	15%	26%
Maintenance and development of leisure facilities	50%	21%	30%
Maintenance and development of IT systems to support frontline services	50%	21%	29%
Various regeneration initiatives	36%	24%	40%
Maintenance and refurbishment of council premises	26%	40%	34%
Investment in the commercial property portfolio	17%	53%	31%

9. **Council Services:** The consultation asked if certain services should have their funding stay the same or have funding reduced or increased. 65% of respondents thought that library funding should remain the same. The most popular answer was that funding for waste and recycling services should remain the same (68%).

### Library services funding



10. Full results from both the 2018/19 and 2017/18 budget consultations, which shows residents views on library funding against a number of other key council activities are summarised in the table below:

Services	Reduced		Same		Increased	
	2018-19 (%)	2017-18 (%)	2018-19 (%)	2017-18 (%)	2018-19 (%)	2017-18 (%)
Adult's social care services	6.93%	6.47%	38.13%	30.94%	54.94%	62.59%
Housing and homelessness	9.55%	13.39%	44.65%	47.55%	45.81%	39.05%
Children's social care services	5.13%	7.30%	50.19%	50.12%	44.67%	42.58%
Road and footpath maintenance	4.50%	5.04%	51.41%	48.28%	44.09%	46.68%
Support for schools	8.06%	14.59%	53.45%	58.90%	38.49%	26.51%
Funding for public transport	17.37%	11.01%	49.94%	58.69%	32.69%	30.30%
Street cleaning	4.35%	7.87%	64.79%	66.05%	30.86%	26.08%
Crime prevention and community safety	6.24%	8.91%	61.06%	62.12%	32.70%	28.97%
Services for young people eg youth clubs, careers advice	13.40%	20.84%	59.66%	55.90%	26.93%	23.26%
Waste and recycling	4.99%	6.58%	68.41%	70.55%	26.60%	22.87%
Parks and open spaces	10.48%	15.53%	67.14%	67.10%	22.38%	17.38%
Libraries	15.04%	22.86%	64.52%	60.83%	20.44%	16.31%
Sport and leisure facilities, events and activities	27.96%	32.32%	54.77%	53.94%	17.27%	13.75%

11. 2018/19 results by ward are summarised in the table below:

Ward	Reduced (%)	Same (%)	Increased (%)
Acomb Ward	29%	54%	14%
Bishopthorpe Ward	21%	58%	16%
Clifton Ward	13%	52%	33%
Copmanthorpe Ward	12%	65%	24%
Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward	7%	68%	22%
Fishergate Ward	18%	53%	21%
Fulford & Heslington Ward	0%	85%	8%
Guildhall Ward	8%	63%	24%
Haxby & Wigginton Ward	7%	58%	30%
Heworth Ward	8%	62%	23%
Heworth Without Ward	29%	57%	5%
Holgate Ward	19%	55%	19%
Hull Road Ward	5%	67%	24%
Huntington & New Earswick Ward	17%	65%	9%
Micklegate Ward	13%	58%	21%
Osbalwick & Derwent Ward	11%	63%	23%
Rawcliffe & Clifton Without Ward	15%	62%	15%
Rural West York Ward	15%	73%	9%
Strensall Ward	16%	54%	22%
Westfield Ward	17%	67%	14%
Wheldrake Ward	6%	75%	13%

12. Full results of the Budget Consultation are available on the York Open Data platform at <https://data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/budget-consultation>. The Open data platform is a website where the council, and other organisations, publicly share 100s of up-to-date and searchable data sets.

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