

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

# ▼	Do you agree with the way the Council has allocated its budget? If not, what else would you prioritise and - to ensure we balance the books and deliver services - what savings would you make?	SDC Response
63	Given the pressure on household finances, please keep increases to a minimum	The proposal is to freeze Selby District Council's Council Tax charge at the level it is in 20/21. Please note that this does not apply to the Council Tax charges of the other preceptors.
62	Great news about poll tax will help a lot of people	Freezing the district council element is aimed at supporting all residents in Selby district.
61	It's not clear how you have allocated the budget	The appendices to our budget report show the budgets allocated to main service areas and capital and other projects. The report is available here https://democracy.selby.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=139&Mid=1864&Ver=4
60	Make sure you keep the villages surrounding Selby villages, rather than trying to cram more new houses into them which village infrastructures can't support.	The Local Plan aims to provide for a balance of housing options across the District and some people would like to live in villages. Allowing appropriately scaled and well-designed schemes in villages will support local amenities.
59	You need to spend more keeping highways through the outlying villages such as Byram, clean and tidy. The A1246 (old A1) is not safe for locals to litterpick and is a disgrace, letting the whole county down. It was even mentioned in a letter to a local newspaper by a non-resident who said it was the worst-kept road they had driven on.	The Council provides a cleansing service for all adopted highways across the District consisting of mechanical sweeping and litter picking. The frequency of cleansing varies from daily in town centre shopping areas to 8 weekly for our rural roads. We had an independent survey of our cleansing standards performed by Keep Britain Tidy in autumn 2019 with litter results at 4% failure rate which is good when compared to the national average of 14%. Whilst on occasion some places such as the A1246 may fall below our high standards they are normally returned to standard once we have been notified of excessive litter.
58	Create more space on Sutton lane, as the lorries passing are causing great issues to residents and parking	North Yorkshire County Council is responsible for highways matters.

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57	<p>Create more space on Sutton lane, as the lorries passing are causing great issues to residents and parking</p>	<p>Appears to be a duplicate of response above</p>
56	<p>We live in beautiful countryside, that is continuously wrecked by off road bikes/quads, when they wreck one place they move to the next. Add to this mix the fox hunters we had as many as 2 a month (for several months) on the same fields churning them up, we then have the people that fly tip! Why can't the police/council use drones at these sites or hidden cameras? Surely these are more cost effective, fines can then be issued raising revenues. I litter pick my own area plus 1.5 mile circumference, I and fellow community spirited people cannot keep up to the amount of rubbish from the general public not to mention the lorry layby's we need some support. We do this job free of charge but would like help in areas that we cannot reach (banks on roadsides), heavy objects.</p> <p>Councils say they don't have funds to clean our country side, we appreciate that, that's why we do it, please help us to help you. Support your unpaid army.</p> <p>I lived in Garforth before with a local councillor who actively fought for his</p>	<p>SDC works in partnership with North Yorkshire Police to target areas affected by anti-social behaviour through the Safer Selby Hub. This includes prioritising rural and cross border issues.</p> <p>The Council introduced a system of fixed penalty notices for fly tipping in January 2020 that supports our enforcement activity in addition to the use of remote cameras that are located at known hotspots for fly tipping.</p> <p>The Council work with and support local community groups across the district who litter pick in their villages. We provide equipment upon request and arrange for the collection of bags of litter for disposal. The following link on our website provides information about organising a community litter pick. https://www.selby.gov.uk/community-litter-picks .</p>

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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	<p>community, if a rang him up to ask for assistance in moving fly tipped items, within 48hrs they'd be moved. It seems that our local councillors enjoy their titles but do little else, we asked them for support for months, with absolutely no result! Look after your unpaid workers, we're free!!!</p>	
55	<p>We need more investment into parks and greenspace. The rugby field would be a great location for a skatepark where kids could have something to do. Like they have in micklefield. It's fantastic. Anything we can do to invest into making the village a more pleasant space to live and be part of the community, I support.</p>	<p>We are investing in our park infrastructure and making sure our play park upgrades focus on the health and well-being of local young people and children as a priority at this stage. We have no plans to extend provision at this time, given the future for local government funding is so uncertain.</p>
54	<p>unsure, council tax doesn't need to rise though</p>	<p>The budget includes a proposal to freeze Council Tax in 20/21 to support our communities as they recover from the pandemic. However this is not a sustainable position as the Council's costs continue to rise and central government funding is uncertain.</p>
53	<p>Infrastructure development over planning-more houses are being built but many still don't even have the basic things such as phone signal.</p> <p>Selby coverage is poor and requires improvement, particularly to outlying villages</p>	<p>The Council is seeking improvements to coverage as this issue is also a problem for some local businesses. The key projects to address this are being led by NYCC and by the York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership who have included a proposal to achieve 100% coverage in the Devolution Deal submitted to government.</p>

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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52	I think rents should be frozen as well as council tax	The Housing Revenue Account is self-financing. The Rent pays for the service and funds the improvements and repairs our properties need. Anyone struggling to pay their rent should contact us directly. Advice, assistance and in some cases financial support through Housing Benefit/Universal Credit is available.
51	word s are fine but it is the action taken that is the proof of the pudding. In the south west of the district we have to scrap for even the basic services above and beyond rubbish collection. There is a world outside Selby and the finer areas of the district.	The Council provides a range of services for example: refuse collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance, planning and enforcement, benefits, environmental health and community officers who work out and about across the district.
50	.	
49	I think you need to reassess how SDC spend money with contractors. I know one company that you paid £5k to for filling in a small pothole AND that was on a private stretch of road. A lot of money for what reason. A bucket of tar £40 at Wickes.	Highways maintenance is the responsibility of North Yorkshire County Council.
48	It seems pretty fair if you do freeze that council tax as you are proposing as the last 10-12 months people haven't been able to go out & use the facilities within the area & district. On that flip side though, I would be interested to see if the £6m saving cannot be contributed to the council tax bills ? (lightening the load even further in the financial uncertainty for the tax & rate payers.	The budget includes a proposal to freeze Council Tax in 20/21 to support our communities as they recover from the pandemic. However this is not a sustainable position as the Council's costs continue to rise and central government funding is uncertain. Freezing Council Tax will reduce income to the Council which cannot be recovered in future years as Council Tax rises are limited by central government. This will therefore, increase the savings requirement going forward.

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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	<p>Just another thought that if the council were planning to re-coupe the money back from the tax payer, it would be unacceptable & wouldn't be fair to double the council tax increase for the following year, especially if we are still under these unprecedented times, now that would be shameful of the council.</p>	
47	Spend in tadcaster. Do anything tonmale the area better	<p>We have spent a significant proportion of our Empty Homes Investment budget bringing empty properties back into use. This has introduced more available affordable housing too.</p> <p>We have a town centre plan developing which will identify how we support public realm, heritage and cultural development and business skills and marketing. We have allocated £500k plus a further £1m for Selby and £500k for Sherburn as part of our Programme for Growth.</p> <p>We are also replacing and improving a children's play area in Tadcaster this year.</p>
46	Yes	
45	yes	
44	yes	
43	seems ok	
42	A selby dog park	<p>We have no plans to invest in dog parks and are aware that there are a number already in the district. We are making sure our play park upgrades focus on the health and well-being of local young people and children as a priority at this stage.</p>

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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41	Enclosed safe dog field	See response 42
40	I think the proposal is good , I would love for the dog park that is been suggested to be made w reality it would be great for the people of selby as a community space and also allow dogs to be exercised freely there is nothing like that around and the community would benefit massively. There would also be scope for training classes competitions to be held there when allowed obviously and this would be a great use of space.	See response 42
39	I think the proposal is good , I would love for the dog park that is been suggested to be made w reality it would be great for the people of selby as a community space and also allow dogs to be exercised freely there is nothing like that around and the community would benefit massively. There would also be scope for training classes competitions to be held there when allowed obviously and this would be a great use of space.	This appears to be a duplicate of the response above. See response 42
38	On the information given, it seems a reasonable and pragmatic approach	Thank you for your comments we work hard to balance statutory service delivery with investment in our district.
37	All banding should be frozen as all areas of businesses have been affected and affected wages	The proposal to freeze the Selby District Council, Council Tax will apply to all bandings.

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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36	A secure dog off lead area	See response 42
35	The residents would like the addition of a fun safely enclosed dog park to be included in your green space upgrades that Growndwork are doing	See response 42
34	Would reducing emptying green bins over the winter period reduce any costs? I don't use mine over winter months and neither do 99% of my street.	The Council currently stops collecting garden waste between mid December and mid January in addition to reducing the collection crews to a driver plus a loader from the end of October to February. An analysis of stopping garden collections for a longer period was undertaken a couple of years ago and concluded that stopping collections for four months from November to February would result in limited savings predominantly from fuel because the service was already operating at a reduced capacity.
33	I agree....it's a difficult time for everyone so freezing the council tax will hopefully make a difference to individual households. I hope it doesn't mean that SDC will be more strapped for cash for necessary budget spends if central government tighten their belts and not give the required support	The budget includes a proposal to freeze Council Tax in 20/21 to support our communities as they recover from the pandemic. Freezing Council Tax will reduce income to the Council which cannot be recovered in future years and this will therefore, increase the savings requirement going forward. We plan to use reserves to bridge the funding gap in the medium term as the amount of funding from Government becomes clearer.
32	Cut spending on council houses funded by housing benefit tenants excluding people over 65. Review all Civil Engineering contracts.	This is out of our control. Central Government determine who is eligible for Housing Benefit. It is a means tested benefit that helps make the rent payment affordable for those that need it. It does not directly fund council houses.
31	This is absolutely fantastic commitment by selby district council to its people.	Thank you for your comments we work hard to balance statutory service delivery with investment in our district.

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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	Thank you and well done. A very, very well ran council!	
30	I agree with a council tax freeze	Freezing the district council element is aimed at supporting residents in Selby district.
29	I agree	
28	Yes	
27	Use funds for better mental health care to those who need counselling services and support to get back on track	This would fall under the remit of North Yorkshire County Council and the NHS.
26	No idea how it is allocated. But service seems reasonable	We work hard to balance the books whilst delivering statutory services and use reserves to improve our district.
25	I would like to see the asbestos remove from this property under the guttering, and also upgrade the existing windows.	The Council has an ambitious programme of improvements targeted at improving its housing stock across the district. Works are prioritised having regard to a number of factors with health and safety being our highest priority. If you have any concerns about your council home please get in touch by emailing amrmt@selby.gov.uk .
24	Yes Agree	
23	One of the buildings you could invest in is the homeless hostel which is in desperate need of improvement or a new hostel. There are lots of places and land space that could be used for this. Just because someone is homeless doesn't mean they should live in squalor	We have undertaken some improvement works at Ousegate Lodge over the last 2 years to improve security and Fire Safety. We are also undertaking a refurbishment programme to the individual units and are upgrading the kitchens and the bathrooms where needed. This work is on-going. We are also now using alternative temporary accommodation that is dispersed across the district.

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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22	No council tax needs to be cheaper in ALL bands. Everyone is feeling the effects of covid and furlough and losing jobs. Even people in the higher council tax banding	The proposal to freeze the Selby District Council, Council Tax will apply to all bandings.
21	I think not increasing the council tax is will benefit everyone at this time, with a lot of businesses closed, people losing their jobs, times are hard. Going forward with everything else I think your on the right lines.	We work hard to balance the books whilst delivering statutory services and use reserves to improve our district.
20	I think road safety should be a priority. The return on investment would be fewer disruptions and emergency services required not to mention the non-financial return. There are many dangerous roads in this area. I think more speed bumps approaching all the towns and villages and better maintenance of bushes around bends with poor visibility. Unfortunately people do not slow down when they can't stay on their side of the road they just drive on the other side. I would reduce the budget on improving town centres to fund this.	Highways are the responsibility of North Yorkshire County Council.
19	Free parking in Selby as it is in Tadcaster to help the town centre. Get rid of any non jobs that may exist such Diversity posts. Engage with LEAN processes.	The Council has undertaken a number of efficiency programmes over the last 10 years and the savings have not adversely impacted on frontline services. We note your comments about 'non-jobs' - as a major employer in Selby District we

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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		ensure all of our roles are directed towards service delivery - addressing the needs of our diverse communities is inherent in all roles.
18	Yes	
17	not sure as no details explained yet	The appendices to our budget report show the budgets allocated to main service areas and capital and other projects. The report is available here https://democracy.selby.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=139&Mid=1864&Ver=4
16	I believe council tax should be frozen this year as a lot of families in this district are already struggling	Freezing the district council element is aimed at supporting all residents in Selby district.
15	Not savings make car parking free encourage people into the town. Would cut civil servants make councillors more accountable	Car parking is a discretionary service which is funded from the income we receive from charging. We provide some initial free parking to encourage visitors but charge for longer stays to also encourage turnover in our car parks a strategy which aims to ensure a quality service and support local businesses.
14	I agree	
13	I don't understand why if we don't know how much government funding the council is going to receive in the future we are planning to spend the reserves. That surely means that if government funding is cut the council tax charge will go up exponentially	The Council has significant reserves which allows us some time to focus on recovering from the pandemic and supporting our communities. We do not plan to spend all of our reserves in this way and will bring forward savings plans in due course. Council tax rises are limited by Government.
12	We live in an alarmingly changing environment. Reading through your budget proposal there was little to suggest that SDC is playing any part in responding to the threatening climatic	We are planning a range of carbon reduction initiatives as part of our plans to be carbon neutral by 2030. Our Programme for Growth includes spend of circa £1.2m over the coming years. Our initial plans which have been developed by a cross-party Low Carbon Working Group will be set out in a Low Carbon Action Plan which will be scheduled to be considered by the Executive soon. We are also

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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	<p>world we are now living in. What initiatives are SDC putting in place to help mitigate present day Global Weather concerns? Any future tree planting schemes? Did you know that there is a plan to plant a vast forest from the Humber to the Mersey. This will fall right through the SDC region. Any thoughts?</p>	<p>a member of the White Rose Forest Partnership which is one of the Community Forests that make up the Northern Forest initiative. The Council's Low Carbon Working Group has identified significant tree planting as a key means for off-setting the Council's and district's carbon emissions and we intend to work closely with the White Rose Forest Partnership to deliver an ambitious tree planting programme for the district.</p>
11	<p>I believe the council is doing a lot to help people</p> <p>I do think there are businesses out there that could do with a rates relief and even for a few months peppercorn rent to help them pull through. I know the council has helped a lot at the beginning. Some businesses have reopened for vulnerable adults but due to numbers are running at a loss but because of the mental health of the vulnerable adults they support they will not give up easy. Helping these companies for maybe 6 months until things become a little more "normal" will help so much.</p>	<p>We continue to lobby Government for support for local businesses and have already paid out £20m in grants and awarded over £7m in business rates relief.</p>
10	<p>Prioritise taking on staff for services. Funding projects is great but not consistently providing full time staff means constant staff changes with different agencies workers and it reflects</p>	<p>The Council is investing in its workforce but is mindful of the need for longer term savings - efficiency and service transformation will continue to play a major part in our plans.</p>

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	<p>badly on the full time staff who work extremely hard and it is frustrating for all customers. Projects and services would vastly improve if savings were not done by cutting full time staff. This has been a big problem since the last major restructure causing big cuts to services.</p>	
9	Yes	
8	No	
7	<p>I think you've done the best you can do under the current situation, I however feel that the discounts you give to council tax payers was slightly out of line this year during the peak of the pandemic. Myself and my husband both have been out of work for nearly six months he's been furloughed and myself I am self employed we weren't able to claim and relief or payment holidays on our council tax even though we had less than 50% of monthly income coming in. I. Asked to differ payment by a few months but wasn't allowed to</p>	<p>We aim to support residents as much as we can. If you are in financial hardship please contact us again.</p>
6	<p>Reading your budget proposal I think you are going the right way and not increasing council tax will be a big relief for everyone.</p>	<p>The proposal is to freeze the Council Tax charge relates to the district council element only. Please note that this does not apply to the Council Tax charges of the other preceptors that Selby District Council collects on their behalf.</p>

Public Consultation Responses - Appendix G

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5	Yes in principle, focus on the need to update village infrastructures due to the increase in new housing.	These issues are addressed in the Council's new Local Plan - we are consulting on the Preferred Options from the end of January until 12 th March.
4	<p>If residents of Selby have to pay to park then it is only fair that the rest of the district do too. Start charging for parking in Tadcaster and Sherburn and use the extra revenue to stop the rise in parking charges in Selby.</p> <p>Spend more money in Selby and less in the more strongly Tory seats in Tadcaster and outlying villages.</p> <p>Build less new houses in Selby and build more in Tadcaster Sherburn and other Tory villages.</p> <p>Build more affordable homes.</p> <p>Put the needs of residents above Tory ideology.</p>	<p>The Executive reviewed car parking tariffs in September 2020 seeking to achieve an appropriate tariff scheme, which balances the support for the local economy and financial impacts, with the need to sustain income which was sufficient to cover the cost of providing and maintaining the car park service. The report and decision can be found here: https://democracy.selby.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=1858&Ver=4</p> <p>We have introduced new affordable housing to Tadcaster through the Empty Homes Programme. We are committed to increasing the number of Affordable Homes across the district and we intend to play a direct role in the delivery of those homes.</p>
3	No, I would not make " cuts"	The Council has no plans to cut services. All of our savings proposals are related to improved efficiency or income generation.
2	No, As in Appleton we pay high rates and last get gritters etc	Gritting of the highways is the responsibility of North Yorkshire County Council
1	Seems a big reserve to hold even if half of it is restricted.	The Council does have significant reserves although much is earmarked for specific things such as projects or existing commitments. Our plans include using some of our reserves to support day to day spending in the medium term.

