

Appendix J – Consultation Results

Bromsgrove District Council - Budget Consultation for 2025/26

The budget consultation opened on Thu 5 December 2024. An email invite was sent to the Bromsgrove Community Panel. The survey was also promoted on a variety of social media channels.

The survey closed at 12noon on Thursday 2 January 2025. The response rate for the community panel was 48%. There were a total of 278 valid responses received.

Q no.	Question	Responses	Total Responses	%
Q1 (276)	Are you a resident of Bromsgrove District and/or have a business based here?	Resident of Bromsgrove District	276	100.0%
		Have a business based here	11	4.0%
Q2 (273)	Please tell us where you live or where your business is located. (Please note, if you live and have a business in the District, please only tell us where you live)	Alvechurch South	4	1.5%
		Alvechurch Village	9	3.3%
		Aston Fields	25	9.2%
		Avoncroft	8	2.9%
		Barnt Green & Hopwood	5	1.8%
		Belbroughton and Romsley	24	8.8%
		Bromsgrove Central	27	9.9%
		Catshill North	7	2.6%
		Catshill South	4	1.5%
		Charford	13	4.8%
		Cofton	4	1.5%
		Drakes Cross	2	0.7%
		Hagley East	1	0.4%
		Hagley West	4	1.5%
		Hill Top	9	3.3%
		Hollywood	3	1.1%
Lickey Hills	6	2.2%		
Lowes Hill	15	5.5%		

		Marlbrook	11	4.0%
		Norton	11	4.0%
		Perryfields	7	2.6%
		Rock Hill	9	3.3%
		Rubery North	6	2.2%
		Rubery South	5	1.8%
		Sanders Park	11	4.0%
		Sidemoor	16	5.9%
		Slideslow	10	3.7%
		Tardebigge	12	4.4%
		Wythall East	3	1.1%
		Wythall West	2	0.7%
Q3 (276)	<p>Which services do you think it is important for the Council to invest in?</p> <p>Please note that Highways are not included as this is a Worcestershire County Council function</p> <p>Please pick your top 3 most important.</p>	Community and Voluntary Sector	39	14.1%
		Community Parks and Open Spaces	103	37.3%
		Community Safety	123	44.6%
		Environmental Sustainability	59	21.4%
		Events and Arts Activities	50	18.1%
		Local Economic Development and Employment	130	47.1%
		Maintenance of the Landscape and Environment	121	43.8%
		Strategic Housing	68	24.6%
		Waste and Recycling	108	39.1%
		Welfare and Financial Support	58	21.0%
Q4 (276)	<p>Do you agree that the Council should reinvest in technology in order to make services more secure, effective and efficient and to be digital by default?</p>	Strongly agree	62	22.5%
		Agree	115	41.7%
		Neither agree nor disagree	70	25.4%
		Disagree	22	8.0%
		Strongly disagree	7	2.5%
Q5 (275)	<p>Do you agree that the Council should increase investment in temporary accommodation to</p>	Strongly agree	60	21.8%
		Agree	100	36.4%
		Neither agree nor disagree	65	23.6%

	support homeless families and individuals in district?	Disagree	30	10.9%
		Strongly disagree	20	7.3%
Q6 (276)	Do you agree that the Council should invest in economic development in order to support local businesses, start-ups, the town and local centres and to prioritise local skills?	Strongly agree	116	42.0%
		Agree	122	44.2%
		Neither agree nor disagree	32	11.6%
		Disagree	1	0.4%
		Strongly disagree	5	1.8%
Q7 (273)	Do you agree that the Council should be investing in a Bromsgrove Business Improvement District (BID) to bring extra focus into the Bromsgrove Town Centre offering?	Strongly agree	81	29.7%
		Agree	108	39.6%
		Neither agree nor disagree	58	21.2%
		Disagree	16	5.9%
		Strongly disagree	10	3.7%
Q8 (276)	Do you agree that the Council should invest more in our front-line services to cover increases in fuel?	Strongly agree	35	12.7%
		Agree	102	37.0%
		Neither agree nor disagree	115	41.7%
		Disagree	16	5.8%
		Strongly disagree	8	2.9%
Q9 (274)	Do you agree that the Council needs to involve young people more in decision making and local democracy?	Strongly agree	64	23.4%
		Agree	103	37.6%
		Neither agree nor disagree	71	25.9%
		Disagree	28	10.2%
		Strongly disagree	8	2.9%
Q10 (276)	Do you agree that the Council should invest in greater data and systems support to enable the delivery of improved services and enhance decision making?	Strongly agree	34	12.3%
		Agree	113	40.9%
		Neither agree nor disagree	98	35.5%
		Disagree	28	10.1%
		Strongly disagree	3	1.1%
		Strongly agree	21	7.6%

Q11 (276)	Do you support fees and charges (this excludes parking) rising by 4% to keep them in line with inflation and rising staffing costs?	Agree	90	32.6%
		Neither agree nor disagree	55	19.9%
		Disagree	67	24.3%
		Strongly disagree	43	15.6%
Q12	In order to maintain services, what level of increase to Bromsgrove District Council's proportion of Council Tax do you support?			
Q12a (218)	Increase of 1.99%	Strongly agree	54	24.8%
		Agree	80	36.7%
		Neither agree nor disagree	42	19.3%
		Disagree	20	9.2%
		Strongly disagree	22	10.1%
Q12b (190)	Increase of 2.99%	Strongly agree	38	20.0%
		Agree	49	25.8%
		Neither agree nor disagree	22	11.6%
		Disagree	29	15.3%
		Strongly disagree	52	27.4%
Q13 (178)	Please let us know your suggestions for investing in the District to increase prosperity and enhance appeal for residents and businesses alike.	This was an open question and the comments will be analysed separately		
Q14 (118)	Please let us know any other comments on the budget or ideas for reducing costs or increasing income to ensure Council services remain sustainable.	This was an open question and the comments will be analysed separately		

About You

Answering these questions is optional. Any answers are completely anonymous and confidential. The reason why we ask you these questions is so we can:

- Make our council services open to everyone in the district
- Treat everyone fairly and appropriately when they use our services
- In consultations, make sure that we have views from all across the district

The Equality Act 2010 makes these aims part of our legal duties. Your answers help us check that we have met the law and help improve our services.

Q15 (272)	What is your current housing status?	Owner	171	62.9%
		Mortgaged	68	25.0%
		Part rent/part buy	2	0.7%
		Private renting	7	2.6%
		Council tenant	6	2.2%
		Social housing	6	2.2%
		Living with relatives	3	1.1%
		Private renting	8	2.9%
		Other (please specify)	1	0.4%
Q16 (273)	Which of the following best describes your age?	16-19yrs	0	0.0%
		20-29yrs	3	1.1%
		30-39yrs	22	8.1%
		40-49yrs	27	9.9%
		50-59yrs	51	18.7%
		60-69yrs	75	27.5%
		70-79yrs	70	25.6%
		80+ years	14	5.1%
		Prefer not to say	11	4.0%
Q17 (273)	Do you have any long-standing health condition or disability? (The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as 'a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities')	Yes	72	26.4%
		No	177	64.8%
		Prefer not to say	24	8.8%

Q18 (274)	Which best describes your gender?	Female	123	44.9%
		Male	137	50.0%
		Prefer not to say	12	4.4%
		Other (please specify)	2	0.7%
Q20 (273)	Which best describes your ethnicity	White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish. British	245	89.7%
		Any other White background	6	2.2%
		Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	4	1.5%
		Asian or Asian British	1	0.4%
		Black, African, Caribbean or Black British Arab	0	0.0%
		Prefer not to say	15	5.5%
		Other ethnic group	2	0.7%
Q21 (272)	Which best describes your religion or belief?	Atheist	28	10.3%
		Buddhist	0	0.0%
		Christian	143	52.6%
		Humanist	9	3.3%
		Hindu	0	0.0%
		Jewish	0	0.0%
		Muslim	3	1.1%
		Pagan	7	2.6%
		Sikh	0	0.0%
		No religion/belief	50	18.4%
		Prefer not to say	26	9.6%
		Other (please specify)	6	2.2%
Q49 (270)	Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?	Bisexual	9	3.3%
		Heterosexual	217	80.4%
		Lesbian or Gay	6	2.2%
		Prefer not to say	35	13.0%
		Other (please specify)	6	2.2%