

Hello and welcome to the tenth edition of the South Gloucestershire Viewpoint newsletter

Nov 2019 Viewpoint Budget Survey

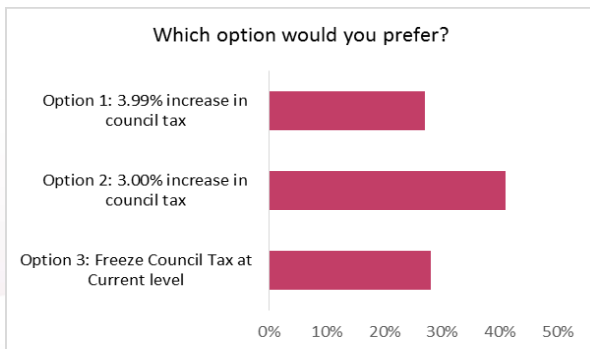
Thank you to all who took part in the recent Viewpoint survey covering the council budget and tax. We received a total of 1,353 responses.

This newsletter provides a summary of the combined results from both the Viewpoint questionnaire and the general public consultation.

Council Tax Options

Overall, the majority of respondents (68%) were in favour of some level of council tax increase in 2020/21.

An increase of 3.00% to council tax was the most preferred option (by 41% of residents).



38% of respondents agreed that an increase in council tax would be more amenable if the additional funds were ring-fenced for a specific service (vs. 30% who disagreed). There was no consensus over which service should receive the funds, but the most common choice was adult social care (35%).

66% of respondents disagreed with a council tax rise of greater than 3.99%.

Council Transformation and Savings Plan 2020/21

41% of respondents felt that the savings for Environment and Community Services were 'about right'.

38% of respondents felt that the reductions to Children, Adults and Health were 'too much' vs. 33% who said they were 'about right'.

41% of respondents felt that the savings to Chief Executive & Corporate Resources were 'too little', compared to 29% who felt they were about right.

Congratulations to our gift voucher winners:

- Russell – Patchway
- Ann – Frampton Cotterell
- Dennis – Longwell Green
- Jan – Mangotsfield
- Michael - Charfield

Satisfaction with council services

The highest satisfaction scores were for: Parks & Open Spaces, Waste and Recycling, Libraries and Sport & Leisure facilities.

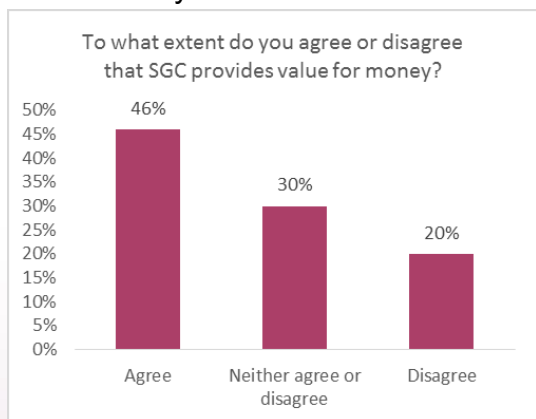
The services respondents were least satisfied with were: Highways/roads, Planning and Children's social services.

Perceptions of the council and local area

The majority of respondents are satisfied with their local area (79%).

Most residents (61%) think that South Gloucestershire has stayed the same in the last two years, 30% believe it is worse and 7% think it is better.

Just under half (46%) of respondents agree that South Gloucestershire Council provides value for money.



Nearly two thirds of survey respondents are satisfied with the way South Gloucestershire Council runs things (65%).

17% of respondents agree they have the ability to influence local decisions.

Just under half of residents feel they are kept informed about council services (46%).

Core activities

For a second year in a row, education is the highest priority for long term investment, with 46% of all respondents putting it in the top three priorities and 25% rating it highest.



Protecting the environment jumps three places to the fourth highest priority this year, with 40% of respondents putting it in the top three priorities.

What will happen with the results?

The viewpoint panel is an important way for us to gather feedback from local residents and to help us understand your views. We will use the results to inform our decision making process and to help shape our service priorities for the future. These results are also used to measure the performance of the council and ensure we are providing the best service possible.

Tell a friend

We are currently looking for new members who are under 30 years of age.

Have your say

There are a variety of consultations on the consultation pages which may interest you. Visit:

www.consultations.southglos.gov.uk