Balancing the Budget

Questionnaire 2018-2021
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Introduction

Cheshire West and Chester Council is thinking about how it is going to pay for services between 2018 and 2021.

It is going to be difficult because:

- We are getting less money from the government
- More people want a service from the council

People have told us that the most important things we should do are:

- Support vulnerable people
- Run the council properly with the money we have
Over the last few years we have saved money by:

- Doing more with the money we have
- Finding new, better ways to do things

We now have to look for more ways to provide services with less money.

This consultation explains how we think we can do it.

We want to know what you think.

Please read through the document and answer the questions.

Please send your answers back by Thursday 23rd November 2017.
Question 1: How did you hear about this consultation?

- By post
- By email
- A postcard
- At a meeting
- On a poster
- On the Council website
- Someone told me
- Social media - like Facebook or twitter
- In a Newspaper

Other, please say:
Working with people

This area of the council includes:

- Supporting children to have the best start in life
- Making sure that young people and adults are safe
- Helping vulnerable adults to be more independent
- Helping communities to be more healthy

We plan to reduce the money we spend on these services by:

- Reducing the number of people who work in the office
- Getting better at managing the care for people so that people get the right service for them
• Reduce the amount that the council pays for Police Community Support Officers

• Finding a new way to arrange social care for people who need support at home. We think we could do this better for less money

• Reducing the amount staff spend on things like computers and travel

• Work closer with health services to provide a better service to people who need to stay in bed

In future years we will look at:

• Combining Adult Social Care services with NHS Health services. This would make sure that these services worked well together and could save money

• How we provide a new home to children and young people who need residential care
Question 2: Do you agree or disagree with the ideas - on page 6 and 7?

Agree strongly  Agree  Not sure  Disagree  Strongly disagree  Don’t know

Question 3: Have you any comments about these ideas?

Question 4: Do you have any views on our ideas for future years?
Places

This area of the council includes:

- Helping people to have the skills for well paid jobs

- Helping local businesses

- Better transport

- Keeping local neighbourhoods clean and safe

- Supporting good quality housing that people can afford
We plan to reduce the money we spend on these services by:

- Reducing the number of staff we have working on roads and streets
- Using computers, phones and websites to do more things for less money
- Charging business more:
  - For services
  - Rent when they use our buildings
- Spending less on free bus travel. We spend less because fewer people want to use their bus passes than we expected
We are also looking at:

• Making more money from businesses from advertising and other services

• Using computers to do more with less money

• Ways that we could manage our staff and make new areas work together

• Sharing some services with other councils
**Question 5:** Do you agree or disagree with the ideas - on page 9 and 10?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Not sure
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don’t know

**Question 6:** Have you any comments about these ideas?

**Question 7:** Do you have any views on our ideas for future years?
The Council

This area of the council includes:

- Looking after the council’s money
- Advice about the law
- Looking after our staff
- Computers, telephones and the website
We plan to reduce the money we spend on these services by:

- Reducing the amount we spend on advice from people outside the council

- Looking at more ways that we could use computer systems to do more with less money

- Looking at how different government schemes mean we need to spend less money. For example the Government’s new way of paying benefits called **Universal Credit** means that we have to do less work.

We are also looking at:

- Looking at more things that people could do on our website - instead of phoning us up

- Ways that the companies we own could make more money
Question 8: Do you agree or disagree with the ideas - on page 12, 13 and 14?

Agree strongly
Agree
Not sure
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don’t know

Question 9: Have you any comments about these ideas?


Question 10: Do you have any views on our ideas for future years?
Question 11: Do you have any other comments on how the council could save money - or bring in more money?
About you

Please answers these questions about yourself. Your answers will help us to check that we are getting the views from all the different communities in Cheshire West and Chester.

**Question 12:** Are you answering these questions as...

- [ ] Someone who lives in Cheshire West and Chester?
- [ ] A local business?
- [ ] A worker at the Council?
- [ ] A Ward Councillor?
- [ ] A Town Councillor or Parish Councillor?
- [ ] A worker for a voluntary organisation?
- [ ] Other. Please say what

**Question 13:** If you are answering for an organisation - what is their name and postcode?


Question 14: What is your postcode?

Question 15: Are you...

- [ ] Male
- [ ] Female
- [ ] I prefer to use my own term - please say
  
- [ ] I prefer not to say

Question 16: How old are you?

- [ ] Under 16 - please ask your parent or guardian to sign

- [ ] 16 - 24
- [ ] 25 - 34
- [ ] 35 - 44
- [ ] 45 - 54
- [ ] 55 - 64
- [ ] 65 - 74
- [ ] 75 or over
**Question 17:** Do you have a long term illness or disability?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] I prefer not to say

**Question 18:** If you answered yes, what type of disability?

- [ ] Physical Disability
- [ ] Difficulty with hearing
- [ ] Difficulty with sight
- [ ] Mental Health condition
- [ ] Learning Disability
- [ ] Long term illness
- [ ] Other - please say
Question 19: What is your ethnic group?

**White**
- [ ] English
- [ ] Welsh
- [ ] Scottish
- [ ] Irish
- [ ] Northern Irish
- [ ] Any other white background - please say

**Black**
- [ ] African
- [ ] Caribbean
- [ ] Any other Black background - please say

**Asian**
- [ ] Indian
- [ ] Pakistani
- [ ] Bangladeshi
- [ ] Chinese
- [ ] Any other Asian background - please say
Mixed race

- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Any other mixed race background - please say

Travelling Communities

- Gypsy/Roma
- Irish Traveller
- Any other mixed member of the travelling communities - please say

Any other ethnic group

- Arab
- Any other ethnic group - please say
**Question 20:** What is your religion or belief?

- [ ] Buddhist
- [ ] Christian
- [ ] Hindu
- [ ] Jewish
- [ ] Muslim
- [ ] Sikh
- [ ] None
- [ ] Prefer not to say
- [ ] Other - please say

**Question 21:** Are you...

- [ ] Bisexual - attracted to both men and women
- [ ] Gay - men who are attracted to men or women who are attracted to women
- [ ] Heterosexual or straight- attracted to people of the opposite sex
- [ ] I prefer not to say
- [ ] Other
Thank you

Thank you for completing this survey.

Please return it by Thursday 23rd November 2017 to...

Balancing the Budget
Insight and Intelligence Team
Cheshire West and Chester Council
Council Offices
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Ellesmere Port
CH65 0BE

For more information

If you need more information please contact us at:

Tel: 0300 123 8 123

Web:
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Balancingthebudget
Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

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