

Teignbridge District Council - Budget Consultation Report

Date:	21 st February 2017
From:	Business Improvement and Development (BID)
Subject:	Consultation feedback to Executive Committee

Methodology

BID were tasked to consult with the council's Residents' Panel 'Talking Teignbridge', and on the website, about the budget proposals.

The consultation ran from 21st December 2016 to 1st February 2017 and below you will find a short summary of the results so that full Council on 21st February has the opportunity to take into account residents' feedback when considering the final budget recommendations from Executive.

The survey

The following budget questions were put to Teignbridge residents:

Please say how strongly you agree, or disagree, with the Council's proposals to:

1. Last year we increased council tax by £5 or 3.33% following a previous five year freeze. This increase was to help maintain essential services. The current recommendation is a 3.22% increase, or £5 per year, for a Band D property taking the council tax to £160.07 for the year.
2. Back business and improve town centres.
3. Invest in infrastructure for employment, education, transport links, and sports and open spaces.
4. Continue to support housing as a priority by enabling affordable housing and improving poor quality homes.

The table below shows a detailed breakdown of the results.

	Increase council tax	Back business	Invest in infrastructure	Support housing
Strongly agree	25%	32%	36%	26%
Agree	43%	41%	44%	39%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	20%	13%	21%
Disagree	12%	5%	5%	9%
Strongly disagree	9%	2%	2%	5%

5. To balance the council's budget in the future, which of these would you expect us to consider? You can tick more than one.

Generating even more income to re-invest in council services	(73% agree)
Making more budget savings	(45% agree)
Reducing the services we provide	(13% agree)
Increasing council tax further	(40% agree)

Who Responded?

355 responses were received of which 256 were residents' panel members, and 29 businesses. Fewer women and younger people participated in this survey than are representative of the Teignbridge population generally. We are continually trying to recruit additional panel members from these groups.

	Teignbridge 2013	Survey 2017	Representation
Gender			
Male	47.6%	55.3%	↑
Female	52.4%	44.7%	↓
Age			
Young (16-24)	10.7%	0.0%	↓
Working age (25-64)	59.5%	46.1%	↓
Older (65+)	29.9%	53.9%	↑
Ethnicity			
White	96.2%	96.7%	↓
Other	3.8%	2.9%	↑
Disability			
Disability	20.6%	16.9%	↑
Rural			
Rural		29.1%	✓