Serving Hampshire
Balancing the Budget Consultation
2020 - 2022

Response Form
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balancing the budget</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Response Form</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping your information private</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing the budget</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charging for services</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asking the government to change the law</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding ways to get more money</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the County Council’s reserves</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing or changing services</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making people pay more council tax</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing local councils in Hampshire</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which ideas do you prefer?</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comments</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About you</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Balancing the budget

Hampshire County Council wants to know what you think about the best way to manage with less money.

The County Council is getting less money from the government.

At the same time more people are wanting services from the County Council.

Our budget is a plan which shows where we will get our money from and where we will spend it.

Balancing the budget means trying to make sure that we don’t spend more money than we get.
The Response Form

Please read the separate Information Pack and then answer the questions in this Response Form.

When you have finished please post your Response Form back in the Freepost envelope provided. You don’t need to put a stamp on the envelope.

If you do not have a Freepost envelope, please post the Response Form to:

Freepost HAMPSHIRE

(That’s all you have to put on the envelope - you don’t need a stamp)

Please send us your Response Form back before midnight on Wednesday 17 July 2019.
Keeping your information private

We want to make sure that we are including people from different groups.

That's why we are asking you some personal questions.

We won't share your information.

Your information will be kept safe and private.
Managing the budget

Since 2008 the County Council has been changing the way it works and has reduced the amount that it spends.

We have done this by:

- Making sure services are given to people who need them the most
- Making all departments of the County Council find the same savings
- Looking for new ways to provide services
- Using our savings to help us plan ahead

**Question 1.** Do you agree or disagree that we should carry on managing our money in this way?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don’t know
Charging for services

The County Council already charges people for some local services. We could get more money by:

- Increasing the charges
- Charging for some services that are free at the moment

**Question 2.** Do you agree or disagree that we should ask people to pay more for services or pay for services that they have been getting for free?
Ask the government to change some laws

There are many different laws that say what we must do.

Changes to some laws would let us get money in new ways.

**Question 3a.** Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can charge for transport to take some children to school?

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

**Question 3b.** Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can charge people about £1 to use the Household Waste and Recycling Centres?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don’t know
Question 3c. Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can charge about £10 to issue an Older Person's bus pass?

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

Question 3d. Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can charge older people and disabled people a quarter of their bus fare?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don’t know
Question 3e. Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can use some of the money from speeding fines or driver awareness courses?

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

Question 3f. Do you agree or disagree that we should ask the government to change the law so we can charge people to be a member of the library or use library services?

Strongly disagree  Disagree  Not sure  Agree  Strongly agree  Don’t know
Getting more money

The County Council does already get money by selling services to businesses.

We can also make money by selling land or buildings that we own.

**Question 4.** Do you have any other ideas for ways that we could get more money?
Using the County Council’s reserves

**Reserves** is money that we have saved up over the years.

Hampshire County Council has over £600 million in reserves.

About £500 million of this is going to be used to build new schools, roads, technology, services and facilities.

We could use the rest to help pay for services, but it would only last for 27 days.

**Question 5.** Do you think the County Council should spend its reserves to help pay for services?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Don’t Know
Reducing or changing services

One way to make sure we don’t spend more than we get is to reduce or change services.

We have explained some of the ways that we could reduce or change services in the Easy Read Information Pack.

Question 6. Do you agree or disagree that we should reduce or change services?

Strongly disagree Disagree  Not sure  Agree  Strongly agree  Don’t know
Making people pay more Council Tax

Hampshire has the second lowest Council Tax of any County Council in England.

We are allowed to raise Council Tax by nearly 5%.

If we wanted to raise Council Tax by more than 5% we would have to ask everyone in Hampshire what they think.

Question 7. Which Council Tax band are you in?

☐ Band A  ☐ Band F
☐ Band B  ☐ Band G
☐ Band C  ☐ Band H
☐ Band D  ☐ Don’t know
☐ Band E  ☐ Prefer not to say
Question 8. We have 3 options for increasing Council Tax. Please tick one box next to each option to tell us which is your favourite, 2nd favourite and 3rd favourite?

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<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Favourite</th>
<th>2nd Favourite</th>
<th>3rd Favourite</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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Changing local councils in Hampshire

Hampshire has a County Council.

It also has 11 district councils.

It also has many parish councils and town councils.

These all cost money to run.

We have been thinking about how we could change the way councils in Hampshire are organised.

Question 9. Do you agree or disagree that we should look at changing the way councils in Hampshire are organised?
**Which ideas do you prefer?**

**Question 10.** Please now tell us which of these ideas you prefer by ticking the box for your favourite idea, 2nd favourite, 3rd favourite and so on?

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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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Other comments

**Question 11.** Please tell us if any of our ideas would affect you in any way?

**Question 12.** Have you got any other ideas for how the County Council could balance the budget?
About you

Please answer these questions. It will help us to be sure that we are getting the views from all parts of the community.

**Question 13.** Are you...

- [ ] Answering these questions for yourself?
- [ ] Answering these questions for an organisation?
- [ ] A councillor from a local council?

**If you are answering as a councillor**

**Question 14.** Which council?


**Question 15.** What is your name?


19
If you are answering for an organisation

**Question 16.** What is the name of the organisation?


**Question 17.** What is the postcode of the organisation?


**Question 18.** What is your name?


**Question 19.** What is your job in the organisation?


**Question 20.** What type of organisation is it?

- [ ] Nursery, school or college
- [ ] Local council
- [ ] Police, fire, health service
- [ ] Local business
- [ ] Charity or community organisation
- [ ] Other - please say what

20
If you are answering for yourself...

**Question 21.** What is your postcode?

**Question 22.** How old are you?

- [ ] Under 16
- [ ] 16–24
- [ ] 25–34
- [ ] 35–44
- [ ] 45–54
- [ ] 55–64
- [ ] 65–74
- [ ] 75–84
- [ ] 85+
- [ ] Prefer not to say

**Question 23.** Are you...

- [ ] Male
- [ ] Female
- [ ] Other - please say
- [ ] Prefer not to say
Question 24. What is your ethnic group?

**White**

- [ ] Welsh / English / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- [ ] Irish
- [ ] Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- [ ] Any other White background

**Mixed race**

- [ ] White and Black Caribbean
- [ ] White and Black African
- [ ] White and Asian
- [ ] Any other mixed race
Asian

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Nepalese
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background

Black

- British
- African
- Caribbean
- Any other black background

Other ethnic group

- Arab
- Any other ethnic group
**Question 25.** Are you unable to do things because of a health problem or a disability that will last more than a year?

- [ ] Yes, I can’t do much by myself
- [ ] Yes, there are some things I can’t do
- [ ] No
- [ ] Prefer not to say

**Question 26.** Are there any children or young people up to the age of 16 living in your household? Please tick all that apply

- [ ] Yes - aged 0 - 4
- [ ] Yes - aged 5 - 8
- [ ] Yes - aged 9 - 11
- [ ] Yes - aged 12 - 15
- [ ] No
- [ ] Prefer not to say
Question 27. How much money does your household make each year?

- Up to £10,000
- £10,001 - £20,000
- £20,001 - £30,000
- £30,001 - £40,000
- £40,001 - £50,000
- £50,001 - £60,000
- £60,001 - £70,000
- £70,001 - £80,000
- £80,001 - £90,000
- £90,001 - £100,000
- Over £100,000
- Don’t know
- Prefer not to say
Question 28. Where did you first hear about ‘Balancing the Budget’?

- On social media - like Facebook and Twitter
- Online - please say which website
- By email or a letter
- On a poster or leaflet
- In a residents’ newsletter
- Through someone at work
- Someone told me
- On the radio or newspapers
- Other - please say
Thank you

Thank you for completing this Response Form. Please send it back in the envelope provided by Wednesday 17 July 2019. You do not need to put a stamp on the envelope.

If you do not have a Freepost envelope, please post the Response Form to:

Freepost HAMPSHIRE

You do not need to put a stamp on the envelope.

For more information and any questions, please contact:

Email: insight@hants.gov.uk

Website: www.hants.gov.uk/balancingthebudget

Telephone: 0300 555 1375