

Peterborough City Council

Appendix C - Budget Consultation Feedback

We had a total of 132 submissions to the Budget Consultation.

Below are the answers to questions 1 to 10 from the survey, followed by feedback from key stakeholder groups.

Question 1

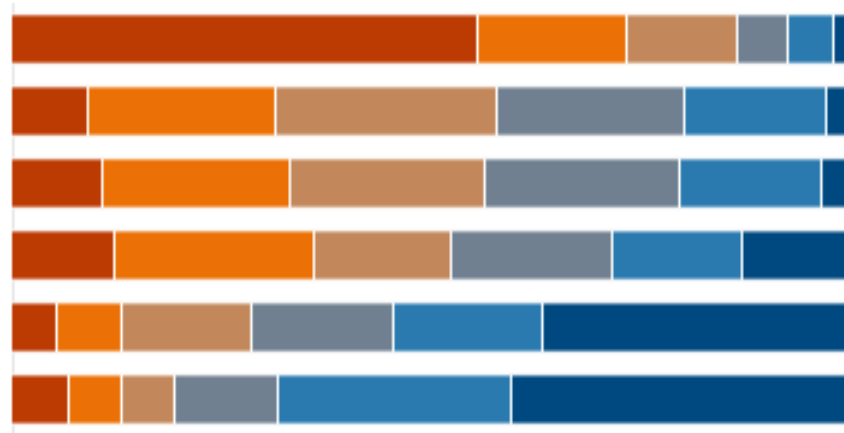
The council is meeting its budget challenge in a variety of different ways as outlined below.

Place in order of priority (1-6) the measures outlined below. 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.

Rank Options

- 1 Generating additional income
- 2 Introducing and increasing fee...
- 2 Changing services
- 3 Using reserves
- 4 Increasing council tax
- 5 Reducing services

First choice ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Last choice



Question 2

The council is maximising its use of technology and digitalisation and transforming working practises to make the council more efficient.

To what extent do you agree with this approach?

To what extent do you agree with this approach?

Strongly agree	49
Agree	48
Slightly disagree	19
Strongly disagree	15



Question 3

To what extent do you agree or disagree that we should protect services that support the city's most vulnerable, including adults and children's social care services and education, even if this means some other services will have to be delivered differently or reduced?

● Strongly agree	42
● Agree	45
● Slightly disagree	30
● Strongly disagree	15



Question 4

To what extent do you agree or disagree with our approach to increase council tax in line with the maximum referendum limit (4.99 percent) to ensure the council is best placed to continue providing the same range and quality of services?

Strongly agree	24
Agree	30
Slightly disagree	26
Strongly disagree	52



Question 5

The council works hard to recruit foster carers but with the number of children needing placements being greater than our number of carers, we have to use private fostering agencies, placing children away from the local area.

What could the council do to make fostering a more attractive offer for residents?

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No	Answer
1	Maybe look at higher financial gains for fostering.
2	Make sure they are paid fair for supporting poor children
3	Keep children in their family homes as best you can
4	Give a better incentive financially.
5	Give more support
6	Market the need for fosterers more effectively. This is the first I knew of the issue.
7	Provide adequate financial support to those who wish to choose this important journey.
8	It would help if they didn't rely on social media as advertising. People who are prepared to foster a skilled to do so use other forms of communication
9	Council spends money on fancy hotel buildings
10	Examples given of how this works
11	Create a local campaign to encourage residents to get involved in supporting fostering by volunteering, even in a small way, to show how rewarding it can be. This may then lead to volunteers taking that step into fostering.
12	<i>'This comment has been redacted'</i>
13	Make it less complicated
14	Find foster carers that want to foster because they love what they do and decrease the monetary rewards.
15	Pay more
16	I am not a consultant in fostering, ask someone who has knowledge to answer
17	Ensure the father pays their share for their offspring instead of leaving the taxpayers to pick up the bill.
18	More effort for direct engagement with the ethnic groups with higher number of children in need of fostering.
19	Ensure the foster carer has a suitable and welcoming dwelling for the child as well as the carer is not an offensive individual and has the knowledge to act as a foster carer.

20	guaranteeing support for the child whether financially or socially some previous briefing so they have some knowledge on how to best support the child
21	Greater local advertising for foster parents
22	increase the pay offered and give ongoing support and guide to foster parents as well as the foster child. Make it more attractive by offering a reward and praise system, like they have in businesses, maybe a paid holiday now and again for a few days. It is a difficult task to look after an already damaged child.
23	Return children to their home country if they are not British passport holders to reduce costs and the need for so many foster carers
24	Unclear. Improving early interventions, supporting families in early stages of trouble before they get chaotic enough to need to take children into care would be more cost effective. Paying rapacious for-profit companies to provide services that shouldn't be needed is a waste.
25	Make strict rules for fostering
26	make it easier and less intrusive
27	Education and support
28	Must use local people and local areas - give maximum publicity to encourage people to foster and increase the pay structure
29	Streamline the process with less restrictions but ensuring full safety checks are carried out. Do not look differently at single parents, renters, same sex couples etc, cash incentives
30	Streamline the process so foster carers can be recruited more quickly. When I've looked at the process before it seems very complicated. I appreciate the placements need to be safe but could some of the training be done after the children are placed with helplines / stronger support? Could schools help you promote and support fostering?
31	real benefits rather than tokenistic support
32	Pay similar rates to individual foster carers as private fostering agency. Advertise the benefits more widely.
33	Be more efficient in processing applications from interested parties.
34	<i>'This comment has been redacted'</i>
35	Offer a good market rate to foster carers. Increase independent support for families. Ensure adequate wrap around support for all presenting needs and ensure adequate training for families. Make housing support easier to access for families wishing to foster but requiring additional space.
36	Making sure fostering is funded to enable "advertising" its benefits to potential foster parents it's not something I generally read or hear about so do not see it as an issue.
37	In the current economic climate, I can see no way in which fostering could be made more attractive. Any incentives are likely to attract bad actors. Reducing pressure on young families, particularly those who are struggling to conceive, providing support and advice on fostering as part of their treatment plan.
38	Don't make it so hard for people to foster, whilst all due diligence needs to take place @ children's security is paramount, not allowing simple behavioural rules to be allowed is ridiculous. Parents discipline their own children but cannot foster children, which is very hard for own children to understand and can make them feel not cared for

39	less rules and regulation
40	Make sure that payments to foster carers fully cover the costs involved in taking on a foster child. People can't afford to take on the extra financial responsibility these days without proper support. Make the application process less onerous, while still maintaining proper safeguarding of the children to be fostered.
41	Have better processes for recruitment and pay the foster carers in line with the payments to private businesses.
42	I don't think it's about making it more attractive for residents there will always be people willing to foster children it's about understanding why there appears to be an increase of children being placed into care a more focus on prevention of the increase of children being placed with foster parents
43	Community Fostering Hubs, to include parent's cafe-type area, play area, films for older teens. Make it fun.
44	Make it more straightforward
45	Advertise to the right people
46	Have more ongoing support for fosterers, parent support groups, counselling, and such like Plenty of community hubs/ kids' clubs/ youth clubs available to them to help them build relationships as a family and also to help the children build friendships with their peers. These are incredibly important for both children and their foster families.
47	Better ongoing support
48	Better support and pay
49	Cut the CEO and anyone on over 60k + and re distribute the savings to front line
50	More support
51	Offer mental health support and mentoring support for fostering
52	Promote it more via social channels and community groups
53	Increase the financial support for carers. Provide incentives for existing carers to introduce new, potential, carers.
54	Make sure that there is affordable housing! And not private rent, that most people are in now. Stable home environment would make life easier for those in foster care.
55	Work with Central Government (i.e. DHSC, DWP) to raise rewards for foster carers and ALL carers (e.g. increase in Carers' Allowance etc)
56	More support for the families and understanding their responsibilities as foster carers. Stop advertising like a job these children need good homes
57	By telling us more
58	Help those with unsuitable homes move into suitable spaces. For example, I've applied to foster but live in a one-bedroom council flat, if I had a two bedroom, I could begin my foster journey.

59	I have never thought about it, nor would I know where to find out any information in Peterborough
60	greater support Improved facilities for children - swimming pool, leisure facilities to enable a safe and secure environment to parent. Spend the monies saved on external agencies by giving to families.
61	Easier access to fostering support and mentoring for older foster children
62	Unsure
63	Not sure
64	I am not familiar with the support offered to foster carers, or those considering going into foster care, but imagine that a strong support system through a variety of measures such as immediate access to help (on-line or telephone), networking events (on-line or face to face) would encourage more people to become carers.
65	Share much more information advertising fostering as I have seen none in recent months
66	Financial incentives
67	Advertise
68	Pay Foster Carers a proper annual salary with a pension. Single people struggle to foster as they need a permanent income to pay their mortgage/bills. The foster care allowance is for the child and isn't enough to sustain a household.
69	State plainly what fostering entails. Keep PR speak to a minimum.
70	Increase the fostering pay rate See Foster carers as professionals Provide the opportunity for foster carers to gain qualifications related to the role to support the professionalisation of the role
71	More support, money and childcare cost help
72	Have better training for foster carers and better staffing of social workers
73	More information made available to what it entails, including support both emotionally and financial
74	Better promotion - case studies, remuneration and less corporate jargon. Make it more appealing.
75	I work in children survives and have done for 41 years. Much as I felt the reasoning was flawed, I think the best foster care offered to the children, carers and authority was when the service was outsourced to TACT. The carers were happy, they had a consistent and professional support system, training was fantastic. I think properly planned this might be the best way forward. Demographically we are not yet blessed with the new communities being ready in their own lives for them consider fostering. For many this is a cultural shift too. Peterborough continues to expand quite dramatically and alongside that vision which must be there from planners and procurers, maybe built into those plans/ discussions is a very overt offer of employers/ employees committing to promoting foster care and adoption

	regularly in the workplaces. The recruitment needs to be far more visible and information readily accessible, not just for the foster care recruitment once a year but all year with changing strap lines and pictures.
76	This is not any area I have any experience or knowledge of so do not feel able to comment.
77	Higher profile of fostering through social media, recruit more volunteers to cover simple tasks which help foster parents.
78	Be a better council
79	Pay Forster cares more money.
80	More support for them.

Question 6

Do you have any other comments to make about the council's spending, service delivery or this budget consultation?

No	Answer
1	Surprised at very small percentage spent on highway maintenance.
2	Reduce lower paid people local tax Raise richer people local tax Save the city centre. Save pubs and shops
3	Council needs to look at and reduce the ridiculous amounts paid by way of salary to the executives, and in particular Chief Executive, and also reduce the number of totally useless councillors who are only there for expenses
4	The council have never spent wisely, certainly so in the past 4 years and now they want to increase Council Tax, so that they can pay more to those in office, rather than spending it on the people of Cambridgeshire. I haven't seen a policeman on the street for over 8 years, all the roads have potholes, streets are very rarely cleaned with weeds growing all over. Streets and residential areas as a whole are absolutely filthy and as for the services provided police etc we don't get any of these services and yet we pay for them each and every year and now you want to hike up council tax rates - I ask - What for?
5	It seems as if the council waste more money on minority projects than rather looks after the majority of council taxpayers
6	Raising it by 4.99%, after such huge outlay to move council offices to fletton quays, when the shift to hybrid working makes such a move so ineffectual, and when things like the mayor's office (or car alone) are known to cost huge amounts, is incredibly bad for optics. It is not the tax payer's responsibility to service a city official's parking tickets, for example. Raising council tax by so much at this time when residents across tax bands have been hit hard by the cost of living, which is not abating, and wages are not rising, will only serve to drive many deeper into poverty or onto the margins. Foodbank use is up exponentially in the city so consider NOT adding to the financial pressure residents face at this time.
7	Focusing resources effectively rather than employing consultants to suggest what should be done. You have experienced effect staff in the ground that know a thing or two.
8	Stop spending money on a BTEC Hilton hotel. Corrupt politicians!
9	Sell more buildings and rent out office space. If workers are effective from home, stop insisting they come into the office
10	Yes. Why have a consultation when you all have made the decisions already sometimes wrongly at our expense.
11	you always hit the working man as you can't get it from the scum who suck the life out the system, I would sack the mayor and sell his chain and motor before raising anything.
12	Stop wasting our money doing things like lending money to hotel building and on the station quarter which I don't think will ever happen

13	It's the easy option to increase council tax each year but people who live in higher bands aren't always flush with cash and some like me pay increasing estate management fees and funny enough raising fees usually results in council pay awards soon following... More effective management on different levels, driving down costs, reducing waste. If consecutive council management effectively ran our budget, then there'll be no need for proposed further increases of the amount
14	The council have wasted so much of our hard-earned taxes for very little improvement if any. In these hard times I think it shows how out of touch MPs are with the general population. Get the rich to pay proper taxes and reduce the burden on the ordinary working people. Simple but you won't do that as you all want to protect your cash and benefit. Too greedy the country deserves better
15	This consultation is merely a marketing exercise for which there will be no outcome or effect on the eventual council tax. It is very strange that the intended raise goes up to the max but does not exceed the limit. Councillors should do the "HONOURABLE thing" & resign & put themselves up for re-election as a matter of principle.... will not happen!!
16	End free bus service to schools. A contribution after 3 miles should be required. Merge more services with CCC.
17	The council waste money on a massive scale. They spent thousands on new lighting for the multi-story car park only to demolish it within 18 Months. They wasted millions on the Rhubarb bridge crossings. They closed the Hydrotherapy pool and demolished it. They spent a fortune on the fountains in Cathedral square only to abandon them. Bretton centre has fallen into dereliction it is shameful to see! There is little police presence. Prostitutes patrol the city centre roads that were once magnificent homes. The list goes on. The leader of the council was voted out in a vote of no confidence the rest need to follow. Peterborough was once a fantastic city it is a real mess now.
18	Council is trying to do a challenging task with its best effort. It needs strong and objective political leadership.
19	Where is the money that was lent to the people building the hotel. Was it really necessary to have a new town hall? Why do we have to pay for a Cambridgeshire mayor. Were all the extra road works to make extra lanes at some roundabouts totally necessary. We DO have excellent waste services. Perhaps people could pay a couple of pounds each time they go to the council waste disposal place in Fengate. No more than that amount or more people will fly tip.
20	simple reduce spending, reduce workforce/admin positions
21	Have you considered wage review as Peterborough pay significantly more for social workers than surrounding counties - particularly senior social worker wage and my experience is that the wage is not justified for some in those roles.
22	Do not cut or remove leisure facilities especially for young people but increase them. There have been too many cuts already, so teenagers have nowhere to go go and gather on street corners and parks, become even more vulnerable to drugs pushers and then become a nuisance and increase costs for the council in clearing up the mess. Increase street cleaning and plant flowers - you do not attract tourists who bring money or new businesses - to places that are dull and dirty - that is what Peterborough has become. Invest before you save not the other way round. Prevent rather than cure.
23	Make cutbacks to services and posts (translations, strategy roles) in order not to raise Council Tax which is a regressive tax with the poor paying a disproportionate amount of their income to subsidise inefficient services. For instance, Peterborough accepts more people as homeless than many equivalent authorities. If the Council were more restrictive in its homelessness acceptances, then this would reduce the demands on the Council Tax.

24	<p>The council is in this mess and has been for the last decade due to cuts from Government and in honesty it will take a further decade to get back to where it needs to be .</p> <p>Council should stop vanity projects and that includes the money pit of the Northgate development. It's an affront to Peterborough citizens when the council speculates in building hotels rather than concentrating on the basic services it is required to provide.</p>
25	<p>Council tax needs an overhaul completely. It is unfair that the tenants of the smallest properties pay more as a percentage of property value compared to those in million pound plus properties. those in £320,000 homes pay the same as those in £,3,200,000 properties. Using 1991 values still is also odd.</p>
26	<p>Stop throwing away money for building failed and unnecessary hotel businesses. I.e. the Hilton</p>
27	<p>Your budget consultation document makes no mention of arts and culture, yet the arts generate £3 for every £1 spent on it. The city needs a small arts venue that can stage theatre events but also has the capacity for exhibitions, workshops and community arts activities. This is not what was proposed for the old TK Max building - you should be thinking more along the lines of the Junction in Cambridge - there are plenty of units around the city that would provide a decent venue. Or you could cancel the planned development of the Old Mill on the Embankment and re-instate the plans to make that into an arts venue.</p> <p>Also, stop trying to develop the Embankment. It is one of the few large public spaces in the city - on no account should a stadium be built on it. An increase in the 12 days currently allowed for public events to be held on the embankment would increase tourist traffic into the city. At the same time, the Middlehome project needs to be cancelled - why are you proposing building on an area that regularly floods?</p>
28	<p>Perhaps we should not be so keen on so much expansion but should consolidate and improve the facilities we currently have, to make Peterborough more attractive.</p> <p>So often we hear about these fantastic plans for development/fund raising that come to nothing and in fact end up costing money- it feels like the king's new clothes, that the council is being lured by false promises of profit, but which are actually pipe in the sky.</p>
29	<p>Invest in early interventions, drug treatment programmes, and services to prevent homelessness. This approach has been shown to be cheaper in the long run than the firefighting approach currently taken. Supporting at-risk families in early stages before they get chaotic enough to need to take children into care would be more cost effective.</p>
30	<p>There are a number of great technologies available to deliver savings. I recently saw that Derby City Council have implemented AI for their residents saving a huge amount of money that could be re-invested into the reserves. The use of AI in front door contact centres should be considered. There is a company called ICS.AI that is in a lot of councils, and I saw their webinar recently, it was very impressive</p>
31	<p>Reduce the money paid to councillors-and cabinet members, it used to be Free - no salaries - just expenses- just like Magistrates- no payments other than expenses - who do excellent job - reduce the salaries of officers - some do very little work</p>
32	<p>Yes, the council are a shambles and have wasted the public's council tax money. The market is shocking along with all the flats and Hilton Hotel.</p> <p>We shall not have money for food, holidays and shopping. The council are taking us for a ride and bleeding the public dry. It is greed and no respect to the working class like the Conservative Party.</p>
33	<p>It's time to let go of the Town Hall. This archaic building sucks money from you in the required upkeep and modernisation constantly needed. It hosts only 1 public serving department and the rest of the building's occupant's panders to the needs of Councillors. Use your modern spacious Sand Martin House to hold all your staff and departments and modernise and stop being so traditional and archaic in your need to hold Council Meetings here. During the pandemic it was obvious Council Meeting and Cabinet meetings could be held just as well at Sand Martin.</p>

34	Reduce pay of senior staff in council. Freeze staff pay
35	I appreciate the difficult challenges and think you are going a great job.
36	There are some contradictions - such as that you will need to reduce the funding, we provide to some of our partner organisations who provide housing related support to people in temporary accommodation or who are unable to secure a tenancy of their own - however you state that you will work to increase care placements. Reducing or eliminating housing related support will increase pressure of Childrens (and adults) services and result in higher demand for housing. You also state you will work with voluntary sector partners to manage the risk of reducing housing related support however they are often unable to support the very complex cases of whom are housed in Housing Related Support accommodation settings.
37	local services for local people
38	With 77p in the £1 being spent on childrens services and adult social care. Is the council sure that these services are operating efficiently? Have other services had to operate efficiently due to cuts over the last 10 years whereas Childrens services and adult social care have been protected so haven't needed to evolve and become more efficient? Only 3p on highways and 5 p on housing seem incredibly low levels of spend.
39	New Bus Depot ---- £200,000 seems a lot just to get a feasibility study. The size of the required site can surely be worked out by the number of vehicles involved, (buses+ others). A site as near as possible to City Centre is required for most efficient operation of buses.
40	The new layout makes it harder to draw out figures associated with this budget.
41	I had to look for this survey to complete it ...so would ask how are you letting residents know it's here to complete ...have you told each and every resident? As a resident I feel every space or demolished building becomes housing, doesn't matter where it is or whether the infrastructure around it is suitable ...just squeeze in more houses, more people, more traffic and more health needs of those people. Saturation point was passed some time ago . and the huge problem we have is we do not expand services to meet the expanding population ...no nhs dentists available, a miracle to get to see a dr, elderly at home care system is broken leaving people stuck in hospital or with lack of care at home and yet still the council allow an ever-expanding population. Peterborough is full, close the door and fix what needs fixing before you keep expanding.
42	Only that a underpinning all decisions is a requirement for the council to be able to answer the question "Why Peterborough?". This is both for attracting businesses, new residents and workers, but also tourism. With the new government hub, local city centre attractions have noticed and increase in the number of short stay and day trip visitors. More must be done to boost the culture and tourism prospects of Peterborough, so that the above question can easily be answered, not just by local residents who should be proud of our cultural offerings, but also by those in other areas of the country. Often Peterborough is looked down on, and unjustly! More must be done to boost our city centre culture venues, to attract visitors and boost the local economy through additional spending in retailers that surround these venues. The loss of the Museums expansion, which would have housed the internationally famous "Pompeii of Britain" Must Farm, was an incredibly sad moment for our culture, but also and economically more importantly, it was a loss for the question "Why Peterborough?". All things require energy to grow, the New Town development new this, which is why so much effort was placed on creating not just a place to live and work, but a place to thrive.
43	Yes, why is it only Band D that will pay the increase? We don't use the full range of services when own children have left home, and have to pay extraordinary amounts of money for care in later life, thereby contributing twice because we own our own home
44	stop wasting money on white elephants such as the Hilton hotel

45	Stop wasting money on things like art installations in public spaces, or junkets to “twinned” cities. We need money spent on clean streets, properly maintained roads, regular refuse/recycling collections, better delivery on health, social care, education, and housing before all the fripperies.
46	Be concerned with budget waste due to time spent on the wrong things at the wrong times and obtain advice from front line staff to understand categorically what doesn't work and why and then change these processes immediately. Reduce higher salaries and remove non-essential positions. Review contracts-Council are always charged higher rates for any services. Caring for vulnerable people and assisting them to be as independent as possible without question, should be exactly that. The suggestion that other services may be affected if this is the case, implies the council fails to accept this is a necessary spend, which is unacceptable.
47	Then Council could look at utilising the voluntary sector to assist with work the council undertaken for example there is a litter picking group called Peterborough Wombels who litter pick most weeks who take pride in doing this I think a lot more people would get involved if it was published better could maybe encourage residents to adopt a street to clean on a regular basis there could be incentives for people who take up the offer for example there could be waiver on for example brown bin collection voucher schemes etc, similar to those given to families who are in need of extra help which we all do, due to the cost of living we are all in a cost of living crisis and should all be supported equally
48	You do not visibly demonstrate that you have spent money well; you do not tell the residents who pay the actual council taxes.
49	Stop taking away services within the community that are so desperately needed! Especially for the children!!!! The kids are the next generation. They need youth groups, classes and clubs!! Stop selling their buildings off, so the kids have nothing....
50	Queensgate is ruined! Sort it out. There is nothing decent to go shopping for. The loss of John Lewis has killed it, that's all that kept it worthwhile. The entertainments section has caused far too much asbo. It's not a pleasant experience going into Queensgate anymore.
51	More help for the elderly and potholes in the roads
52	Cut the CEO and anyone on over 60k + or on a 'directors' salary and re distribute the savings to front line
53	Isn't it time we reduced expenditure by cutting unnecessary jobs within the council, reviewing the performance of those on salaries above £65000, with removal of consistently underperforming and failing staff and making adjustments based on the results of independent audits while also reducing councillors' remuneration based on their repeated failures to deliver, rather than cutting services and increasing taxation.
54	You need to spend much more money on litter picking. This city is a disgrace. Please do something about it. A service where you go around daily picking up flytipping would be great. Many other councils do this.
55	Can't see any mental health provision, or support for the homeless? Also, nothing about increasing public transport, improving infrastructure to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
56	Your services really need to be all online. Customer services should be completely digital. Reporting should be digital yet most things we still have to call the contact centre as it doesn't allow you to report online. More investment into leisure facilities, such as swimming pools. City centre needs to be made more attractive. More EV charging points. Better bus network
57	We need greater focus on making our streets safer. And free from litter!!!!

58	Look after Veterans, homeless, it's OK you building all these flats but are any going to the above I mentioned? Probably not! encourage decent retailers into the City, I mean I have no issue going to Cambridge for decent shops, but not everyone has that privilege of going to other places to shop! So, they have to shop with the rubbish that is left in the city?! If you have a special occasion to shop for.... well, you just ain't gonna get anything nice in Peterborough!!! So, we go online... another nail in the shopping centres coffin!
59	<p>YES!!! 1) Drastically reduce the salaries, perks and pensions provision for ALL senior PCC officials!!!</p> <p>2) Revise the PCC constitution to establish a TRUE separation of powers between executive and legislative/scrutiny functions, abolish the current (and both un-elected and unsustainable) role of Chief Executive and replace with a GENUINE and directly elected US Mayor AND TEAM!!! This will then replace both the current PCC cabinet and ALL the Executive Directors AND Chief Executive, thereby getting rid of all the stipend payments to cabinet members (and re-establishing ALL local councillors as equals) AND the ridiculously high salaries of the Chief Executive and Executive Directors. PCC may have to seek permission from the 'Levelling Up' Department to do this- if so, then please DO IT!!! PCC cannot keep reducing services whilst continuing to avoid the reduction of the cost of those at the top of the city's local government pyramid</p> <p>3) Many local people understand why reductions have to be made but cannot understand why those at the top never have to 'tighten their belts'. The new political administration MUST show both courage and vision by finally tackling this issue in the ways suggested above.</p> <p>4) BTW, I am available for hire as a political consultant and my rates are VERY fair indeed- £50 per hour. Therefore, I would be happy to serve PCC in such a role to make the necessary changes described above- AND help set up a local time bank to support local volunteers (eg PANVAC coaches, food bank volunteers, PLW volunteers etc). After all, even if the expected change in Government takes place next year, it is highly doubtful we will see any immediate return to 2010 levels re: local government funding. There are plenty more ideas from where those above have come from- so can you afford to not hire me? Thanks for listening. Peace and Merry Christmas</p>
60	You need to improve street lighting on park ways and town they are awful
61	Support for less well-off pensioners is vital, any increase in charges must take account of the limited means available to pensioners as a whole.
62	Get some shops in the city centre better nightlife. Our city centre is worse than Corby and Huntingdon. No more restaurants and more nice shops not scabby ones give people a reason to come into town. Reduce the amount of money given to people who are benefits who can work, make parents who get benefits work and help people out who do work
63	Yes you need to Improve every single bus stop in Peterborough by putting a high raised kerb at every stop the amount of people that struggle to get on and off the bus because there isn't a high kerb especially outside Tesco at Broadway where there isn't a high curb and improve the bus shelters too the amount of damaged ones I see as a bus driver
64	Adult social care is more needed than ever and advertisement about all services provided by the council.
65	Must treat the outlying villages with the same level of concern as the city, giving greater attention to their needs when considering levels of service provision
66	<p>There is too much visible waste and greed if council contractors.</p> <p>Go 100% TRANSPARENT open all work for local bidding. Enable new businesses to bring efficiencies to the city.</p> <p>Use data dashboards and make them open to the public</p> <p>Enable a digital city.</p>

	<p>Push harder on policing to remove crime from the city. Gangs are influencing your young future revenues. If they win you have even less tax generation. Balance planning and regeneration greed with the need for local services where we develop or regenerate Doctors. Pharmacy Community centres with young leaders are all needed.</p> <p>Meet your requirements for facilities such as swimming. You are robbing a generation or opportunity and learning and creating a generation of non-swimmers as schools will not be able to meet their legal requirements of swimmers by the end of year 6!</p>
67	No
68	Reduce pay for the highest paid within the council and no more vanity projects
69	No
70	I am concerned about selling off assets as this is a really short-term fix. It would be far more effective to make those assets pay for themselves. Perhaps an idea would be to challenge local groups to come up with their own plans to make their village halls / community centres generate more in come.
71	The council needs to relook at their local education authority and the way the budgets are being spent when children with EHCPs are out of school. The problem is not that the LA does not have money to fund the child's education but the problem is that managers sitting in the SAMs team at LA would rather spend well over £100,000 for one child to provide inadequate provisions which do not cover the EHCP - instead what they should be doing is working with parents to work out a package for the child who is out of education that won't cost an arm and a leg. The council needs to see exactly how the education budget is being used up by LA and put procedures in place to ensure LA is not wasting money due to their ego.
72	Councillors should bear in mind the hidden value behind the property assets that they are reviewing. Voluntary and community benefits exist because the buildings provide a location for them. No building is likely to mean no additional service and, therefore, less community benefit.
73	Invest more in early years, send and family support services to make the biggest, most positive long-term impact for the future. Spend money on building children's centres in all local areas of Peterborough and make professionals accessible (health visitors and SALT) and baby and toddler groups to better support children's futures as the children that are growing up now will have the opportunity to grow into fully functioning adults. Putting information online can never replace a professional developing a good relationship with a family and providing the right early support, in those early years. Our families are struggling financially, and our children deserve more than living in poverty with little access to local services.
74	<p>The council could possibly look at re-generating safer & appropriate shelter for rough sleepers and encourage the ministry of justice to prevent individuals from rough sleeping in the city centre.</p> <p>The council can look at re-modelling the city link cameras as they are somewhat useful.</p> <p>The council can look into increasing legal protection powers to restraint and disperse individuals not abiding with the ASPO legislations.</p> <p>The council can look at creating community youth centres for the younger generation to participate in with encouragement of sports and active learning programs.</p>
75	I see many people capable of working who are given free housing, are getting Deliveroo daily, drinking alcohol daily. Why should the council be funding this?!
76	Priority needs to be given to health and sports opportunities. It improves physical and mental health.
77	There are very long wait lists for mental health counselling support. More counsellors are needed to reduce waiting times.

78	Glad to see a new fresh administration with no agendas from political parties and increased transparency. Vanity projects are at the core of PCCs deficit & endless changes in internal IT, top heavy management & endless interims/consultancies "supporting change". If management can't 'support change' they shouldn't be employed! Libraries could be self-sustaining if they had the right approach.
79	The council should consider the impact of any cuts in services on the poorest in our area, and how they may be affected differently by any cuts.
80	The Circles network, need more funding such an amazing facility but the building isn't fit for purpose anymore needs serious input to either fix problems or a new building as no outside space. Used by so many families with children, young adults who need help and their families.
81	The Council should cut its Christmas lights and switch on. Hand over to Peterborough BID to put in place new strategy to create business against sales, not footfall. Needs to be measured. Council needs to start thinking differently as a business, with service. Looking at marketing and sponsorship against all sites. Bus Shelter's put out to tender, no cost to public, the number of promotion marketing sites, is the council get a revenue. The use of all Council facilities needs to have a marketing value. Any member wishing to use for charity or event's, needs to cover all the costs. Needs to be full and transparent public enquiry into Hotel and all Council ownership properties before any sell off. Who then funds these? As it cannot just remove from Council budget, yet then picked up by Parish Councils for example. Ward Councillors allowance frozen and Ward Councillors community allowance must be spent, not used a political vote win.
82	Peterborough has come a hive of getting shops and cafes/restaurants but not encouraging small independent retailers, surely lower business rates would reduce the number of empty shops and generate more income
83	Councils always top heavy Too many managerial staff and not enough staff on the ground. Stop using comms agencies. This will help with budgets.
84	Cut down on "Perks" or unnecessary travel or expense claims by Councillors
85	I think looking at the whole picture in Peterborough where I move to being offered a job and home 41 years ago, this is the belief of the Chief Executive now. My daughter is local and is raising her family here too. However, there seems to be a complete mismatch between that ethos and what Peterborough offers. It is a filthy town. Every main road edge is strewn with litter, tyres etc, bins are overflowing, waste collectors leave waste drifting in the street. Pick it up if you have left it. There is no pride in the city so in council meetings it might be fine, and I would imagine there is not this discussion and real push to improve the living environment for residents. It isn't difficult to resolve but takes some imagination, cctv and effort and a city-wide expectation that we all play a part. I do litter pick near my home and have done for years as I chose to live in a nice area and not a skip. I also report fly tipping so regularly. Interestingly my neighbours have over time all commented that "the council will clean places up". I am not sure where they get that from as it simply does not happen. Maybe the odd street cleaning machine once a year.
86	Stop charging for green waste bins, include cost in council tax and give every household a bin. Get planning under control, too much time and money wasted combatting unacceptable planning applications by unprofessional, greedy small-time sharks.
87	The council should stop doing things that are not it's job and focus on cleaning the streets and housing the homeless. There are far too many councillors and far too many expensive directors. We would be better off with a third of the councillors, but with councillors that could read and write and do arithmetic. The council should stop paying for an outside improvement panel that actually hasn't led to any improvements. Was this panel even consulted about the council borrowing £50 million extra this year to buy a building that it doesn't need.

	<p>The council should use its empty buildings or get rid of them. For example, Bretton Court, could've been housing homeless people and saving the council millions for over the last decade.</p> <p>Rather than come up with more and more bland ideas and more and more faffing around the council should actually focus on the things that work for example, preventative actions such as decent children services will stop the need for fostering and adoption cost. Similarly, providing decent housing will reduce the millions that has been wasted on the misery of homelessness by no longer putting people in hotels and expenses, temporary accommodation. Taking political stances, such as turning on lights at the Townhall and upsetting people over the Genocide in Gaza is not the only big mistake made this year. These out of touch with locals' decision-makers should go and also, we should stop letting them build and buy buildings that the council really do not know what's wanting to do with or don't need. Rather than playing with and chasing pots of external funding, the council should focus on service delivery and that involves a base budget review by people who actually know what they're doing. So, if you have a poor council of people who cannot read and write or add up, decisions will continue to be made that are not very good. Perhaps more often than not, the real state of things and the facts should be pointed out and councillors, if it is them that are making decisions should be told the facts so they don't continue with fantasy. Councils said they were getting back to basics thirty years ago, but this council certainly didn't, and it should.</p>
88	<p>Not really sure what we are being consulted on in this exercise. The budget simulator results indicated I think that people prioritise useful services benefitting everyone (eg street cleaning, libraries etc) over fancy initiatives. Hopefully this is guiding the budget.</p>
89	<p>Spend more on social care.</p>

Question 7

Are you?

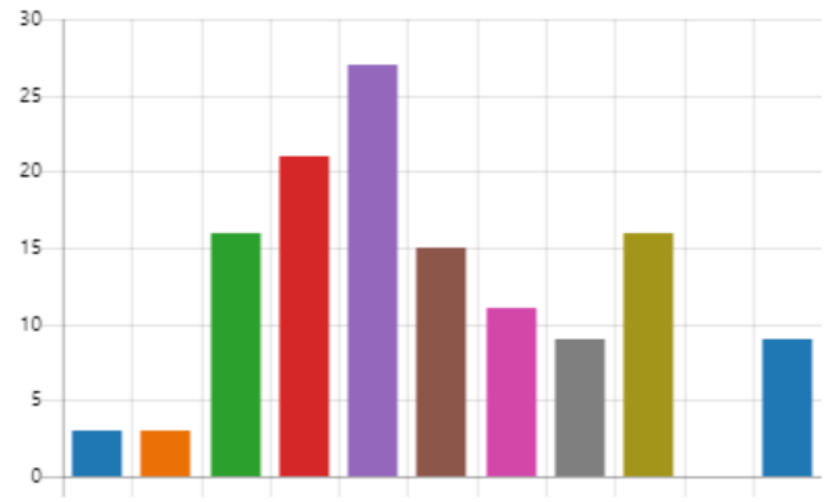
Male	63
Female	56
Prefer not to say	9
Prefer another term	2



Question 8

Please indicate your age range.

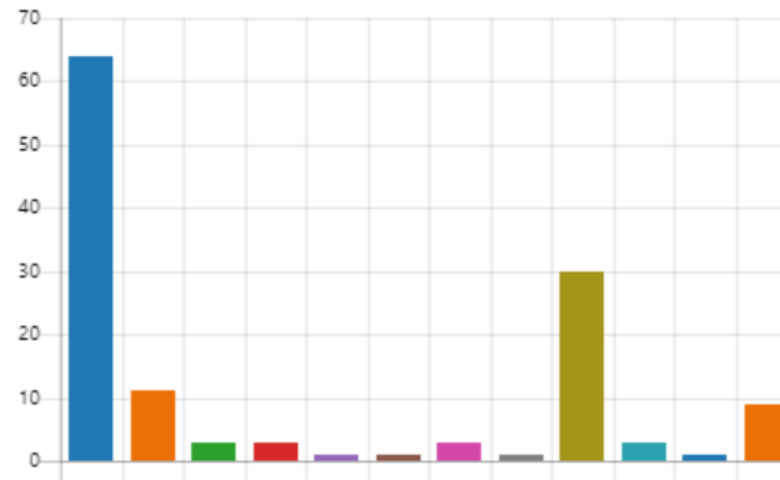
Under 18	3
18-24	3
25-34	16
35-44	21
45-54	27
55-59	15
60-64	11
65-69	9
70-79	16
80 or over	0
Prefer not to say	9



Question 9

Which of the following best describes you?

Employed full time	64
Employed part time	11
Self-employed	3
Unemployed - actively seekin...	3
Unemployed - not actively see...	1
Full time student over 18	1
Full time student under 18	3
Stay at home parent	1
Retired	30
Carer	3
Unable to work	1
Prefer not to say	9



Question 10

Do you work in the Peterborough City Council area?

● Yes	66
● No	50
● Prefer not to say	13



Feedback from key stakeholder groups

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System

- We, of course, recognise the financial challenges that the Council is facing looking ahead to 2024/25. In that context, I have read your plans with interest, and considered them both from an NHS perspective, and against the commitments we have collectively made as part of our Health & Wellbeing Integrated Care Strategy to increase the number of years people spend in good health; to reduce inequalities in preventable deaths before the age of 75; and, to achieve better outcomes for our children.
- I wanted to start by welcoming your commitment to working with health colleagues to further develop our integrated neighbourhood teams. Supporting prevention work that is targeted to the specific needs of each area, based on data and insights that helps us better collectively understand the needs of each neighbourhood, is an important part of our future joint working. A shared commitment and investment of time and resources into these teams is vital to their success in supporting the health and wellbeing of our local people.
- Your focus on reablement in the form of targeted support programme to help people become more independent again after they've left hospital, including recruiting more frontline workers to help expand this service, and investment in children's services to support children to have the best start in life, are also welcomed. We know that there can be delays for people leaving hospital due to social care support, and additional funding to help enable people to safely return to their own homes is important to the NHS, but also most important to those individuals who may otherwise be in hospital longer than they need to be.
- We understand the additional demands on the budget due to increases in demand on both adult and children's social care. It is good to see that you are looking at new ways to effectively deliver these services, such as through developing a digital strategy and implementation plan, including potential automation of back-office functions and improving use of technology enabled care, where appropriate. We would ask that as partners in the ICS we work together on how we can best digitally support the people who receive care services from the local authority and health services from the NHS to ensure we are supporting them in a way that best meets their needs.
- With an ageing population, it is vital that as health and care partners we continue to work closely together to support our local communities, and that we invest in public health and prevention work to support local people to be as healthy as they can be.
- We would ask that any reductions to specific services that could have wider health implications, such as your breastfeeding support service and workplace health contract – and where that could lead to additional pressures on the NHS - are talked through with the ICB as a key health partner before final decisions are made. You have already helpfully acknowledged such an approach in respect of possible changes to the suicide prevention training programme.
- As you will know, the local NHS also need to ensure that we deliver a balanced financial plan and good quality care for our local people, so we are keen to work closely with you to mitigate against any unintended consequences of funding cuts wherever possible across all Integrated Care System partners.

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