

Responses received from the general public on the budget proposals

Date received	How did you find out about this consultation?	QUESTION ONE	QUESTION TWO	QUESTION THREE	QUESTION FOUR	QUESTION FIVE	QUESTION SIX
		Please tell us your views on the overall budget strategy/approach detailed in the report	Please tell us your views on the proposals for Net service expenditure budget analysed by type of spend (Appendix B)	Please tell us your views on the proposals for 2020/21 Growth and savings (Appendix C)	Please tell us your views on the proposed Capital Programme (Appendix D)	Harborough District Council is proposing not to increase its share of Council Tax for 2019/20. Overall do you: agree/disagree/neither	Please explain the reasons for the preferred option you selected in question 5
15/01/2020	Council website	In general I support the strategy.		The budget appears to involve considerable investment in both services and capital that will rely on growth to offset expenditure; as such I think that it exposes the Council to excessive risk.	Again, I think that the budget appears to involve considerable investment that will rely on growth to offset expenditure; as such I think that it exposes the Council to excessive risk. If the economic growth at national level stalls, or (perhaps more realistically in the light of the General Election result) is redistributed towards the North of England and West Midlands through a rebalancing of the economy, the Council might find that return on investment falls short of expectations.	Neither agree or disagree	The proportion of Council Tax that the District Council sets is so small relative to the County Council, Police and Fire that its relevance is very limited.
16/01/2020	Council website	Surprised not to see impact of moving to become unitary authority built in. Surely best way to provide VFFM for taxpayers?				Disagree	Should be focusing on transformation to unitary authority
17/01/2020	Council website	no comment	no comment	no comment	no comment	Disagree	The District's Council's slice of the overall bill is small. Give the Council the funds to deliver services without having to put up other charges or introduce further
18/01/2020	Twitter	Its ok	?	Eh?	Great	Disagree	Need to invest in public services and central government funding is not enough - look what happened to other councils that didn't put council tax up
19/01/2020	Council website	excellent	ok	ok	ok	Agree	
20/01/2020	Facebook					Agree	Pay enough

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24/01/2020	Other	<p>It appears insane. Net expenditure is going up 7% but you are not asking for any increase in the share of council tax but instead drawing from capital reserves to make up the shortfall.</p> <p>I want good services. I'm willing to pay taxes for them. Don't pander to the selfish morons who just want the lowest taxes for themselves without a care for public services or the wider social good!</p>	<p>Appendix B has almost no qualifying detail to it. Without that detail I can't comment further.</p>	<p>Increasing the staff vacancy factor appears to be counterproductive and only provides a small saving. The new manager posts also seem massively overcompensated: a £78k for customer services manager and a £90k for an economic development service manager. That must be well above the market rate for posts at a district council.</p>	<p>A £16m for a new leisure centre in Harborough is astounding! It must be the best new Leisure centre in the country, if not continent.</p>	Disagree	<p>You need more money. Everything in your budget indicates that you need more money. You have the ability to get more money. I am more than willing to pay slightly more council tax so that you have more money. Please ask for more money.</p>
26/01/2020	Word of mouth	<p>Too much borrowing proposed in Capital Plan. Have aspirations been consulted upon? Symington building was refurbished not long ago - surely should need to be done again or telephones needing refurbishment. Are you really asking us for opinions or just telling us what you will do?</p>	<p>Not enough for communities - too much on strategy and regulation, salaries HDC buildings etc.</p>	<p>Not much information given - high cost of increase in director salary.</p>	<p>Too much borrowing.</p>	Agree	<p>HDC need to cut costs not expect to keep increasing salaries and charging us ratepayers for their high lifestyles and pensions.</p>
28/01/2020	Parish Council	<p>keeping the tax level stable makes sense, but there is no mention of investment in the villages, only Harborough and Lutterworth</p>	<p>see above</p>	<p>see above</p>	<p>see above</p>	Agree	<p>Council tax levels are already very high and spending outside Harborough and Lutterworth is disproportionately low. there can be no justification for increasing tax levels until a more fair spending</p>
31/01/2020	Council website					Disagree	<p>I am happy to pay more for increased services</p>
31/01/2020	Other	<p>Finance up by around 35% not acceptable.</p>	<p>Appendix B is a waste of time</p>	<p>Again Finance is not acceptable.</p>	<p>Too much borrowing and too much focus on the MH area to the detriment of Lutterworth area</p>	Disagree	<p>It should be falling.</p>