

Budget Engagement 2017

Introduction

Your elected councillors are responsible for taking decisions about how Wokingham Borough Council spends its money and do so on the basis of the area's long-term interests, the need to meet its statutory requirements and to maintain its financial security.

When these decisions are made, we consider a lot of different information and as part of this, we would like to understand more about are the things that you consider most important and the services the council provides.

Part one: What is important to you?

Q1 Please place these aspirations for Wokingham Borough in order of importance to you

	Most important	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Least important
New housing is built only where it is appropriate and comes with good infrastructure and facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The borough looks good with well kept public spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roads are well-maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are plenty of opportunities to stay fit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is easy to drive around the borough and park your car	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are homes that young people can afford	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We have a thriving economy with a successful range of businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are good non-car transport options to help cut congestion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there other issues that are particularly important to you?								

Q2 Which of the following services, provided or supported by Wokingham Borough Council, have you or your family used in the past 12 months

- Re3 Recycling Centres
- Country parks and other open spaces (such as Dinton Pastures)
- Library services
- Leisure centres (such as St Crispin's)
- Swimming pools
- Children's centres
- Sports activities courses (such as the SHINE programme)
- Children's social services
- Adult and older people's social services
- Housing advice or support
- Revenue and Benefits
- Primary schools
- Secondary Schools
- Submitting a planning application
- Sports pitches (such as Laurel Park)

Q3 Which services do you think it could be acceptable to reduce spending in order to contain expenditure (please select no more than five)

- Weekly refuse collection
- Parks and open spaces
- Street cleansing
- Street lighting
- School building improvement
- Educational attainment
- Library services
- Environmental Health
- Trading Standards
- Maintenance of street trees, shrubs and verges
- Youth centres
- Road maintenance (such as fixing potholes)
- Children's Centres
- Bus subsidies
- Sports activities and courses
- Children's social services
- Personal safety (such as tackling domestic abuse)
- Community development in our most deprived areas
- Adult social services
- Planning enforcement

Please tell us any other ways you think we could reduce spending

Part two: How we provide services

We are currently going through a transformation (known as the 21st Century Council programme) to improve how we deal with residents who contact us, provide services locally and make it easier for people to access information and services.

Please answer the questions below to help us make our services better

Q4 Which of the services below do you currently access via the council's website

	Yes	No	Would like to but was not aware I could
Pay Council Tax	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Search and comment on planning applications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay Business Rates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay for garden waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay council housing rent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report a problem with roads including potholes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report a traffic light failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report a street light failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report fly-tipping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report grass-cutting issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report a missed bin collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Find out about planning decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Find the latest news from the council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Find out about local events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access library services (such as renewing books)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other uses, please specify			<input type="text"/>

Q5 Did you find the website easy to use

Yes

No

It what ways was it difficult to use and do you have suggested improvements

Q6 Are there services you would like to able to access on the WBC website that are not currently available?

Part three: Longer term issues

Q7 The Government sets the cap on Council Tax increases that can be made without a local referendum (2% this year plus 3% for Adult Social Services). How likely do you think you would be to support paying more if it was necessary to **protect** services at current levels?

Very likely to support

Quite likely to support

Quite likely not to support

Very likely not to support.....

Q8 How likely would you be to **support paying more Council Tax to improve** any services above current levels

Very likely to support.....

Quite likely to support

Quite likely not to support

Very likely not to support.....

Q9 Another way in which we could **protect** services would be to increase existing charges for services (such as car parks, planning pre-application advice, hiring of facilities). To what extent do you agree with this option?

Strongly agree

Tend to agree.....

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree.....

What charges would it be most acceptable to increase?

Q10 To what extent would you **support increasing charges to improve** any current services

Strongly agree

Tend to agree.....

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree.....

Q11 Which services would you see as most important to **protect** with this additional funding (please select all appropriate)

- Weekly refuse collection.....
- Parks and open spaces.....
- Street cleansing.....
- Street lighting.....
- School building improvement.....
- Educational attainment.....
- Library services.....
- Environmental Health.....
- Trading Standards.....
- Maintenance of street trees, shrubs and verges.....
- Youth centres.....
- Road maintenance (such as fixing potholes).....
- Children's centres.....
- Bus subsidies.....
- Sports activities and courses.....
- Children's social services.....
- Personal safety (such as tackling domestic abuse).....
- Community development in our most deprived areas.....
- Adult social services.....
- Planning enforcement.....

Please tell us any other services you would like to see protected with this additional funding

Q12 Which services would you see as most important to **improve** with this additional funding (please select no more than five)

- Weekly refuse collection.....
- Parks and open spaces.....
- Street cleansing.....
- Street lighting.....
- School building improvement.....
- Educational attainment.....
- Library services.....
- Environmental Health.....
- Trading Standards.....
- Maintenance of street trees, shrubs and verges.....
- Youth centres.....
- Road maintenance (such as fixing potholes).....
- Children's centres.....
- Bus subsidies.....
- Sports activities and courses.....
- Children's social services.....
- Personal safety (such as tackling domestic abuse).....
- Community development in our most deprived areas.....
- Adult social services.....
- Planning enforcement.....

Please tell us any other services you would like to see improved if there with this additional funding

Q13 Do you have any other comments on how we should prioritise spending or make savings to help protect or improve services?

Q14 Please tell us how you heard about this survey

- Local newspaper advert.....
- Local newspaper article.....
- Poster or flyer.....
- WBC social media.....
- Other social media.....
- Word of mouth.....
- Other.....

Please specify

About you

(Please note this information is only used internally by the Council to establish to what extent participants are representative of the borough)

Q15 Are you

Male

Female

Transgender

Q16 How old are you?

18 or under

19 - 29

30 - 39

40 - 49

50 - 59

60 - 69

70 - 79

80 or over

Q17 Which town or parish do you live in?

Arborfield & Newland

Barkham

Charvil

Earley

Finchampstead

Remenham

Ruscombe

Shinfield

Sonning

St Nicholas Hurst

Swallowfield

Twyford

Wargrave

Winnersh

Wokingham

Wokingham Without

Woodley

Do not live in Wokingham Borough

Where do you live Go to Q19

Q18 What is your postcode

Q19 Do you own or run a business in Wokingham Borough?

Yes

No

Q20 We are building up a database of people willing to give us their opinions on future consultations (known as Viewpoint), would you be willing to join this group?

Yes

No

Name

Email (we will only use this data to contact you about consultations and engagement events relating to Wokingham Borough Council and will not pass your details to any third parties)

Mobile phone number (please only provide if you are willing to be contacted for occasional text or phone surveys)

Thank you for taking part in our survey. On submission, you will be taken to our Consultation Page where there may be other surveys you wish to complete.