

## Appendix 4

### Involve Newport Survey – April 2013

#### Survey Results

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#### Fairness in Newport

**Question 1: When thinking about how Newport City Council uses its resources and spends its money, complete the following sentence telling us what you think it means to say the council is 'being fair'.**

**The Council is being fair when..... (232 comments given):**

- No matter where in Newport roads are resurfaced, grass is cut and litter is removed.
- All benefit equally from expenditure, not single interest or minority groups.
- It spends our money on what Newport needs and not on pay for supernumerary councillors and cabinet members.
- It takes into consideration all the people and their various and differing needs, not just small and vocal groups. It looks at its own expenditure and keeps it well under control to free up as much as possible of its resources for the benefit of the residents. It is honest with the residents about how resources are used, communicating how and why decisions are taken. It ensures that it makes decisions that do not affect any group disproportionately.
- It doesn't use taxpayer's money to establish unwanted and unnecessary Fairness Commissions whose sole purpose seems to be to ask stupid questions like this one.
- When it treats everyone the same of course.
- It ensures value for money to council tax payers and uses resources for the benefit of the many.
- They take into account as many people as possible that may be affected by whatever decision is being taken.
- Those individuals who are vulnerable and most in need have continuation of appropriate social care services.
- It discusses with the people of Newport any changes they are going to make and what future plans for Newport are.
- It funds services that serve the whole community and the most vulnerable.
- It acts objectively, transparently and based on clear evidence, in consideration of appropriate risks and benefits.
- I'm not sure they are fair.
- It will consider the expenditure on value for money and need. Not on those projects which shout the most or employ the media in a tool of persuasion to get funding to come their way.
- The money spent is for the good of all residents of the city, not just a minority, and value for money is achieved.
- It spends in areas of greatest need regardless of party politics.

- They consider all options when spending money e.g. making sure all people in Newport feel that they have had a fair share of monies allocated to projects which mean a lot to them and reflect all areas of the city.
- It puts most resources to the areas of greatest need to reduce risk and enable community engagement.
- All residents of Newport in all areas are receiving the same facilities. We have seen lots of regeneration in poorer run down areas for the community and the future generations but where we live all I ever seen from the council is waste collection and grass cutting. For example both parks on the west side of Malpas road have been updated recently yet Grove Park on the East side is in a terrible run down condition.
- That the money and resources are spent in an effort to improve the standard of living of all in the city. It needs to be fairly distributed in my view.
- It treats people who aren't doing anything wrong with respect and makes them feel wanted in the area. If a council spends on addicts and young offenders for example instead of the elderly, seriously disabled, carers respite then this is seriously wrong.
- Not when it comes to the town centre, it is the worst in Wales.
- It spends money on people's wellbeing, not sculptures that are meaningless when people are sick and homeless.
- It caters for all of its citizens from the needy to the affluent by providing a range of services appropriate to and used by the whole spectrum.
- I think this is the most stupid initiative I have ever heard of. When you are restricting important services, including those that make a difference to the lives of future generations like the music fund, why are you spending our money on commissions to tell you about fairness. If you don't know what's fair yourselves and can't settle that by way of democratic processes then you should consider very seriously whether you should stand down and let people willing to make those choices and be accountable for them take your places.
- When it considers everyone and listens to what they say.
- It puts into consideration the quality of its service to address the needs and requirements of those residents who reside in the town above any other factor.
- Spending and services equally benefit all residents.
- All of the residents of the city feel that resources are being used to benefit them and not just particular groups or categories of residents. Certain parts of the city feel that they are ignored in terms of spending priorities just because they have been labelled "the leafy suburbs". These areas contribute to the city and should be made to feel that the council values them and the contribution they make.
- It meets the needs of all sectors of the community and involves all sectors of the community when making decisions which will affect them.
- It ensures schools have enough money to provide the best education for children. It keeps the streets safe for people to walk around. It fixes the awful roads around the city. It provides affordable housing for people who need it.
- When it acts in what it genuinely believes is in the cities interest ignoring political considerations.
- An impossible question to answer in a meaningful way. If the council spends money on education and I'm more interested in road maintenance as I have no school age

children I could deem that to be "unfair". I think that the council has made a huge mistake in cutting funding to the Music Support organisation – they do more to keep children off the streets, civilise them and instil self-discipline than any other part of the education system.

- The financial resources available are shared equally between all areas of Newport, not just the favoured area's as the same estates seemed to get more than others.
- There is an equal distribution of funding. When they spend money on resources in so called "well off areas like Rogerstone" rather than just in council estate areas and also they don't disproportionately propose to spend money on gypsies.
- It ensures all citizens of Newport benefit where there is an appropriate need.
- That all sectors in the City that require cash to do their job must accept a % reduction over the next year.
- It thinks of the people of Newport and what their reaction would be to how the Council spends money.
- It applies the term 'Fairness' to whatever project or resource expenditure without trying to gain political capitol.
- Our money is being spent well and our views are taken into account.
- It recognises that most of us pay - taxes, council tax and such, and that we should be looked after first, rather than giving everything to the bone idle and work shy, drug addicts and those of a non-British ethnic background, whether they were born here or not.
- It considers all its citizens in its decisions, not just those it considers to be needy.
- Generally ok but the city centre is a dump and a laughing stock and it should be breaking it needs to get traders back with long term low or no rates.
- Looking at the overall package of the needs of the people of Newport.
- The needs of all sections of our community are taken into consideration before our money is spent. It is also being fair when it is open about such things as long term plans, and things that can affect the day to day living of its citizens.
- It ensures all service users can access services they need and want easily.
- Its decisions and allocations are made on the basis of each according to their needs from each according to their abilities. No bedroom tax!
- It uses business measures to cut waste before cutting services.
- It gives consideration to all residents irrespective of colour, creed, political affiliation, or age.
- When it spends money consistently for the good of Newport citizens.
- It allocates money/resources based on priority, i.e. how critical/necessary to complete, expected improvement/return, value for money (how well was money spent in previous year/what improvements were made in previous year).
- It raises money but it's not fair that it does not run a council in the most efficient manner. It should run the council like a well-run, efficient, commercial enterprise with high moral standards. In this way it could get more for the money it raises and improves the condition of its resident's across the board.
- Monies are wisely spent and provide an improvement in some form to Newport citizens.
- It uses its budget sensibly.

- Spending for Education, Roads, Libraries, Child services, and Parks.
- No service area is treated differently in the imposition of cuts/savings from its budget. If Libraries take a 10% hit, so should Education, Social Services, etc. Equally if any section has an increase, so should all other others, none should suffer to the benefit of any other.
- I can't take this seriously.
- It makes objective and well-researched decisions based wholly on reliable, representative and valid facts.
- When services are evenly distributed throughout Newport not targeted to one area.
- Makes decisions based on what the community requires in order to flourish and does this in a balanced way so as not to remove/reduce support where it is most needed.
- it takes into account the impact of its policies on all groups of residents, listens to what residents have to say and acts to ensure that so far as possible its policies affect all residents equally.
- It seeks the views of local people before making difficult decisions which affect them. Also for the council to save/not waste money on perks for councillors - set an example.
- All areas and citizens are provided with the same facilities and services.
- All options are considered for each choice. When choices are made that will benefit the most people (or be detrimental to the fewest).When the council looks at the big picture rather than just an individual problem. When all voices can feel that they are listened too even if the outcome is not what they would want.
- It takes decisions taking all factors into account and does not just make "political" choices i.e. All Labour policies good - all Conservative policies bad.
- It thinks of practical matters not doing things politically.
- It applies its services equally amongst all.
- It does not waste money on internal commissions such as a fairness commission. The city staff are paid to do their jobs in the most efficient and fair way for the population. They should not need a commission to tell them how to do their work fairly.
- Money is spread across all city areas, so that all residents benefit.
- People's needs are treated equally. At the moment it seems like Newport Council hates dog owners when really the responsible dog owners are just as fed up with the lack of responsibility of the minority of them who do not control their dogs or pick up their dogs' faeces. It would be good if a dog park could be created in the same way that the skate park and umpteen football pitches have been made.
- Spending money wisely.
- It uses council tax money wisely and tries to avoid a 'sledge hammer' approach which might have the effect of harming vulnerable groups, e.g. the elderly, the young, and the disabled. Cuts should be made, where possible, taking into account the, effect on the society as a whole.
- It listens to the community in deciding where funds should be spent.
- It treats all citizens equally.
- It helps all of the people to access services as easily as possible.
- Free travel on buses for over 60s.
- All parties and are are treated equally.

- It treats everybody with respect, irrespective of political opinion, race or social/religious persuasion.
- It considers all applications on an equal basis.
- It has commitment to equality, and consults all members of the community, and is transparent on how it reaches its decisions.
- It implies that it uses its resources equally amongst the services that need it. (Implies) When it is really a false leading title, there is nothing fair about cutting services to vulnerable residents when the authority continues to have statues, pays for floral displays, etc.
- I was disappointed to know the leisure centres are being closed. We should keep are children occupied, it will reduce the crime as well.
- Irrelevant of your postcode you get the same level of services, care and attention.
- Funds are allocated where there is greatest need.
- Spending is distributed evenly across Newport and not targeted at the most deprived areas only.
- It looks at reducing spend on the correct amenities to make savings, which I don't think it is doing at present.
- Impossible to say.
- After completing its statutory obligations it maintains as many local services as possible.
- It uses revenue to provide services to all residents, with consideration (but not necessarily all resources) given to those in greatest need.
- It takes into consideration the needs and views of pedestrians (non-car drivers) as well as drivers.
- When they listen and act accordingly in the best interests of the people. Most of the time however the answer coming back from the Council is cannot be done we have no money yet a lot of money has been wasted in Newport recently e.g. the new seats in the city centre look awful and are uncomfortable there was nothing wrong with the old ones, Gilligans Island is over the top, the new railway station, ugly, expensive and not customer friendly.
- It re-invests money into the City.
- All citizens are listened to and where ever possible action is taken, programmes are implemented to fit in with Newport's multicultural.
- No one section of the community / ward is favoured above others.
- Trying to revitalise the City in particular bringing in Simon Gibson to look at all the possibilities.
- It asks ordinary tax-paying people what they think, rather than the councillors glorifying their own wishes.
- Asking questions like these they define their criterion of Fairness and the ways they are identifying they are trying to be fair.
- It tests budget proposals for unintended consequences, e.g. increasing poverty or disadvantaging communities, and providing an arena for further debate on issues affecting our communities.
- Are you serious how much does a member of the fairness commission claim in expenses, this is political correctness and dare i say socialist interventionism at its moronic best?

- It spends money on services that affect everyone and doesn't exclude people e.g. those in rural areas.
- Renovate/police the poorer areas of the town to give those less off a better chance.
- It treats every-one as equal, helping those in most need, but not neglecting those who are trying to help themselves.
- It gives an equal amount of concern to all within the area.
- It takes into consideration the existing traders in Commercial Street when attempting to develop Friars Walk. The only thing is that they have not done this.
- It considers the needs of a large part of its population.
- They make sure all voices are heard from each type of citizen here in Newport.
- It undertakes a rigorous review of its functions and allocates resources according to established criteria. Inevitably services it is required to provide by law will be prioritised and hard decisions required in other service areas. (Fairness is a somewhat nebulous concept).
- It uses a consistent set of ethics for decision making. But that brings its own problems: which set of ethics to use. The most common is utilitarian, which certainly the basis of most healthcare, but it that the way a Council should necessarily work?
- It spends our money in a sensible way and ensures that resources are directed at those with genuine hardship.
- Key resources are maintained for the majority people and spending cuts are on less important things like statues and aesthetic projects.
- It considers the needs of the citizens of Newport without political considerations or perceived political benefit; it considers the needs of the vulnerable rather than being swayed by the pressure groups that make their views heard by effective lobbying.
- It ensures that money goes to where it is needed most.
- Treating every one equal no matter what creed or colour old or young
- When it spreads the resources available throughout the Community.
- It takes into account all its citizens.
- All residents are treated equally.
- It is transparent with the residents of Newport, in regard to its decisions, actions and understanding of the issues of concern to Newport residents, and it does not use "bully boy" tactics to achieve the political aims of Counsellors, rather than looking after what is best for Newport residents.
- It balances the interests of all stakeholders - Council Tax payers, Service users and staff. Of course, the majority are council tax payers, all are service users and some are staff.
- It protects those at risk and the services they access. Minimises effects on education, libraries, and community facilities.
- It got rid of the mansion house and made parking in Newport free. It has an excellent reputation re the care of the elderly homes that are run by the council.
- It has looked at the 'bigger picture' = explored, researched, considered all possibilities and opportunities before making financial decisions.
- It considers any reduction in budgets with those affected by listening to their concerns and addressing them. It uses its resources by investing to reduce future expenditure.
- They treat all wards and citizens equally.

- It really considers what is best for the people of Newport and not for the advantage of the ruling party of whatever persuasion.
- Fairness is using Council resources to improve living standards for the good of the whole community, yet act as a safety net for those vulnerable people in our society. Fairness is not using resources as a long term option for those who prefer to stay in bed rather than working or retraining.
- They spend the money in the right places like we voted you to do.
- Give every area of the city the same access to support as the housing estates i.e. same amount of cash spent in both east and west Newport. Hope private households are treated the same as NCH tenants i.e. opportunities for unemployed private household members e.g. temporary bus passes so people can access the town & employment agencies, etc. Encourage families to use parks & the Wetlands with free ticket only events e.g. jog with your dog, face painting, superhero weekends with the Police, Bike officers, and fire engines.
- Supporting education and recreational facilities. Running an adequate public transport system. Supporting public libraries (assuming that gas, water, electricity, and drainage are run by their respective utilities).
- They use the money to provide essential services used by the public and ensure that the admin costs and higher management wages are not excessive.
- No comment.
- It considers the views of all Newport people.
- I have absolutely no idea whether or not the council is being fair when it decides how it spends its money. I am elderly and live adjacent the stevio park complex and I am able to use its facilities which is all controlled by Newport City Homes. The manager (warden or supervisor) has been stopped from providing services which involve the payment of money e.g. the fortnightly delivery of eggs, which has been going on for years - why?
- It consults with residents and listens to their wishes. Rates or rents need to be affordable to shops and businesses in the city centre, to stop it becoming a ghost town.
- It uses council taxes to maintain an attractive, safe environment underpinned by a well-run infrastructure.
- They stop wasting money on new build homes, and modernise the beautiful above shop properties in the High Street and other areas close by. I think that filling up these properties with the whole spectrum of people e.g. families, couples would inject new life in the city.
- The shopkeepers' payments to the City Council are vastly reduced to enable them to keep trading in Newport Centre.
- It does things that benefit the majority of people.
- All benefit from various provisions.
- It tries to preserve jobs and services as priorities when it has almost nothing to pay for it. Having said that, culture should not be written off.
- Every individual, company, and organisation is treated with respect in its dealings with the council. The council shall fully engage with issues presented to it and will respond in a prompt and effective manner.

- The council spends money to improve facilities that will improve the life and provision for the majority of Newport citizens. I do not mean that the minority of people should be forgotten (rural areas).
- All age groups are considered. People on low incomes are not disadvantaged. Staff receive a decent wage. Long term effects are considered when making cuts and effect on private concerns and tourism.
- It carries out the wishes of the people not what it or political parties want.
- Providing Welsh Medium Primary education.
- It listens to the people who vote for it. It treats all its citizens equally and does not give preferential treatment to those with more money or influence. Giving priority to projects which serve large numbers of citizens rather than small groups or individuals. Providing all children with the support they need to reach their potential. Ensuring in the services they deliver and are achieving best value for money in every activity before making cuts.
- It makes fair decisions in the first place.
- It makes sense that the money it raises is not wasted, either on services, or unnecessary management layers.
- Encourage more shops.
- It will realise the city centre is unfriendly, empty and not a place anyone would want to visit unless they have to. Steps have been made to improve surrounding areas but the centre is in dire need of support and investment to become a destination for families, shoppers, and visitors.
- Don't know.
- The council is trying to be fair, but removing Stow Hill library and keeping certain public festivals (Big Splash) is not fair. The library was a vital community resource bringing trade to the hand post at little cost. Reducing lighting is a good move; lack of street cleaning is not.
- You involve the people who live in Newport. You ask us to be involved in the new ideas the council has, and they always try to be honest with us about how things are going. We sometimes agree with them but you can't please everyone. I would just like to say I am pleased to be with Newport City Council.
- They use their power to down size the houses that are under occupied.
- The question should be 'When do you think the Council is being fair or unfair'. It seems to me that it is easy for the Council to spend public money by setting up a costly fairness commission and at the same time increasing rates during a depression, which affect the working class where money is at a short supply. So much for Labour or should I say New Labour.
- It focuses on the priorities of all residents not just those out of work or on low incomes.
- Money is not being seen to be wasted on people who do not contribute to the community, especially on a voluntary basis, to help others or reduce their own burden on society.
- The council distributes its resources and money fairly i.e. where needed the most for certain things, equally for other things.
- It lets everyone see key decisions and spending costs before decisions are made.
- Any decision by the council has fully considered its effect on all citizens.

- It does its best for the cities residence i.e. enough police to stop crime, a good fire service, parks to enjoy, and rubbish clearance. Where the rail bridge passes over the trains on Somerton people throw rubbish in the trees and grass - a notice or police may help to improve their behaviour (otherwise rubbish clearance is good).
- I know nothing about the Council; I do know who my Councillor is and have met him. He has helped us with certain issues we have had as a community. Does Joe public like me get any information about what is being done?
- It has reduced parking so that it doesn't cost more to shop. Good idea and can help people from out of Newport to decide to come here to shop. When it keeps toilets free and readily accessible - it encourages people and families to come to the city.
- Every district is assessed by the needs of the people of the area as every area is different and should be treated as such. Housing, poverty, and social problems should be considered to be fair.
- They fairly use income wisely and for the benefit of all Newport residents. Do their utmost to ensure services are delivered to the best of their abilities. Be fair to all.
- It considers all people in Newport and not just those most vocal and groups with influence.
- When it will fight to make Newport the city it was 10-20 years ago. We see improvements of buildings in the city but this is not enough, we need to get the good feel factor going in town, not empty or blocked up shops.
- When it considers all users of services and comes to an equitable decision.
- Promotes Newport and its activities.
- All Newport citizens are able to contribute to their local community irrespective of age, gender, ability, ethnicity, and are equally able to access all local resources / facilities.
- All parts of the city receive the same level and standard of public service.
- The council is being unfair when they charge a senior citizen £334.35 for a 2 room flat.
- It neglects compassion. Once upon a time there were a village of 100 people. The elders had £100 to distribute. A well-meaning elder said 'let us be fair and give everyone a £1'. The wise elder said 'let us be compassionate and give Jim £100; as his roof has blown off in the storm and his family are suffering'. Two possibilities, which one should the elder choose?
- It develops the city centre and attracts stores and develops the market to make people from other towns & areas want to come to Newport.
- It gives all children the chance to shine. Gwent music support service treated all children fairly and gave them all the same chance to learn music. Now the council is being unfair as only the rich will be able to play.
- Traffic free means that (11am - 5pm). What I would like to see is more signs up in town and crack down on bikes being ridden up and down the centre of town and the Police ignoring them. They also need to stop cars parking where they shouldn't be and should be enforced.
- It ceases to squander resources on minority interests such as the Ryder Cup and projects such as the Newport Ship and the Transporter Bridge. Resources should be fairly allotted across all sections of the city's population.

- Allocating resources between sections of public departments. Better repairs of roads and pavements for our safety (less claims for compensation for injury or vehicle damage).
- This is a very vague concept and might be better titled 'care in the community'. That is not leaving the onus locally on the council but encouraging people to care and help each other. Communities coming together for aid.
- I can't comment on this as I have no information.
- They stop wasting money on benches in the city centre and start charging huge council rates for the shops over Spytty and reduce rates to keep our Commercial Street.
- It spends money and uses resources where it is most needed, and ensures that facilities are at the same standard throughout Newport. It is open about how it is spending the money, and what its goals are. It all doesn't spend a lot on one facility while allowing another to be neglected and fall into disrepair. Basically, it should try its best to retain existing facilities, while improving the most needed and struggling ones. If a facility is declared as not required it can be shut but should be consulted on with openness.
- I have no idea.
- It spends its money on the ratepayers and issues of interest such as leisure facilities.
- It stops wasting our money on unnecessary things and starts to spend it on the more important things like road repairs.
- It stops wasting our money and improves the town centre as promised for the last 35 years and makes us proud of our city once more. That would be fair to all people and improve our wellbeing.
- No people are disadvantaged or excluded.
- It tries to assess the impact of extensive cuts in public expenditure.
- When its activities are transparent, prioritised, and offer value for money.
- The council stop paying themselves large salaries for not doing the job that they should.
- Cuts are spread as evenly as possible over non-essential services e.g. libraries (which is difficult for some people to understand if they rely on that particular service).
- It considers people's needs i.e. day centres for the elderly and for people with disabilities. It is pointless concentrating on incoming migrants unless services exist to support those elderly and frail who will become disadvantages with their services disappearing.
- It spends the same amount of money on private estates as on council housing estates.
- Cannot make comment as the council are completely out of step with any views people have and do what they think fit not the townsfolk.
- As an elderly lady in her 80's I would need more time to answer this question. Send someone to talk to me face to face. I am an ex Civil Servant so have some definite ideas (worked in London, which is very different from Newport).
- Considering all aspects of diversity, age, gender, and capabilities.
- Maintaining services for all ages.
- It goes on the youth of today as they are our future. I don't agree with all this multi-culture going on in Newport as in places it's like London. We will be all foreigners in our own city soon. Look after our own first.
- It deals with the geographical areas of Newport city i.e. estates, roads, etc. Its park areas are not manned during the morning hours 8-12pm. No toilets open in Tredegar

Park, gives a bad impression to visitors. The town centre is dreary, whilst I appreciate that finances are not great.

- I don't know.
- When they stop fobbing the citizens off with false innuendos of future developments in Newport and admit that they and previous councils have ruined Newport and certainly do not deserve the title of city.
- It proportions its spending to deal with the highest priority and most needy ones.
- When the most vulnerable in society, who are unable to look after themselves are cared for. When money is shared out fairly in society.
- I don't know enough of this commission to be able to express an opinion on this.
- They consider all people - old, young, private houses, council estates, all schools, colleges, university, tutors, pupils, those sick, and those who are well.
- It effectively seeks and listens to its service users. Currently it seems as if too much attention is paid to voices that are easiest to reach and liaise with and without regard to establishing their true representativeness. Inclusion is not easy, and those on the outside can't be claimed to be meaningfully involved if they are not being adequately informed and reached out to.
- It maintains essential services.
- The available budget is spent wisely to the benefit of Newport citizens, with all resources used to their capacity. Raising money by exploiting the historical features associated with Newport i.e. re-enactment of the Chartist Riots in Westgate Square held annually to attract visitors to the city centre. More open days for viewing the Ship and walking over the Transporter Bridge.
- They are trying to improve the look and function of what is available. Are giving the public a chance to voice their opinions with questions such as this.
- Sounds like a 'Fairness Commission' is another way to waste money.
- I do not really know when the council is being fair. To me it seems as if the council tax is often wasted by setting up various schemes which mean nothing to the average council tax payer. The closing of libraries for example doesn't seem fair to me.
- It treats the whole of Newport and the surrounding area the same as at the moment this is not evident.
- Every reasonable effort is made to provide for people's needs, whatever those needs may be at the time.
- It spends our money sensibly.
- It spends less on updating the shopping precinct and courting big national chains and more on education and helping groups (such as children with special needs) to integrate more effectively into their local communities.
- It takes into consideration all aspects of Newport resident's needs.
- All the time.
- Ensures Newport is a safe place to live with adequate police force. Streets are free of litter and have good refuse collection. Roads are well maintained. Vulnerable people are being cared for and supported. Good local schools educating children to take pride in where they live and respect for others.
- Considering the limited financial resources available.

- They open public toilets longer and more places. They reduce shop rates and stop charging car parks in town. They collect cartons from home for recycling.
- It keeps tax down and still manages to cover the cost of services.
- The cuts are spread evenly rather than targeted.
- It listens to the public and acts on suggestions when it can.
- I'm not sure what fairness means; presumably this ensures that all of the population are considered when making cuts in expenditure and services.
- The allocation of resources is where it is most needed and being vigilant that money is not being wasted on tasks and unnecessary staff appointments.
- Are they being fair?
- They keep the rates as low as they possibly can in these times of austerity and when they listen to the people by having panels such as this.
- It is objective and egalitarian.
- It takes in equal rights of all age groups, with cuts made when necessary on an equal basis. Public transport which is vital to all ages should be improved where possible even at the expense of subsidising e.g. hospital bus; otherwise people will be deprived of an essential service that could be subsidised by money making routes.
- I live in a private lane that is never cleaned, which was never a problem years ago. A motorised machine would take 5 minutes about four times a year.
- It doesn't waste our council tax on those who can't be bothered to work or look after their own children properly. When it doesn't gives away free child care and play facilities - we looked after our children and paid for their swimming and other recreation out of our own family income and shouldn't be free now. Parents are supposed to feed their children - giving away free school meals are wasting our council tax - that's not fair.
- It considers all residents equally irrespective of financial status.
- When all individuals have equal opportunities to work or receive support when needed.

**Question 2a: What area(s) of Council spending do you think should have the most priority for being fair (222 comments given)?**

- Education, Health, Policing, Waste, and Parklands.
- Education.
- I don't understand the question. Every area of spending should be fair.
- Keeping the level of Council Tax as low as possible. Street lighting. Road maintenance. Waste disposal. Education. Leisure.
- Education, social services, travel, transportation, and welfare.
- Urban regeneration as everyone can benefit from having a better city to live in.
- City regeneration, keeping the ship, museums and cultural items, education, street cleaning.
- Recovery of the City centre. Job Creation.
- Social care services for the elderly, disabled, and children.
- Newport City Centre Car parking Recreation/leisure.
- 1 - Education - including provision of subsidised music services and sports activities (these should be for all children and not just for those on benefits, etc.). 2 - Health and social care for those with impairments or elderly, allowing them either to live in their own home or in nursing homes as they wish. 3 - Maintenance of efficient rubbish removal and recycling facilities. 4 - Planning services and other corporate activities that operate to ensure that all individuals have equal opportunity and fair treatment. 5 - Social services.
- School closures and catchments.
- Public services but for the motorists as well as bikers & walkers.
- 1 - Help/assistance for the OAPs (care home/home visits). 2 - Social services (especially for kid's welfare but not for those adults who don't want to work). 3 - Emergency help (flooding, snow gritting the roads). 4 - Keeping the roads repaired/safe (lighting, pot holes). 5 - Weekly rubbish collection (but not for the recycling which is a waste of money and is just being pushed due to European Union targets).
- Education. Regeneration of the city centre. Recycling. New business initiatives.
- Education especially SEN funding.
- 1 - Housing. 2 - Planning decisions. 3 - Roads & infrastructure. 4 - Schools.
- Young people's projects, help for the elderly to stay in their own homes, libraries, because they affect every one across the board. Citizen Advice, because in this time of down turn people have to have somewhere to go for advice.
- Social services, Housing, Education, Highways, and Elected members.
- Public Community Leisure facilities and Waste Disposal i.e. more litter bins.
- Education, health, leisure, transport, and gardens.
- Services for the elderly, services for children, services for seriously disabled, Respite care, and Hospice.
- Town centre, play areas for the Kids.
- Decent housing for Newport people, affordable and in areas of most need. Accepting that town centres are areas to knock down shops and build houses, instead of resisting change. Sustainable, long term road repairs and resurfacing, not just spreading tarmac across potholes to make it look like a new road. Subsidising public transport.

- 1 – Education, including adult evening classes (a number of courses are inconvenient to those who work each day). 2 - Entertainment for a whole range of tastes.
- Newport City Centre Shopping - it is not fair that people have to travel to either Cwmbran or Cardiff to buy a decent pair of shoes or outfit. Education. Safety. Leisure facilities. Employment opportunities.
- School repairs, roads, social services (elderly).
- 1 - Essential Living services e.g. rubbish collection. 2 - Infrastructure development in residential areas e.g. shops, health, community centres. 3 - Social Housing. 4 - Employment opportunities.
- Education, social services for children and elderly, roads, infrastructure, and sports and leisure facilities such as swimming pools, new business.
- Health and wellbeing, Incomes, economy and jobs, Education and training, Housing and homelessness, Police and anti-social behaviour.
- Education, Safety, Roads, and Housing.
- That which has the highest effect of improving the quality of life of Newportonians per £ spent.
- Education (including Gwent Music Support), Re-vamping the town centre, Road maintenance, Public transport, Free parking in the town centre.
- Street lighting restored to its former pattern as it is pitch black in the lane we have to walk down at night.
- Sporting facilities, leisure facilities, schools.
- City centre development, Education services particularly for children with additional educational needs.
- 1 - Education. 2 - Environment. 3 - School Buildings. 4 - Looking after the Elderly. 5 - Looking after the Roads and Pavements.
- They should make the centre of Newport a decent place to shop. I know that Debenhams have signed up to be in the centre of Newport but if this is held up for too long I am sure they will pull out. I am sure if something was seen to be getting done in the centre it would make the people of Newport feel a lot better. I shop a lot but use the out of town shops now all the time. I used to enjoy a day out in Newport Centre - there is nothing there now so I don't go - and I am not the only one. Cwmbran is a great place to shop but was never as good as Newport Centre was - it is now. The potholes in the road should be done. I know that some of them are being done but they are soon back to the state they were in before they were repaired. I know it is not Newport's fault that the "spare bedroom" charge was brought in but I think this is silly. It's the people who are fiddling the benefits system who need to be stopped. I live on a council estate and all around me there are people fiddling the system. I worked all my life until I was 64 years old and it annoys me when I see people who have never worked much better off, on benefits, than people who have, or are still working. I can't see what difference the "spare bedroom" charge will make.
- This is a very subjective question and my list is probably not fair in the eyes of the majority but here goes: 1) Education. 2) Care in the community especially the mentally ill and elderly. 3) Attracting jobs and employment. 4) Cycle paths and planning the safe infrastructure to help people get fit and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

- 1 - Education. 2 - Keeping the area clean and presentable. 3 - Looking after the interests of children. 4 - Looking after OAPs. 5 - Looking after vulnerable people.
- Education, Road and pavement repairs, Pay and job security for Council employees.
- Benefits Education at all levels, Heritage, and Environmental services.
- City centre, Maindee, Caerleon.
- Care in the community for the elderly and putting money in schemes to help the young of Newport to get into work.
- Whatever affects us all, such as the cleanliness of our streets, reliability of the bus service, access to services such as hospitals.
- Education - especially ensuring that all children with additional needs can access education on a level comparable with those children who don't have additional needs. This means money being spent in the classroom and not on many, specialists and managers who are there simply to justify their jobs. Children can't access LSAs & specialist resources because money is being wasted on managers both in school & in the LEA.
- Are you suggesting there should be less fair policy areas?
- 1 - A radical improvement in road maintenance management, the waste is appalling. That is not fair to the people paying Council Tax. 2 - Sell Newport to the world. The Newport Boat is an example that the Council has failed to capitalise on. 3 - Capitalise on the Victorian nature of Commercial Street. Cover it in glass and put in two tier shopping. 4 - The very nature of the question indicates the Council is looking at its boots. Raise your eyes and promote Newport. The idea that fairness is an issue at the present time indicates where the Council priorities are.
- Upkeep of pavements in all areas of the town, road repairs, cleanliness of estates as well as town centre.
- Waste Collection Houses - for those who need it, Policing, and Schooling.
- Education, social care, policing, housing benefit.
- Stupid question. The council is political and will spend the money according to its mandate. To be fair it should do this as efficiently and effectively as possible. Priority good housing less crime tidy up the mess Newport city centre is in attract business - no need to spend much money more an attitude to business reduce the size of the bureaucracy.
- Schools, provision for the elderly, develop Newport commercially.
- Repairs to pavements and roads. Lighting. Litter prevention. Improving City centre. Council tax reduction.
- Education.
- The area of Council spending which should be given some semblance of priority is the regeneration of the City.
- Economic, Regeneration, Social Services, Education, Transport.
- Encourage employment, Safety Schools/education, Care of the elderly, Recreational facilities for all ages, music, dance, swimming as well as team sports.
- Social Services, Education, Parks & Recreation.
- Education, social services.
- All spending should be fair.

- Education, Healthcare Services for vulnerable members of society (aged, addictions, child poverty), Transport.
- Education and Roads.
- Libraries, roads, housing, social services, housing benefits.
- Councillors and officials expenses and travel allowances; charges for questionable services; a review of services that are really necessary. The issue of bus passes should be for people aged 65 and over and not 60. How can it be that the state retiring age is 65 but people who have not retired can get a bus pass at 60?
- All services there is not one that should be ranked higher than others.
- Equality, equality!
- Services for the elderly.
- Provision of facilities for the elderly and disabled. Provision of sports facilities. Education, both for children and adults. Transport. Law and order.
- Schools, Community centre, Parks, Care homes, Social housing.
- Health, education, social services, housing, leisure.
- Children and young people, Housing, Transport, Environment/recycling.
- Elderly services.
- Newport town centre.
- City Centre.
- 1) Local community council support. 2) Support to the ageing population. 3) Lower support to minority community groups in favour of mainstream 'across the board' community support.
- Education.
- Education, child protection and care of elderly.
- People's health safety and wellbeing, e.g. looking after our vulnerable residents such as elderly residents, protecting younger residents.
- Schools and playground.
- Health, education, transport, economy, policing.
- Enticing businesses back into Newport city centre - anti littering campaign to encourage people to take pride in their surroundings and not drop litter, rather than relying on others to clear up the mess - provision of paths and cycle ways to encourage healthy lifestyles - respite care for dementia sufferers and their carers, also support for young carers - continued efforts to encourage more recycling.
- Road repairs, Refuse, fire and ambulance services, community centres, Youth schemes.
- Newport City Centre regeneration. The Newport Ship and museum. To find a unique niche for Newport to encourage visitors and business. Reduce business rates in the city centre. Discourage out of city shopping.
- Not much to say without much more information.
- Education. Social Services.
- Fairness should be a given - the council cannot 'prioritise fairness' if it is a fair council. Just be fair.
- Social services and Housing.
- Transport and roads. The City Centre is a disgrace, it's like Dodge City. The City Centre is losing custom to other towns and will have difficulty in attracting people.
- Town Centre.

- Build affordable homes for rent.
- Roads / maintenance, social facilities, provision of good quality / informed contact services, Policing.
- Reducing rents /rates etc. for retail premises in Newport Town Centre to encourage occupancy of empty premises.
- Emphasis on small local shops rather than large national chains - there will be no Newport City shopping centre if the present crisis situation carries on. Creating a bus service that encompasses the new Spytty retail park - most people cannot get there without taking at least two buses.
- It depends on Newport's definition and criterion of fairness which maybe should have been included in this survey.
- Services the majority of people need.
- Health, roads, schools.
- 1 – Health. 2 - Town Cleanliness (Newport is filthy - we should be embarrassed). 3 - Road surfaces (Making progress here). 4 - Attracting businesses (free parking). 5 - Policing (more of them please).
- 1 - Education. 2 - The Young helping them to find work. 3 - Making people feel part of the community, so that young people have somewhere to go and things to do, so keeping them off the streets, but equally helping the old people to feel less isolated. 4 - Encourage people of all ages to enjoy sport so that they do not develop costly medical problems, such as obesity. 5 - Encourage people to take a pride in their city and so save money on repairing damage and clearing up mess.
- Housing, elderly, emergency services, safety, health.
- Friars Walk (waste).
- Education. Public services. Transport infrastructure. Crime prevention.
- Schools and catchment areas. Why do people outside of Newport get to go to Caerleon when people in Newport are left with the least favourable schools?
- Social Care, Education, Environment including Transport, and Parks & Open Spaces.
- Are you really saying that some areas of council spending should not be subject to fairness? By stating that I list five priority areas for 'fairness' implies that there will be others that don't fall into this category, and I as have no idea the criterion that Newport will use to judge 'fairness', I would hesitate to list any. But if that's the reality, that fairness is limited in its application, then, no particular order: Health and things than promote health like sport, facilities etc. Education. Waste and waste management. The Arts. Economic development.
- Ensure those in dire financial circumstances can survive Encourage development of the city centre by incentivising traders, business and public to return. Re-examine council house entitlement and charge market value rents to those on good incomes. Stop wasteful schemes i.e. replacement of relatively new bus shelters with electronic timetables with new impractical ones where the timetables have not been fully reinstalled...
- Education, law and order, cleanliness, road maintenance and recreational areas.
- Housing; education; social services; leisure.
- Better road surfaces. Sponsoring small businesses that guarantee employment. Schools. Health. The town centre.

- Education, Housing, and creating new jobs.
- The vulnerable -i.e. disabled, elderly. Developing job possibilities. Services for the Community -i.e. rubbish collection. Libraries. Development of the City Centre.
- Education and social services.
- Homelessness, Education, Health, Disabled/elderly care.
- 1) Expenditure on Social services. 2) Expenditure on Repair and maintenance of properties. 3) Expenditure on the contribution to Policing in Newport. 4) Expenditure on Street Cleaning and Road maintenance. 5) Expenditure on street lighting arrangements.
- Education, social services and economic growth.
- Services to the disabled and vulnerable. Education. Libraries.
- Care of the elderly. Care of the sick and mentally ill. Care of the natural environment. Free bus passes it brings people out into the community helps lower depression and loneliness. One person dwellings.
- Every area where public money is spent.
- Social care, education, and transport.
- Education, Health, Care for older people, Road & pavement maintenance, and Parks & green spaces.
- Spending should prioritise schemes that attract money into the area and give people a pride to live and work in a successful city.
- Parks & offside areas for everyone. Promote canal refurbishment and its effect on the town. Clarity on the Council's resources. Who has heard of the Fairness Commission, where are they and what do they need?
- Road repairs and maintenance of footpaths. Education. Recreational facilities.
- Libraries. Recycling / landfill site to be open longer to prevent fly tipping. Roads to be monitored / repaired more frequently.
- Heritage. Library and museums.
- Pot hole repair.
- The city centre traders and free parking for their customers. The rates they pay boost the council coffers. Cut the costs of council staff travel let them go by bus. Why does the mayor have to have a gas guzzling car why can't he have an eco-model?
- At present being elderly I am concerned that services for the elderly should be maintained at the highest level. Although my wife and I are in our mid 80's we are fortunate that up to now we have not needed these services. I would be pleased to received details of what is available to the elderly.
- My main concern is the city centre. It is not fair that people now need to drive or wait for buses to access most of our shops (especially M&S). Spytty is not at the heart of our town.
- Health, Services, Environment, Educational Services, Public transport.
- 1: Provision of a clean, green, safe environment for citizens and visitors. 2: Providing public services to a standard that is above adequate. 3: Highlighting and enhancing the profile of the city.
- Road surfaces; litter in gutters; and cleaning road signs.
- Reduce expenditure of Councillors and civic employees.
- Health, Education, Social Services, Recreation / Sport.
- Developing the city centre.

- Street cleaning; Dustbin emptying; and disabled access to pavements.
- Jobs; Services; Arts & Culture; and Children's Services.
- Fairness should apply to all areas so a standard is set and followed by all council staff.
- Roads and footpaths; Improved policing; Recreational areas for young people; Public Transport; and Schools.
- The replacement for crisis loans and community care grants. Education. Leisure (library / museum / Riverfront / parks). Highways (street cleaning / refuse collection).
- Welsh medium 11+ year old education. Newport has no provision from 2015 which is against my children's rights and equal opportunities.
- Early learning. Primary education. Secondary education. Home care for the elderly. Clean environment for all.
- Expenses paid to councillors for trips, meetings, parties, etc.
- Social Services, Education, and Town Centre improvement.
- Education, Social Services, Public transport, and Sport & leisure.
- City centre.
- Elderly, street cleaning, disadvantaged children, the arts (including restoring stow hill library), getting rid of scroungers on benefits when they can work.
- Day centres, schools, nursing homes, playgrounds, heritage service.
- Education, and help for the elderly (providing carers, etc.).
- No council spending should have priority when you mention up to five areas. You should condense 5 council meetings into one a year which would be plenty on cash saved on expenses. These days when a councillor is elected they get an immediate hand out of £10,000 or more, why!
- Spending money on old age pensioners, more homes, regenerating the town centre, and keeping the streets clean.
- Rejuvenating the town centre. Paying for an expert to come up with a strategy for the town centre. Improving and expanding green spaces such as parks and recreation areas.
- Reducing money spent on welfare issues to anyone. Higher priority to services to OAP's at their homes. Front of shop NCC issues. Litter collection off road / pavements. Drug reduction in Newport.
- Roads and pavements, street lighting, education, social services, and refuse collection.
- Schools and welfare (older people).
- Transport, Library, Housing.
- 1. Senior Citizens Bus Passes - are fair because we were brought up to save for a rainy day, aware that we would reach a time when we would no longer work to earn a wage. Women often give up work to look after their children so are unemployed or manage to only get a part time job. Leaving them without or a very little works pension. Men work till pension age full time so are much better off financially. Women tend to invest more of their income if possible, but interest has dropped from 2008-13. I've had to take out some of my investment to get by but free bus passes mean a lot, especially to older people who live on their own because they make arrangements to meet old friends in town for a cup of tea or coffee. This has to be good for them and the shops in the city centre. 2. Parks are a good way to enjoy a summer afternoon for all ages.
- The roads in and around Newport are terrible, you need a four wheeled drive vehicle to travel on Corporation Road. Holes aren't even being filled lately. I also find it difficult to

see the Council spending large amounts on rotting wood (the Ship) when essential things are being neglected. More Police maybe?

- Access to public services (libraries, community centres, and parks). Rubbish collection. Communication (telephone or written).
- Encouraging a healthy lifestyle. Making communities feel safe. Better provisions for young people. More thought in planning for 'car less' people i.e. more money spent in public transport and town centre facilities.
- Elderly / Social Services. Schools, education for all.
- Shops, parks, and highways.
- Access to education / information, health care, transport / mobility, housing, and employment / career advice / training.
- Education, care of the vulnerable, recreation, roads, and housing.
- Fairness and compassion should be applied as appropriate to all areas. Spending priorities should focus on what is essential for people's wellbeing. When cuts are necessary care should be taken that they do not result in any undue suffering.
- Pensioners, refuse, and transport (public).
- Education.
- Police, hospitals, education, development, and recycling.
- Police - charge the areas that need it more e.g. by increasing rates. Schools - give the same budget to all schools and stop short changing some. GMSS - touched thousands of children, parents, and grandparents (bring it back). Cut the number of councillors and their expenses. Roads - some are in great need.
- Education; health and welfare; housing; care for the elderly; and promoting the regeneration of the city centre.
- Open up the libraries recently closed. Increase support for music education. Culture and reading are important for all generations.
- The council has an overall duty to care for the elderly, those suffering from dementia, the homeless, the lonely, those who have difficulty dealing with restricted finances.
- City centre; Pill; free parking in the city centre; street cleaning; and Riverfront Theatre - more shows.
- Town centre - investment in retail businesses and shopping experience. Maintenance of streets and roads. Improve health & fitness and Social Clubs for adults. Policing. Education.
- Schools, healthcare, older persons care, decrease payments to councillors, decrease huge salaries to the top executives, look at cost of paying so called consultants.
- Lighting.
- Road repairs.
- Social housing, care of the elderly, education, and roads.
- Healthcare (including dental care); access to somewhere safe to sleep; availability of basic sustenance; and the avoidance of unnecessary spending.
- Environment, health, wellbeing, transport, and enterprise.
- Education, social services, policing, housing, and planning.
- Residential care for everyone with special needs, schools, care for the elderly, and leisure centres.
- Anything concerning health and welfare, including mental health.

- Maintain day centre provision for the elderly and those who are disabled. Better services to enable the elderly to get around Newport. More visible and actively engaged community support officers - who spend time with the community instead of being engaged chatting with each other.
- Private and council estates treated the same. All roads not only major roads. More facilities for private estates.
- Health, fitness, transport, and sports facilities.
- Main town, parks, and facilities for young people.
- Education, roads, health, sports, social care.
- Recreational (including leisure centres), education support, police, tidy buildings without graffiti, and litter or fly tipping.
- Maintaining existing libraries, Newport Stadium, free bus transport for the elderly & school children, and road safety.
- Police, youth, children under 5, curing the drug culture instead of letting it carry on as it is, and NHS.
- Schools, libraries, public open areas, and recreational facilities.
- Real effort to bring the life back to the city. Set up a practical body to oversee the future development not a highly paid quango. Newport's standing in Britain.
- Council tax rates.
- Caring for the vulnerable. Education - ensuring that all schools give equal education. Keeping society safe. Hospitals / ambulance services. Libraries.
- Schools, colleges, and universities. Playgrounds and parks. Open spaces. Shopping centres in the town itself. Senior citizen clubs.
- Care for the elderly and disabled. Highways - road surfaces, pavements & street lighting. Cleaning - refuse collection & street cleaning. Education - condition of schools.
- Statutory services. Inclusion and involvement (you can't expect people to buy in if they have little feeling of participation and ownership). If you ask nebulous questions regarding complex and subtle issues such as fairness you are not going to get a high response rate. It takes too long for the respondent to work out their interpretation of the need for the question and why yet another body is needed?
- Health.
- Services - recycling, refuse, transport, care in the community, welfare, and safety.
- Health and education.
- Later bus service, and Sunday & bank holiday bus service (if only limited).
- The elderly (enough affordable residential care). Schools (provision of adequate buildings and staffing). Disability (enough support as and when needed). Highways (adequate repair of potholes, etc.). Housing (satisfactory council houses for tenants, but you don't have to go over the top with modernising old stock).
- Roads and pavements; schools; and respite for the disabled.
- Support for children with special needs. Repairing roads and pavements that have huge potholes.
- Education, housing, policing, and welfare.
- City centre.

- Re-vitalising city centre. Road repairs. Better facilities for young people i.e. youth clubs, sports. Better facilities for disabled or older people. Bring back park keepers to avoid vandalism, also paddling pool, tennis courts, football pitches.
- Adequate affordable housing, employment, and social care.
- Keeping public toilets open longer and open more in other areas e.g. Maesglas shopping area.
- Refuse collection, roads & pavements, and keeping libraries open locally.
- More facilities for young people (11-16 yrs.). Repair to pavements. Clean hedges & removing unfriendly plants. Stopping dog fouling.
- Library services, dealing with drug problems, street cleaning, and waste collection.
- Social services and policing.
- Pavements and roads.
- Police, fire service, leisure, education, and housing.
- Incomes - equal.
- Public transport, and more day time events at the Riverfront.
- Hospitals, schools, youth centres, sports facilities, and day care centres.
- Areas where everyone benefits from e.g. refuse collection. Street cleaning in all areas. Storm drain cleaning regularly. Full street lighting until 11.30pm.
- Council tax, police, road maintenance, city centre development, and employment.
- Safety - fire and rescue service and policing at night. Museums and heritage service. Maintaining and retaining the shops in Newport city centre instead of moving them out of town. Public conveniences - we actually need more in various areas of Newport. Children's play areas and centres.

**Question 2b: If you have listed more than one area of spending in 2(a) above, which one area for you is the most important for being fair (173 comments given)?**

- Policing.
- Education.
- Every area of spending should be fair.
- Council Tax level.
- Welfare of all.
- City regeneration.
- Recovery of City Centre.
- Continuation of social services for disabled physical and learning disability.
- The Town Centre is very important as more and more people are shopping outside the Centre which is making Newport a ghost town.
- Health and social care for those with impairments or elderly.
- Motorists when using the town centre.
- Help for the OAPs (care home/home visits etc.). They have paid into the system all their lives and therefore we owe them for this lifetime of funding.
- Education.
- Housing.
- Help for the elderly to stay in their own homes, because not only is it right for them to be independent, it saves money in the long run.
- Social services.
- Public Community Leisure Facilities.
- Education related.
- The elderly, these are often the services that are cut first, and are a lifeline for many people.
- Decent housing.
- Education.
- Employment/training opportunities.
- Repairs to the roads.
- Essential Living Services.
- Education.
- It is difficult to name one as each are as important and are linked. However health and wellbeing would probably be my top one as austerity has had an impact on people's health in recent years and by that I mean a more stressful life, poorer diet, increased drinking issues etc. and this is across the whole community.
- Education.
- Funding to Gwent Music Support to be re-introduced. The organisation is THE premier music support group in the United Kingdom---to treat it in such a cavalier manner was nothing short of criminal.
- Sports.
- City centre development as this should have a knock on effect to a lot of people in Newport from jobs to improvement of services.

- Children's Education.
- The benefit system. Some people know how to milk it and seem to be getting away with it.
- Care in the community.
- Education.
- Education.
- Education at all levels.
- City Centre.
- Looking into putting the youth in Newport into work.
- It's all important.
- Promoting Newport, if you don't raise business taxes through not developing the city, then it is not fair to expect our citizens to pay more council tax.
- Pavements.
- Schooling.
- Housing benefit: With such a high proportion of Council spending on housing benefit, it is important that it is being spent fairly. It must be ensured that people are not taking advantage of the system, as this will mean less money available to other areas, e.g. social care.
- crime but its dependent on other areas if it's to be a long lasting reduction
- Schools.
- Council tax reduction.
- Social Services.
- Care of the elderly.
- Social Services.
- Education.
- All spending should be fair.
- Services for the vulnerable members of society.
- Education.
- Housing benefits
- Expenses and travel allowances.
- The town centre is the one place that everyone wants to see improvements made.
- Provision of facilities for the elderly and disabled.
- Schools/community centre.
- Health.
- I have listed in order of importance.
- Lower support to minority community groups in favour of mainstream 'across the board' community support.
- Education.
- People's health safety and wellbeing.
- Schools.
- Health.
- I think improvements to the dire state of Newport city centre should be the number one priority as this would help to raise civic pride, which would have benefits in many other areas.

- Don't have one. Everyone should receive the same service.
- Reduction of business rates.
- Social Services.
- Just be fair to all.
- Housing.
- Reduce the number of City Councillors.
- All are important - they are all part of a whole!
- Emphasis on small local shops rather than large national chains.
- Schools.
- Education.
- No preference.
- Friars walk development – unfair.
- Education.
- Social Care.
- We're definitely getting away from any concept of fairness that I understand if only ONE area should be treated fairly - that makes all others unfair (who thought up this bizarre approach?) Economic Development.
- Social security.
- Law and order as everyone should feel safe when they at home or out and about. There are areas where there are issues that need to be resolved which I believe are being addressed.
- Education.
- Schools - replacing old buildings as priority.
- Education.
- Services for the Community.
- Education.
- Disabled/elderly care.
- Expenditure on Social services.
- Education.
- Services to disabled and vulnerable.
- Looking after our sick and elderly and the knock on effect that would follow.
- The very elderly who can no longer look after themselves properly.
- Education.
- Education.
- Cannot decide.
- No special order of priority.
- Libraries.
- Library and museums.
- Pot hole repair.
- Bring in More small businesses into Newport
- Health Services.
- Provision of a clean, green, safe environment for citizens and visitors.
- Litter.
- Recreation as it helps all ages with their health.

- Disabled access to pavements.
- Preserving as many jobs as possible - there is no new employment around here.
- All should be treated the same.
- Roads and footpaths.
- Leisure - all too easy to make cuts here but long term effects are detrimental to Newport's culture and education, let alone the staff.
- Early learning.
- Social Services.
- Education.
- Getting rid of scroungers of benefits when they can work.
- Unsure.
- Help for the elderly.
- Make cuts to hand-outs and council expenses.
- Homes for old age pensioners, not giving them to families and people under 50 years of age. It doesn't mix as old people like peace and quiet.
- Paying an expert to help rejuvenate the town centre would help with jobs, income, wellbeing of residents, and attract more visitors & affluent residents, etc.
- Reducing money spent on welfare issues to anyone.
- Education.
- Welfare of older citizens.
- Library.
- I don't really understand about being fair, surely Councillors should also seek to be fair.
- Communication - as previously stated not all people have computers or have on line access. The bidding process appears to have gone haywire since 'bedroom tax' has been introduced.
- Encouraging healthy lifestyles.
- Elderly and the disabled.
- Shops.
- Health care.
- It is important to apply basic moral principles to all areas of activity.
- Pensioners providing housing and care.
- Education.
- Schools - just because Caerleon is in an affluent area does not justify the council's decision to give it less funding and to cut planned building projects.
- The unlawful parking.
- Health and welfare.
- Libraries - access for all age groups.
- Care for the elderly and those suffering from dementia are two of the most important areas for any council to manage, particularly where their families have moved away or are unable to deal with or cope with it when it has advanced. After that the council should look to help people through education and training to improve people's circumstances. Help might be given to budget finances and eat well on a limited budget.
- Cleaning.
- All are important but the maintenance of streets & roads, and town centres can be quite depressing. There seems to be a general disregard for the town.

- Older Peoples care.
- Housing - affordable.
- Healthcare and dental care.
- Wellbeing and environment.
- Generally education but for me housing and planning (professionally).
- Residential care.
- Support to ensure elderly people are not forgotten. They are treated often as an invisible presence in Newport. New leisure facilities need to incorporate activities for the elderly to access.
- Private and council housing estates treated the same.
- Health.
- Social care.
- Recreation for all ages.
- All equally require fairness.
- Newport's' standing in Britain.
- All are important.
- Shopping centre in the town.
- Scrutiny is there to provide a check balance but fairness is so fundamental that it has to be an integral part of the initial decision proposals. Fairness like quality cannot be bolted on as an optional extra. You may be able to weed out excessive deviations at a later stage, but that doesn't ensure that the source is adequately no-deviant.
- The welfare of all the citizens of Newport.
- Improvements to bus service.
- The care of the elderly.
- Respite for the disabled.
- Housing.
- Re-vitalising city centre - until this is resolved people like myself are spending their money in Cwmbran and Cardiff. Newport will never prosper unless we spend money locally.
- Affordable housing.
- Refuse collection.
- Keep pavements in good condition i.e. remove uneven and loose slabs, and keep free of dog mess.
- Waste collection / street cleaning.
- Social services.
- Pavements.
- Police for it is good to have a safe and crime free community.
- Public transport.
- Youth centres.
- Council tax.
- Museum and heritage centre.

**Question 3: Do you think it is fair to increase council tax to avoid some of the cuts that have to be made in council spending due to Government austerity measures?**

	Number of people	Percentage of people
Yes	103	43.46%
No	134	56.54%

NB: There were 23 no responses to question 3.

**Please explain your answer (218 comments given):**

- Most people that are employed have not had a pay rise in the last 3 years but the cost of living has risen every year and most people are now a lot poorer than they were.
- Cut the cloth accordingly. If there is an unsustainable level of services, cut them!
- Use the ample reserves that Newport has, as previous councils have done.
- I think more effective use & control of resources could enable the Council to do more with less. Smarter and more careful resource management might help. Think of ways to eliminate waste and wasteful practices.
- We pay you more than enough. Find the money you need from somewhere else.
- You get what you pay for - on a nutshell. We don't get value for money now on the basis that the council doesn't have the money to spend. If it got off some of its hobbyhorses and faced reality, we would all benefit.
- Council tax in Newport is relatively low compared with the rest of the UK. Safeguards are in place for those who cannot pay and for those who can; we need to spend more to improve services and the city in general.
- I think that is people want to see things happen they should be prepared to pay towards it, providing the increase is fair and minimal.
- If rather than increasing council tax if the money had been left in people's pockets, perhaps it would have helped the economic recovery of City Centre. The money allocated by David Cameron to Welsh Government to avoid increases in Council Tax in Wales should have been used for the intended purpose. Instead of which £52M plus £500,000 for refurbishment, has been squandered on the White elephant of purchase of an airport, with abysmal facilities and even worse access, in which airlines have no interest.
- Our local council should know which priorities need funding - would agree providing increases are not above rate of inflation.
- I believe that the amount of council tax that is already charged is at its limit for people's budgets.
- The council should look carefully to determine which outputs/services are necessities to ensure a fair community (e.g. health & social care; education; rubbish removal; planning services etc.) and should focus funding in these areas and review the need to provide non-essential services and outputs that could be considered "nice to have".
- It is entirely in keeping with the Government's supposed support of localism, and should be for us to decide whether we want to accept a blanket austerity policy or not.
- We are already paying enough. Let's cut back on councillors perks.
- Council tax is paid on taxed income. Therefore the public is being taxed twice. There are some major inefficiencies which the council needs to address first. Stop this recycling nonsense of separate bins/containers depending on the waste. Just have one bin and sort it out at the recycling centre. Have you seen how long it takes for the

recycling lorry to conduct the round? I cannot see that it is cost effective for an operator at the roadside to sort the recycling. Where is the incinerator which will solve most of the landfill issues immediately?

- Funding needs to be raised to meet the deficit in government funding.
- People are struggling to feed their families and pay bills already.
- Local democracy should not be controlled by central government.
- As long as all Council spending has been looked at very carefully.
- Minimal increase for everyone will enable services and current staffing levels to be maintained both within the council and commissioned services.
- As in my answer to the first question above, the only services i receive in my area are grass cutting and waste disposal. We are a very recycling conscience family. We have even gone down to the smaller bin size. Yet i have driven through the regeneration areas and i see very little or no recycling boxes being used and overflowing private bins. More should be done with these communities around recycling.
- It is a very difficult financial time for lots of people so better to cut services than charge more.
- Council tax is already high, it's all very well telling us that it's one of the lowest in the country, but it still goes up every year and my wages don't. So now we get fewer services and pay more for them which means I can no longer afford to go out and use the leisure centre or go shopping which in turn impacts on Newport.
- People are at breaking point money wise.
- I think that council tax is very reasonable in Newport and feel it's better to increase it slightly if NCC planned to use it wisely to improve the lives of the most needy e.g. elderly, disabled families who need respite care.
- If increases are justifiable and have the improvement of Newport's environment as the objective then appropriate increases should be made.
- As a teacher I paid into a private pension fund - as such I am not entitled to pension credits and therefore no help with our council tax. A lot of people in my position would struggle even more.
- Providing we see investment that increases wealth and reduces dependency.
- We all have to bear the burden of these cuts and the council has to do the same. Unless I was satisfied that there was no more the council could do in terms of cutting back I think it would be unfair to pass on the burden to the citizens who are already facing tough times themselves.
- People cannot afford an increase; many have lost jobs, single parents, zero pay rises etc. Working in the private sector we have had to reduce our overheads and we have achieved this without increasing prices or making redundancies. Having spent 5 months working in the public sector I was amazed with the wastage of money including time i.e. how long it takes to actually achieve anything. Cuts could be made by the council which would not have an adverse effect on services.
- The government has caused most of the problems and the 'little people' have to pay the price. It may be the only way in the short term though. The problem is it wouldn't be a short term thing.

- In principal but in the current climate we would have to believe that the increase was money was well spent and that would be challenging because with falling real incomes it seems unfair.
- Funding to Gwent Music Support to be re-introduced.
- People, mostly pensioners are being crippled by all the increases that have been put upon them.
- Yes, but this needs to be increased fairly.
- Councils are there to provide value for money. They should only increase council tax if they need to.
- We are both Old Age Pensioners we find it hard to pay Band D, and what annoys me how many don't pay perhaps we are of a generation that thinks it right and proper that we should pay.
- Everything goes up so I think the council tax is quite fair.
- We have all had to tighten our belts, prioritize and look at more efficient and effective ways to carry out functions.
- We cannot keep spending beyond our means. This goes for the national government, regional government, councils and individuals.
- Make everybody pay Council Tax, regardless. Confiscate property, such as cars, TV sets if necessary.
- Those who pay Council Tax are already contributing substantially to counteracting the effects of Government austerity measures. The Council needs to look at other areas of their operations in a new and innovative way. They need to look at cutting waste (and it still goes on), collaboration with neighbouring authorities for provision of common services, and ensuring that those who are receiving Council money are spending it in appropriate, evaluated ways.
- To prevent further decline.
- We need to pay the extra money so that you don't have to make cuts in care for people to receive help to keep them in their own home.
- We are one of the highest taxed nations on earth I would not welcome any more.
- Cut wastage, cut management posts and spend money on service users.
- Property is theft.
- No, because savings can be made in local government departments.
- Too many cuts are making life miserable for many households, and those with reasonable income should take up some of the losses imposed.
- It first needs to be known how well money is being spent in each respective area. Increasing council tax, just to cover the cuts without knowing if all areas are returning value for money or looking for savings, would not be acceptable to me.
- I don't see much austerity; there is still plenty of money around. Reducing profligate spending and reliance on the welfare state is spot on. There is of course a need to help people but cut out the less important spending - Buying Cardiff airport!!!!!! and spend it on housing etc.
- Government as a whole is seen to be inefficient; it needs to be able to run its affairs in line with a well-run commercial business. Tax payers should get value for money.

- Lesser amenities and facilities should mean a reduction in council tax, e.g. council tax in rural areas are higher than a lot of urban areas, yet there are an apparent lack of facilities.
- Otherwise people will suffer.
- Some of the shortfall in central funding could be made up from the capital/contingency/savings funds held by the council.
- Only a small proportion of council revenue comes from council tax but significant council tax rises will prove debilitating for many!
- If everybody contributes to the council costs than a small increase can have a large effect. I suspect there are a lot of people on benefits so not providing real income; we need industry to generate the income to enhance the community.
- Although I have elected to say yes this is conditional upon all other avenues being first explored. It is difficult to say that non-essential services should be cut/axed as people's views on what is essential or not is due mainly to their own circumstances.
- This might be reasonable if the UK or Welsh Government had been clearly unfair in its policies insofar as they affected Newport residents.
- Only if we don't waste money and need to improve essential services, e.g. schools, transport
- If the extra money is spent wisely.
- If society works as a whole it works better. Taxes should be used wisely but if services are to be cut to such a level that they would stop functioning properly then we as society should contribute more to ensure the good things we have remain, NHS, emergency services, safety nets in the form of benefits.
- It should not be necessary as saving can be made through greater efficiency in departments and cutting waste and it if this is not possible the council should start living within its means and not store up debt for more problems in future years. Basic services - roads, lighting, and transport should be the starting point before considering grandiose schemes spending money and creating unnecessary jobs.
- It is vital to maintain services at the appropriate level and therefore it may be necessary for people to pay and increase.
- Become more efficient and restrict councillors and officials from making trips and visits away from Newport which are nothing to do with running the city.
- Wages are not increasing, by keeping council tax increases low it shows citizens that the council appreciate this fact.
- Income is finite for us all including the Council as long, as large salary increases are NOT made to Council bosses.
- Because we pay more for less services already.
- I think that small increases might be appropriate when services would otherwise fall to an unacceptable level.
- No, don't feel its fair people are already financially struggling. Spending should be prioritised.
- Poor economy has already impacted on citizens.
- Priority must first be given to achieving efficiency savings within Newport Council.
- Council tax does not necessarily reflect people's ability to pay.

- I think council tax is already expensive and lots of people are struggling to pay it now, without it going up again.
- Everyone is experiencing financial hardship and an increase in council tax would simply worsen the situation for all concerned.
- We all have to make ends meet; the Council is no different to any individuals trying to make do in these difficult economic times.
- It is so easy to position blame against the current government austerity measures, accountability can be placed at the previous administration.
- Provided it is proportionate to the local needs of community, i.e. education or child protection issues.
- If needed, a small increase would be reasonable.
- Yes we had to go with the flow, times are hard where we could save we must.
- Some are struggling already additional pressure could push them over the edge.
- Rather than see a spiral of decline, I would be willing to pay a small increase in council tax.
- If council tax increases any more then I may have to move from the house I have lived in for 32 years. I worked hard to pay off the mortgage but my council tax is so high it's like having a second mortgage.
- No, because I think that there is a lot of waste that can be reduced, if targeted correctly without increasing council tax.
- Some extra funds may need to be raised to ensure the most vulnerable in society are not disadvantaged.
- I do think it reasonable, but I do think the council should also take a long, hard look at its spending, and the value obtained from that spending, to avoid council tax increases if possible.
- Only for those who can easily afford it, i.e. means-tested.
- Newport has one of the lowest council taxes. We should save all Youth services to keep our youths out of trouble. Save our libraries and museum and perhaps engage these services in the evenings to give our youth somewhere educational to go.
- Better use / application of funds could / would result in significant savings.
- Difficult decision but if the income is not generated even more services would have to be cut.
- Cuts can easily be made by reducing the top heavy departments within the council - households cannot shoulder anymore rises to day-to-day living (maybe the council needs to look more closely at itself).
- Services that are in decline in use, therefore benefiting a minority, should be cut first. I guess libraries, museum and public toilets. There are alternatives - A book shop selling new books and loaning used books at a price. We have 3 museums, could the city centre be incorporated at Caerleon or Tredegar House? When people are willing to pay £15 + a month for mobile phone services and £'s for multi-channel TV / film services, not paying for other services is just a mind-set.
- It has nothing to do with the government austerity measures and all to do with council wasting money introducing tin pot commissions.
- If things that are essential are going to be cut then a small increase in council tax to maintain services is necessary - as long as everyone benefits and not just some.

- We all have to accept cuts - including the council. The money never goes where it needs to anyway. Let's see you guys get on with what you have better before we give you more. This is the way it works in the private sector.
- No, because while the council has less money and has to tighten its belt, many families incomes have not risen for several years.
- We all need to contribute as long as the share is equal and those with most give most.
- High level waste on delivering non achievable and unmeasured aspirations.
- We still need to maintain current standards so if a shortfall has to be made up then a few quid off each resident is not an unfair ask.
- In austere times the council shouldn't expect even more off residents.
- If it is clearly spelt out as a manifesto commitment and the alternative would be the loss of a particular service or amenity.
- Someone somewhere will have to pay - there's no such thing a free lunch. If it's a service that we in Newport want to have, it's got to be funded by someone. You can't and shouldn't live beyond your means. BUT, and this is a big but, are some areas of spending totally necessary? And how much is this 'Fairness Commission' going to cost - will it bring the greatest good to the greatest number - will it produce results that can be measured against the cost of having such a commission?
- There are areas of profligacy in council operations that need to be addressed first - failed policy at city regeneration - excessive internal marketing etc...Every organisation has to live within its means in the current climate.
- I believe that there are a still a lot of opportunities to reduce spending on non-essential things and change the way that funds are spent. In short I don't think that the money is spent in the best way possible. I have reduced the amount I spend on my fuel and shopping bills by making small changes which I think is the way forward. People don't think of the Council money as they do their own so are much less concerned as to how it's spent, it's a common thing which a lot of businesses suffer from. More often than not the prize comes from small changes which tend not to get overlooked an example from my work is a hammer that was on hire for several years at £10 per year.
- The council has gone some way in cutting costs but there is further to go; these measures should be implemented first before council tax is raised.
- But it should only be to replace lost income. Fairness should be used and incentives and/or rewards offered to Newport citizens who are responsible and do not unnecessarily burden or overuse resources.
- Cuts have to be made due to austerity measures, but increasing council tax will mean greater hardship for many especially those on fixed low incomes.
- If we want services we have to pay for them.
- Cut wages of overpaid E.Os and spend wisely for a change i.e. Wave and various other statues and make more money from out of town shopping companies to help subsidize smaller shops which could then lead to a thriving town centre again. What a pity Labour spent all the money and left a mess that somebody has to clear up.
- Reduce council waste, overspending, fraud and freeze pay in line with private sector workers to make up the shortfall.
- In England Council Taxes have been frozen for 3 years. Here in Newport they have increased year on year, which is totally unfair to Newport residents. I think increasing

Council tax has been the easy way out for Management. There are far too many highly paid managers in the Council and they should have substantially reduced these costs before they put up Council tax. They would also have been able to improve services by having more operatives at the "coal face" and a lot less of the managers. They should have also considered using combined facilities with other Gwent councils to reduce staffing costs, such as Finance Departments, personnel departments, Payroll departments. In Gwent there are way too many Councils and unnecessary administration staff. Newport should have taken the lead and developed economies of scale, by combining these administrative services.

- Most of the poorest people wouldn't be affected as they receive Council Tax benefit. Council tax is progressive so the richest tend to pay proportionally more. Also I believe Newport has one of the lowest rates and I have no problem in us being more in line with the average.
- Some services are there to protect those at risk and enable and support people to exist at a basic acceptable level. It is not acceptable to cut or withdraw this support.
- £1 more per month per household what would that add up to?
- Because there is revenue to be made by economising and saving money from other sources first.
- Austerity measures affect everyone including income and expenditure and where income is insufficient methods have to be found to balance that by both using savings/investments and efficiency measures followed by reduction in expenditure as required.
- Because Labour will target Conservative wards to pay for the increase.
- Unfortunately increases would affect those people who already pay Council Tax and would therefore not apply to those at present exempt.
- Not if the money goes to people that are able to look after themselves. Too many people now expect benefits as an easy option rather than working for a living.
- We help you and you can help us.
- To save some amenities i.e. retirement / oap support / day centres, some small changes could be made by clients with match funding from the Council. Keep local libraries open. Closing the Handpost was not fair as the saving was nothing but lack of community support for that area is now nil. It is now just takeaways & charity shops and how is that fair or productive?
- This depends largely on where cuts are proposed to be made and what extra Council Tax is to be spent on. Not reasonable to give a yes or no answer without knowing this.
- Only if the increase is in line with inflation.
- Council must make best use of resources based on surveys such as this!
- Some duties must be discharged (sickness & health).
- Why can't senior council officials travel in their own cars or on a bus?
- My council tax has increased by 3.5%. I am a pensioner, my income tax along with many other pensioners, has been increased. I do not know the full effect of this until the 1st June when I receive my next pension statement - why has council tax been increased? Where are the reserves of finances supposed to be held to deal with this situation?
- I would prefer to pay a little more in council tax than lose any facilities in Newport. The city already feels 'poor' at its heart.

- A small increase would be acceptable to most if the message of how it is spent can be made plain.
- I still see a lot of public building (car parks, offices with the lights on). I know there is the risk of litigation if an accident is caused but surely not all lights should be on? I also suggest that the Council get volunteers to clean and repair basic items. I bet there are a few proud people out there who would love to help.
- Just be more prudent in the resources that they have.
- Those in receipt of benefit would not be making any contribution.
- I don't think there has been a rise in council tax recently, and it is not very high in Newport (in comparison to many places).
- The council should seek a referendum from the people to establish the priorities.
- I would not mind paying a slightly higher council tax, as long as we can see and share the benefits.
- We should have the choice of voluntary extra payments. Perhaps we could be asked to continue payments for the 2 months that are normally free, that would not incur extra costs in collecting payments.
- Only if it will provide my children with a welsh medium education from year 7 onwards.
- Only if you have made all possible efficiencies first, which is not the case? Whilst I disagree with the government's austerity measures, I believe there is much more the Council could do to get far more delivered from the budget it has. I see examples of inefficiency everywhere I look e.g. constantly re-doing things because they were not done properly at first.
- If you spend too little on social services initially, due to more elderly growing old, the better to prevent to 'earlier needs'.
- I don't think a lot of people can afford an increase in bills.
- Essential services must be supported.
- As long as rise is in line with cost of living. My teachers' pension is frozen.
- I work 3 part time jobs and really finding it hard to pay bills at the moment with the cost of everything high. If I had the money I would not mind the increase.
- Everything goes up and if we want to maintain or increase aid in certain areas we will have to pay something for it.
- People can't afford more, too many people on the bread line.
- Depends on which cuts.
- Cut NCC salaries first particularly managers and those who run the Council. Cut police, heads of schools and salaries over £40,000. Cut wastage within the council through supplies and other ventures. Only then would I consider a rise in tax.
- A double whammy for people.
- Councillors should be first to give some salary back and take less expenses due to the measures taken by the government to try and cut the deficit made by the previous government.
- Most people could afford a few pounds more, but care should be taken not to impose more expense on those who really cannot afford more.
- Depends on whether some families can afford to pay extra.

- Cutting too deeply will affect the poor more. We hear of families living on food parcels. People who have no home. In this day should this happen. Are we helping the right people?
- Stop wasting money on roads, signs, bus lanes, and other lunatic traffic calming schemes. The money wasted in Newport on such schemes has been criminal.
- The present government are using bully tactics for the common people to pick up the bill for their outrageous expenditure on projects that are not required by the ordinary man in the street.
- Great effort should be made to cut waste and to end programmes which are not working. If after such measures money is still needed then tax should be raised. More money should be raised from 'out of town' shopping areas. The growths of these have led to the demise of the town centre. Small charge e.g. £1 for facilities currently free for some sections of the population.
- Those in employment helping to pay for services they will one day need.
- Essential, high quality public services are not to be compromised. But efficient / prudent use of public resources should be under constant review and open to public scrutiny and consultation to avoid waste and ensure the public are aware of the need for council tax increases.
- As long as it is in line with or below inflation.
- Yes, if the money is spent wisely on essential services, after all possible cut backs of non-essential activities have been made.
- Stop spending money on immigrants and others who do not pay council tax.
- I don't mind paying a bit more council tax as long as it's affordable and not increased vastly. If this is the way forward and will allow us to keep a good standard of services then I'm in favour of an increase.
- We are not getting extra services; we have not had pay rises. Therefore you have no grounds to increase council tax - you need to cut the fat!
- All people on benefits should pay poll tax. It is too expensive now for single people like me who have lost their partner.
- People are already struggling to feed their families. An increase in council tax could be the straw that breaks the camels back.
- Cut some of the staffing in Council officials, salaries, and high cost of head teachers. Need to also cut the layer of Police Commissioners and their departments. Do we need so much literature in surgeries to be in many languages?
- This is a loaded politicised question i.e. attempting to blame cuts on Government austerity which has been forced on us all. Why should Newport raise its rates when councils in England have had their rates frozen? It would be interesting to know what cuts councillors have accepted in their expenses?
- The closing of libraries.
- It appears that you have plenty of money to waste on benches in the city centre. People should be on their feet shopping not sat down drinking Strongbow. Seating is not required in the town.
- As long as it is being spent in a visual manner. If the increase in taxes can be seen in improvement in the streets and town centre, but of the increase does not translate into something I can see then I would not be happy. I think if you increase taxes then you

need to be transparent in how this additional money is spent. You need to explain the difference between having and not having this money.

- As long as the extra charges apply to everyone.
- Not everyone uses all the services.
- We are already being squeezed by national government and higher prices for food and petrol.
- If the council didn't waste money on things like a 'Fairness Commission' it would not be necessary to increase council tax.
- This is unfair to council tax payers.
- I believe a well-run council should be able to manage financial situations more efficiently to avoid increasing tax.
- Local councils can be more accountable. There is potential locally to make this more fair e.g. a new reduction, review rating relief, and incentivising sustainability.
- Paying too much tax now and are not having a good service.
- Small increase per household would bring in a lot of extra finance which would benefit many areas of public concern at the moment.
- Council taxes are needed at a fir rate. However, why do council dignitaries not use public transport? Why do they need such a large amount of people with them when they go to public functions? Cuts need to be seen to be fair in areas where cuts won't affect the public.
- No we have had salary cuts and finding it hard to manage.
- No I don't think it's fair due to the fact that council members just look at figures not the general view of the people.
- Yes but as a pensioner where does the money come from.
- There are things that could be city without making increases in tax.
- But not a huge increase.
- The council services are not improving at all e.g. your recycling collectors are a joke they don't put the bins back where they picked them up. They also leave more mess than any other workers in the council.
- In a perfect world obviously if central government cuts its funding to local authorities then they have to find alternative funding or city its provision of services. As an authority you and the local authority officers have to make decisions and justify to the local inhabitants.
- One area not back are councillors' expenses.
- I think that council tax impacts on the most people; and that it should be dealt with the most fairly.
- We all have to make savings and it is important that the council makes all the savings it can, especially when considering the expenses for councillors. Most families struggle to pay the council tax at the present level, and councillors are already well paid, without having greater increases than the average workforce.
- Most people are having hard times.
- A small increase in tax can counter some of the cuts that have to be made. The worry is that the cuts once made may never be restored.
- It would be unfair of me to neglect declaring a vested interest since my families circumstances render us eligible to a full council tax rebate. Unfortunately if the locality

scores high on deprivation it has been experiencing austerity long before the current cuts.

- Only to maintain vital services - health, fire rescue, etc.
- Council tax is already very high. Whatever area wastes the most money should have their budget cut instead of raising public taxes. We have to budget for mortgages, rates, etc. and should not be penalised for the ineptness of others.
- Provided increased are across the board and incomes are taken into account.
- I do not think it is fair that you increase council tax when you put more services online against people's wishes. Then you advertise for a Director at £110,000 a year. Perhaps you could explain this post and the need for such a high salary.
- Hopefully more careful planning could stop the rise in council tax.
- In the long run everyone will benefit in the same way.
- When times are hard everybody needs to cut back including the council and there are some things which can be put on the back burner until things get better.
- Too much is already wasted by the council.
- To help the country get back on its feet and prioritise the areas that needs the most attention.
- City council must have enough money to cover cost of maintaining the high standards that they aim for.
- Difficult to answer without studying council spending. Obviously no one wants to pay more in times of austerity but depends on the size of the increase.
- The government should ensure that people and companies at the high end of paying taxes do so. Possibly making money available to Councils.
- Should reduce cost for other spending e.g. digging roads, streets, building unnecessary car parks which are not used much. Before start building facilities consider more carefully so that money is not wasted.
- Fine people or parents on the spot for dropping litter, writing on walls. teach children in schools, whatever happened to keep Britain tidy. This should help you raise money.
- It's easy to put tax up when we should be saving instead.
- Yes but depends on how much of an increase.
- All avenues of efficiency savings should be explored. Levels of high salaries should be examined.
- It is important to use out officers and councillors to implement austerity measures forced upon council spending by imploring efficiencies.
- They waste money when doing out houses they disregard what could be used elsewhere.
- I have answered no because I think that the council should cut their own cloth accordingly.
- Sometimes yes and no but always objective.
- To benefit the community.
- Money is very tight as our family already pay tax and all other council payments plus gas and electric, etc. We haven't though had an increase in our wages for years.
- We don't have a rising income to pay the extra tax with. So that can't be fair can it? We don't need to make cuts just get more efficient and stop wasting our money.

- The responsibility always ends at the same place. We must share the pain, even if some services are cut.
- By increasing tax, the citizen's costs are increased and it is not like there is a salary rise soon.

**Question 4a: What gender are you?**

	Number of people	Percentage of people
Male	130	50.98%
Female	125	49.02%

NB: There were 5 no responses to question 4a.

**Question 4b: What age are you?**

	Number of people	Percentage of people
18-24 years old	-	-
25-34 years old	2	0.77%
35-44 years old	25	9.65%
45-54 years old	45	17.37%
55-64 years old	67	25.87%
65-74 years old	78	30.12%
75+ years old	42	16.22%

**Question 4c: Please tell us which local area of Newport you live in (256 responses given):**

- |              |                |              |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| • Ringland   | • Alway        | • Bassaleg   |
| • Caerleon   | • Somerton     | • Rhiwderin  |
| • Caerleon   | • Malpas       | • Ringland   |
| • Rogerstone | • Allt-yr-yn   | • Gaer       |
| • Bettws     | • Barrack Hill | • Rogerstone |
| • Malpas     | • Bassaleg     | • Ringland   |
| • Allt-yr-yn | • Marshfield   | • Bassaleg   |

- Malpas
- Rogerstone
- Allt-yr-yn
- Bettws
- Caerleon
- Rogerstone
- Beechwood
- Rogerstone
- Maesglas
- Maesglas
- Langstone
- Michaelston y fedw
- Alway
- Caerleon
- Ridgeway
- Rogerstone
- Maesglas
- Rogerstone
- Caerleon
- Ringland
- Ringland
- Ridgeway
- Langstone
- Graig
- Beechwood
- Caerleon
- St.Julians
- Beechwood
- Rogerstone
- Caerleon
- Rogerstone
- St.Julians
- St.Julians
- Llanwern
- Duffryn
- Bassaleg
- Lliswerry
- Langstone
- Bettws
- Allt-yr-yn
- Stow Hill
- Caerleon
- Bettws
- Rogerstone
- Maindee
- Allt-yr-yn
- Allt-yr-yn
- Rhiwderin
- Allt-yr-yn
- Langstone
- Stelvio
- Bassaleg
- Caerleon
- Coedkernew
- Alway/Ringland
- Rogerstone
- Gaer
- Coedkernew
- Redwick
- Caerleon
- Maindee
- Rogerstone
- Redwick
- St.Julians
- Caerleon
- Allt-yr-yn
- Duffryn
- Allt-yr-yn
- Malpas
- Coedkernew
- Langstone
- Glasllwch
- Caerleon
- Caerleon
- Langstone
- Beechwood
- St.Woolos
- Riverfront
- Gaer
- Allt-yr-yn
- Malpas
- Malpas
- Gaer
- Bassaleg
- Stevio Park estate
- Corporation Road
- Ridgeway
- Christchurch
- St.Julians / Beechwood
- Langstone
- Beechwood
- Duffryn
- Brynglas
- Somerton
- Allt-yr-yn
- Lliswerry
- Ridgeway

- Gaer
- Maindee
- Ringland
- Ridgeway
- Gaer
- St.Julians
- Ringland
- Llanmartin
- Rogerstone
- Allt-yr-yn
- Fields Park
- Royal Oak
- St.Julians
- Ringland
- Crindau
- Allt-yr-yn
- Penhow
- Rogerstone
- Malpas
- Bassaleg
- Rogerstone
- Beechwood
- Goldcliffe
- Marshfield
- Pill
- Bettws
- Caerleon
- Caerleon
- Maesglas
- Beechwood
- Rogerstone
- Lliswerry
- Caerleon
- Allt-yr-yn
- Allt-yr-yn
- Crindau
- Allt-yr-yn
- Caerleon
- Beechwood
- Malpas Park
- Ridgeway
- Malpas
- Rogerstone
- St.Julians
- Beechwood
- Pill
- St.Julians
- Rogerstone
- Stow Hill
- Bettws
- Caerleon
- St.Julians
- Brynglas
- Llanmartin
- Llanmartin
- Eveswell
- Llanwern
- Maindee
- Langstone
- Beechwood
- Caerleon Road
- Caerleon
- Llanmartin
- Gold cliff
- Ringland
- Maesglas
- Caerleon
- Caerleon
- St.Julians
- Nash
- Central
- Christchurch
- Caerleon
- Victoria
- Gaer
- St.Julians
- Shaftsbury
- Penhow
- Penhow
- Gaer
- Ringland
- Marshfield
- Malpas
- Malpas
- Malpas
- Beechwood
- Graig
- Brynglas
- Ringland
- Penhow
- Caerleon Road
- Caerleon
- Rogerstone
- Cromwell
- St.Julians
- Maindee
- Bettws
- Penhow
- Lliswerry
- Lliswerry
- Ringland
- Malpas
- Castleton
- Bettws

