

<p>Question 1 - Do you agree with the changes that the council have made to the budget in response to the Take Part consultation as listed on www.harrow.gov.uk/draftbudget ?</p>	<p>Question 2 - Do you have any further comments on any aspects of the 2015-16 Draft Council Budget?</p>
<p>Not sure; Disagree</p>	
<p>Not sure</p>	
<p>Strongly disagree</p>	<p>Why does the council tax have to be increased as we are paying alot as it is.</p>
<p>Strongly Agree</p>	
<p>Strongly disagree</p>	<p>You have a highly populated area with very few services left. If you intend to increase council tax but not retain the level of service or indeed terminate certain services then why should we pay the additional council tax. Street cleaning and park maintenance are essential so that at least people can enjoy open spaces which cost nothing.</p>
<p>Disagree</p>	<p>charging extra for garden waste collection seems v unreasonable. A large wheely in is not required for household organic waste and council tax is already v high . I would not pay.</p>
<p>Strongly disagree</p>	
<p>Disagree</p>	<p>Cuts to front line services appear to be politically motivated rather than rational. There does not appear to be any effort into reducing the cost to residents of the Council in administration and reduction in the amount of waste and excessive running costs of the organisation. It would be good to see more transparency, especially on the website, of salaries for example and the number of people employed.</p>

Disagree	This is an awful consultation. Where is the real value in one question?
Strongly disagree	
Strongly disagree	
Strongly disagree	
Not sure	
Strongly disagree	This is the 2nd year the Council is proposing to increase the Council Tax. How come the neighbouring Councils can manage without increasing the Council Tax. Also, how do you propose to save money and manage the 'green ' agenda of recycling garden waste if you start charging for this service. What guarantee do you have that there will be 100 % take -up? There will be more fly tipping and Council will end up clearing this thus costing ratepayers more money. This document is also so long that its impossible to read it all on the screen.
Not sure	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Disagree	Insufficient funding and priority has been giving to cycling: in particular cross-harrow cycle routes.
Agree	
Strongly disagree	
Disagree	Council Tax should not be increased. Instead the Council should reduce wastage and unnecessary spending in its own operations.
Disagree	rising council tax is not good. cutting voluntary sector especially CAB is not good.
Agree	I strongly disagree with garden refuse being collected fortnightly, especially from June until around the end of November. During the rest of the year fortnightly collections would be sufficient.
Strongly disagree	

Disagree	Very unhappy with yet another council tax increase as Harrow already has one of the highest rates of all London boroughs.
Agree	Fly tipping will increase, if you charge to collect garden waste,
Disagree	Get rid of unnecessary position of CEO ASAP, with no more "compensation" paid out. Cap all Council salaries at £70,000 p.a. Expenses to be no more than Â£3,000 a year at most.
Disagree	The proposal to charge for Brown bins will lead to potential fly tipping as well as garden waste being buried in green bins and ending up in land fill. In our area the Brown bins are filled from September to December with blown leaves from council trees on council land the council has not indicted how these will be collected I fail to see why I should pay extra for leaves from council land?
Strongly disagree	Introduction of Â£75 annual Garden Waste charge is effectively a charge for having a garden, and is stated will reduce the burden on those who do not have gardens. However, most properties in Harrow that do not have gardens are flats and as such are not participating in recycling provisions the way that non-flat residents do - therefore in effect those living in houses in Harrow are subsidising those who live in flats - this charge is further penalising those residing in homes with gardens - a choice they made without knowledge of this new charge. This should be reviewed with this in mind.
Not sure	Council tax should not be increased.
Not sure	By all means collect our brown bin fortnightly but we do not have food waste as we either eat everything or the vegetable trimmings go on the compost heap. This is an EXTRA TAX that presumably you cannot put on the council tax. The money is wasted supplying these bins and in our case will be used for something else and as you are collecting them weekly why not our garden waste (mainly wood).

Agree	I have concerns about reducing the respite care facility for disabled children and carers as this could end up costing more in health and social care for these families. There is great pressure when caring for a child with special needs. Shouldn't staff be charged for parking space at Civic Centre as no one these days expects to have their travel to work paid for from public's money. People who travel to work on public transport do not have their fares paid, people are expected to make their own way to work and at own cost including parking. There is no free parking in car parks for visitors to civic nor any public car parks in Borough. This is unrealistic when other services are being cut which are higher priority and help EVERYONE who lives here.
Strongly disagree	
Strongly disagree	I am happy with the council tax increase. Cut the benefits and senior manager's pay.
Disagree	
Agree	I'm concerned at the proposed charge for the disposal of garden waste. Â£75 might not be excessive, but I think the figure should be set in stone at that level: as things stand it looks like it might be that for the first year and then shoot up in future years.
Strongly disagree	Please streamline the Council's management structure first - that is very costly. Also, lucrative sub-contracting such as road works/repairs are very poor quality and last only a few months!
Not sure	Think the proposal to charge an extra Â£75 a year for the recycling bin is ridiculous particularly when planning to raise council tax. I live in a maisonette and pay the same concil tax as those who live in the houses on my road but I'm pretty sure I earn significantly less.

Disagree	the council is measured on how it manages its responsibilities for public realm which includes roads, paths, public spaces, in terms of safety, attractiveness, cleanliness, tidiness, maintenance. As you have said the biggest cost in the in bureaucracy of the Civic centre. Other councils have taken the knife to their organisations. It seems as if you are not facing up to the real issues of cost reduction and fiddling on the edges and trying to prove how painful it must be for the general public.
Disagree	Charges for garden collection. Incredible a session on council taxes, closure of museum libraries and upkeep of parks
Strongly Agree	More attention be paid to the forget area of the borough, that is Sudbury Hill area including Cavendish Avenue where the pavements are a disgrace, the potholes are numerous especially the newly surfaced area. There are achohol fuelled parties at the junction of Cavendish, Hartington close and the Greenford Road. This leaves rubbish all over the place at weekends and yet it is supposed to be an achohol free zone!
Disagree	There is going to be a lot of flytipping of garden waste if residents are given a choice about whether to pay for extra collections. There is already going to be an increase of the council tax, Â£75 is a lot to be asked to pay on top of that.
Agree	It would be useful to be able to express views on the more detailed proposals at department level as well as just the headline budget, maybe as the budget moves from top line to actual action.
Strongly Agree	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	
Agree	
Disagree	Don't agree with stealth tax regarding rubbish collection - the cost of policing compliance will be another cost passed on to taxpayers.
Disagree	

Disagree	Do not increase council tax fr 2015/16, we have been paying enough over many years, fight with central govt. like Brent Council did a few years ago and get more subsidies. Harrow may not have as many council properties as Brent does, but Harrow certainly have plenty of residents renting privately owned homes and claim all the benefits, this is no fault of honest hard working people who has always paid their way.
Disagree	
Not sure	I strongly object to having to pay for garden refuse removal. There are a good number of services I have to pay you for which I never use, so I consider your argument that a number of residents don't use garden disposal so shouldn't have to pay for it as trumped up and inappropriate.
Not sure	
Not sure	
Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree with bin charges and library closures.
Not sure	
Disagree	Close the Libraries
Disagree	
Not sure	
Not sure	
Agree	1. I welcome the proposal to increase council tax by 1.99%. 2. I would have wanted clearer evidence of the risks to the public (if any) arising from the proposal to cut environmental health posts 3.I would have welcome further clarification of the justification and vfm analysis associated with the decision to reinstate the post of Chief Executive (and the previous incumbent) 4.I strongly believe many Harrow residents would welcome cessation of Labour - Conservative hostilities and petty snipping and instead would warmly welcome an agreed approach, to the greatest extent possible, to deal with the urgency of the financial situation that the borough faces for many years to come.
Strongly Agree	

Not sure	The suggestion to charge for garden waste collection is ill thought out and inappropriate. This will simply lead to more fly tipping etc and deterioration of the urban environment. The proposal is simply a way to massage the council tax increase to pretend the increase in council revenue is below the set limit.
Agree	A heavy heart, but it seems it has to be done.
Strongly disagree	I strongly disagree in the charge of Â£75.00 to collect garden waste. My rate bands are higher than those in properties without gardens ie. flats and for those who had a garden and converted it into a drive should surely be paying more rates than they are now. Also because of all the converted gardens into drives - WHERE HAVE ALL THE PAVEMENTS GONE for people, young, old disabled etc. to walk on safely!!
Agree	Increasing the Taxes while the Borough remains as it had been up to now will not help the Tax Payers. If the Council budget cannot accommodate its financial requirements, the excessive salaries drawn by the Executives of the Council should be reduced considerably rather than putting further burdens on the Tax Payers .Specifically the Garden Refuse Tax of Â£75 should be completely avoided as the small householders with small gardens will be badly affected by it. Increasing the Taxes while the Tax Payers are left without any benefits accruing to them by the imposition of additional tax burdens on them
Strongly disagree	

Not sure	<p>I am concerned that the number of Environmental Health Officers are being cut. If there are no Environmental Health Officers to help ensure the planning system is rigorously enforced, with the technical expertise to make sure planning decisions are sound, I am concerned that public health will suffer. Indeed, it is estimated that 114 people died prematurely in Harrow during 2008 as a result of poor air quality, due to the elevated concentrations of PM2.5 (not considering the other pollutants associated with poor air quality and lung problems) (Miller, 2010). However, when I requested up-to-date monitoring data (which the Council SHOULD have collected in order to comply with the Air Quality Standards Regs. and Environmental Protection Act), I was told that the Air Quality Progress reports utilising 2012-2014 data have not been written. It is concerning that the Council feels that cutting staff, who are clearly already constrained, will enable to meet their day-to-day duties. Asking Consultancies to do these jobs on the Councils' behalf will only cost the taxpayer more (at least that's what Defra think regarding Air Quality). And the same officer would then be able to review planning applications with regards to a range of environmental issues, whilst reducing expenditure in social care and the NHS.</p>
Strongly disagree	<p>The document is over 200 pages long, it is unreasonable to expect anyone to read a document that long and make fair comment.</p>
Disagree	
Agree	
Not sure	
Strongly Agree	<p>Harrow should receive a fairer grant</p>

	<p>kept Harrow Arts Centre and Harrow Museum open for a further year. - How often are these used by general public. Expensive luxury? Reduced the level of cuts to the voluntary sector - Better evaluation which should be shared with general public to allow us to have an influence on what should be cut. Services for vulnerable adults and children to be prioritized.</p> <p>Reduced the level of cuts in the Children's and Family Services - agreed. Suggested a 1.99 per cent rise in Council Tax - Only happy to do so if services are improved and maintained. Suggest a Councillor contact the Council on trying to change council tax registration, see how long that takes and poor service provided.</p> <p>Invested £715,000 in social workers - What are the improved outcomes, and how will these be measured. £715,000 doesn't really go that far over time.</p> <p>Reducing temps and having full time social workers will have an impact, but is increase in staff numbers sustainable.</p>
Disagree	
Agree	test
Disagree	
Agree	
Disagree	
Disagree	

	<p>You have stated an increase to council tax to help make relevant savings, yet now also suggested charging for garden waste. Why wasn't that increase just incorporated into the overall council tax increase. There's a suggestion that staff may now be charged for parking - well that seems irrational when many staff are also Harrow residents so will be hit multiple times with increase in council tax, garden waste charging, parking charges & worst of all restructures/regrading to their jobs!! It seems that councillors have been very lax in displaying the honest truth. Facts and figures should have been provided at the start of take part so we could all see the bigger picture. Slipping extra charges in here & there & expecting all of us to stay calm over them was expecting too much. I still don't see what cuts will befall councillors as we obviously have too many who don't necessarily earn their keep. Don't know what changes Michael Lockwood's return will bring - could be positive or negative - these decisions were obviously thought through by someone but have not been transparent to us. What cuts are being brought to mayoral services. He doesn't need that car & chauffeur he could travel on public transport as many of us do. If he does need a car - it could be a smaller & cheaper electric one - that would save costs ultimately too. Don't hit residents with as much as you are planning. You need to learn how to budget better many other neighbouring councils do a better job. Don't talk about the fair grant as that will take time to resolve and perhaps in reality it was poor housekeeping on Harrow's part that has failed everyone?</p>
Disagree	
Not sure	
Strongly disagree	There is one one topic, one agenda and one decision - CUT, cut and more cuts
Disagree	Disagree with fortnightly collections for garden waste and charging for this service.
Disagree	Don't agree with stealth tax regarding rubbish collection - the cost of policing compliance will be another cost passed on to taxpayers.

Strongly disagree	<p>View with great concern the proposals to reduce grass cutting in public parks. I live next door to Harrow Weald Park and remember only too well the overgrown state of the park and the growing problem with rats entering my own back garden and those of my neighbours from the long grass in the park. Public parks should be a pleasant amenity for local people to enjoy. They should NEVER become a wilderness and a health hazard. Any council that stints in the maintenance of its open spaces in my opinion is in negation of its duty. Worse than that they are openly showing contempt for their public, and deserve to be removed from office at the earliest opportunity. I would also be concerned at any renewed attempts to dispense with the Park Patrol. Doing this would leave local residents vulnerable to crime, resulting from open access to the park at night - e.g. prospective burglars having access to property via adjacent back gardens, and the park becoming a site of other anti social activities such as gang culture and drug dealing. Ideas that have been mooted in the past, such as giving keys to local residents to lock and unlock the park gates, amount to little more than inviting the residents to put themselves into potential danger. Again, a negation by the council of its duty to the paying public. As a runner I regularly access the parks and green spaces in Harrow. I would hate to see any lawful access to such places in any way compromised. I'm only too aware that the council tried to implement similar ideas back in 2013, and that after public pressure such ideas were, rightly, shelved. It's sad to see these proposals being put forward again. But I hope and believe that the local public can speak with a strong enough voice to let the council see the error of its ways, and once again step away from such potentially catastrophic action. I also view with dismay the proposal to impose additional charges on the public for the disposal of garden waste. Lastly, Harrow Arts Centre is a wonderful local amenity. An enhancement to the quality of life in our borough, I hope you will keep it open for the indefinite future.</p>
Agree	
Agree	
Agree	council tax must not increase. it should remain same.