

MTFS Consultation Report

Overview

This is a feedback report following consultation on the 2017/18 budget and financial strategy up to 2021/22.

Background

During October and November 2016 we conducted a pre-budget engagement exercise where we asked businesses and residents about the things that are most important to them about living in Haringey. This was followed by a consultation on the 2017/18 budget and financial strategy up to 2021/22 which was conducted between Monday December 19th and Sunday January 22nd.

1. Results from the consultation

We received a total of 143 responses and the following results are based on that sample.

Q1. Which proposals do you support?

Which proposals do you support ?	Amount of people supporting proposal
Charging for bulk waste household collection	8
Sharing Services	9
Protect and Improve health	4
Helping people stay independent	5
Investment in the borough	7
Street cleaning and recycling	2
School Improvements	5
Cameras to reduce fly tipping	2
Increasing on-line services	6
Increase parking permit charges	4
Reducing cost of senior management	9
Vacating Alexandra house	3
Council tax proposal	5

Q1. Explanations and reasons for supporting specific budget proposals

- Tottenham & Wood Green Friends of the Earth wish to comment on the Clean and Safe Borough section only. We support the Sustainable Transport CO2 Parking Permit charge and would like it to be increased from the projected £400k
- Promoting more online services, as long as they are fit for purpose and you don't restrict access to the internet i.e. via libraries, for those that need it. You

also need to provide non-online alternatives for the elderly, disabled and vulnerable.

- I support sharing services with other councils and focusing on early help and prevention. Making services more accessible online is sensible, so long as: - all residents are able to access the internet easily and via a decent connection - the user interface is clear, easy to navigate and provides boxes for comments to explain circumstances that are out of the ordinary and cannot be described by ticking a box
- I support charging for bulk collections, £25 is very reasonable to remove 4 bulky items. I agree that free bulk household collection should be stopped.
- Moving council staff to make council offices fully occupied, getting rid of the print room and professional development services, which seem woefully under used. Making the translation service more cost efficient.
- The council should take another approach whereby negotiation takes place to set up citizen cooperatives to cover the short-fall in provision. This to replace the top-down hierarchical system whereby public services are outsourced to large companies
- Reduce cost to senior management-As a member of the NHS- I support any additional funds going to the Adult + Social Health care issues. Reducing central and administrative cost.

Q2. Are there any specific proposals you think we should not progress and why?

Q2-Are there any specific proposals you think we should not progress and why?	Amount of people opposing specific proposals
Increasing council tax	5
Paying for Green waste	23
Closing down recycling centre	14
Paying for wheelie bins	13
Reduce opening hours in the libraries	73
Parking Charges	6
Paying for bulky waste removal	11
Review of Osborn Grove-Do not want it to close	5
Corporate projects-transfer of functions to HDV	2
Cuts to children's Services	4

Q2. Explanations and reasons for not progressing specific proposals

- FORE” Friends of reading and Education in Haringey” We object to the decision to cut such a high proportion of library hours in the branches. They are the one public place in the community where all the priorities on page 5 of the consultation document are served. Since the closure of clubs and support groups for the elderly, disabled and children, the libraries are even more important.
- SAPL “Supporters Alexandra Park Library” We write to oppose the Council's proposal to drastically reduce the opening hours for all its branch libraries,

including Alexandra Park, from 58 to 36 hours a week, which would mean full day and/or half day closures, at an average saving of £25,000 per library.

- SAPL-We would point out that while we are grateful to the Council for currently keeping all libraries open this could be the thin end of the wedge for a very small saving. With cuts forced by this government on local councils, it is important Alexandra Park continues to be and develops as a community resource and continues to provide not just books and other reading materials, but good access to computers (used particularly by the less well off), study areas (used by local schoolchildren) and support to the more vulnerable. Activities at Alexandra Park include a toddler and baby club, play, singing and creative activities for the under 5s, a senior citizens coffee morning, a Parkinson's coffee club and a reading group.
- Green waste collection should not be stopped - not everybody has the time to compost and/ or go to the recycling centre to dispose of the waste. It will encourage more people who have cars to do the latter, adding to CO emission if cuts have to be made here, and then reduce the green collection to fortnightly.
- Charging for bulky waste and green waste disposal is just going to encourage fly-tipping. Also charging for replacement wheelie bins is going to mean people are going to steal their neighbour's wheelie bins rather than pay for a new one.
- We oppose the loss of the recycling centre at Park View Road because not many people will trek over to Western Road so we will see less recycling and more dumping; and so we would like to see a replacement facility even if it is smaller somewhere in Tottenham.
- I strongly oppose the Haringey Development Vehicle. Bitter experience shows that these 'partnerships' hold no benefit for the community and no- long-term saving / investment for the non-private member of the partnership. I do not believe that the consequences have been explained clearly to those most affected. I also believe that losing control of housing stock will lead to the further hollowing out of local communities, as people are priced out of the areas in which they were born and raised.
- Getting rid of buildings e.g. Osborne Grove. To approve the proposals for Osborne Grove, I would need more detail. The subsidy for the meal service should not be reduced. What are these new models of care? The saving cited is not believable. Do not want for Osborne grove to close down; the home is needed for the vulnerable people within the community.

Q3. Are there any changes or proposals we haven't included that you think we should consider?

Are there any changes or proposals we haven't included that you think we should consider?	Number of people
Employment and payment to consultants-cutting salaries of senior workers	7
Explore if outsourced services would be cheaper to run in-house	3
Save more by cuts on "Healthier Living" the Nov/Dec survey said among the least important.	1
A ring fence to protect libraries.	5
Raising the Council Tax payments-	3
I would welcome an open debate on Haringey's spending on private sector.	1
Increase spend on schools	2
Increase use of speed camera-make roads safer	3
Fund and support food banks-restructure capital spending for homeless(rough sleepers)	2
More thought at integrating health and social care-explore the role of the voluntary sector-how can they work together.	4
Increase commercial opportunities in Alexandra park	2
Proposal to not sell council properties	2

Q3. Are there any changes or proposals we haven't included that you think we should include

- Nothing has been proposed to make streets safer for vulnerable road users.
- A ring fence to protect libraries. Increasing spend on schools whilst reducing reading/research/learning opportunities elsewhere makes no sense
- Were some services are outsourced like Veolia the council should explore whether this is cheaper to be done in house as a tri borough. Another example is the stray dog service
- I believe that there should have been far more thought given to the integration of health and social care that is way behind other neighbouring boroughs. It will be interesting to see how this will be managed through the STP process. There is also a need for our voluntary sector and its role to be explored. Once again we do have a thriving voluntary sector as in neighbouring boroughs
- Why can't the Council increase the tax by 5% as allowed and sort out the social care issues? Ways can be found to ensure that the low paid do not carry the tax burden
- Cut worthless publications like Haringey People
- Get rid of expensive consultants, temporary high paid acting positions, wasteful I T so called improvements, rebranding logos. Bring back services in house.

Q4. We have a legal duty to test our proposals to ensure they do not have an unfair impact on different groups of people .	Number of people
The proposal to cut library hours	21

If our environment deteriorates it could affect all groups.	1
All cuts to services inevitably impact most on those on lower incomes	2
No equality in this budget - those with money will be able to replace lost council services.	2
moving too much on-line -disadvantages many	1
Social care impact will be mostly felt by Afro Caribbean, Turkish and Irish Communities.	1
Loss of recycling facility-Residents west of the borough will be better off	1
Proposals to introduce charges for waste collection will impact on the poor-Clearly an equal proposal	1

Q4. We have a legal duty to test our proposals to ensure they do not have an unfair or unequal impact on different groups of people within the community.

- Cuts to library hours will certainly have impact on low income groups, and those without home internet and/or safe places to study.
- Yes there will be an impact on children if you reduce library services, I.e. Alexandra Park Library. My children regularly go there to take books out which they wouldn't otherwise have access to. It has given them a love of reading that will help them be successful people in the future which in turn will benefit the economy and the country
- Reducing library hours will deny people with limited incomes the opportunity to access printed information and access to the internet. Valuable resource for migrants and asylum seekers.
- Loss of recycling facility in Tottenham means services will be unevenly provided with the better-off west of the borough getting better service.
- Libraries take much of the hidden strain in society, and the Library Friends' groups across the borough believe it would be a false economy, as demand for other and more expensive public services will increase as a result.
- Obviously public facilities are most used by disadvantaged citizens; therefore the cuts on public libraries might increase inequalities.

Annex 1-Diversity Information

The Information collected on diversity is used to better understand the profile and characteristics of those living and using the services provided by Haringey council

1. Aged Group

What is your age ?	What is your age
16-24	3
25-44	39
45-64	43
65+	38
Prefer not to say	9

2. Disability

Do you have any of the following conditions?	Disability
No disability	79
Blindness or Partial loss of sight	7
Learning disability	1
Physical disability	5
Mental health	9
Long term illness	9
Developmental disorder	4

3. Country of birth

What is your country of birth?	Country of Birth
United kingdom	76
New Zealand	2
Canada	1
Algeria	1
Jamaica	3
India	1
Nigeria	3
Turkey	1
Germany	1
Scotland	1
Vietnam	2
Belgium	1
U.S.A	1
Hong Kong	1
Bangladesh	1

4. What best describes your ethnicity?

What best describes your ethnic Group?	Ethnicity
English, Welsh, Scottish, N Irish, British	58
Irish	5
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	2
East European	4
White European	3
African	8
Caribbean	9
White & black Caribbean	2
White & Black African	5
White & Asian	3
Indian	3
Pakistani	2
Cypriot	1
Vietnamese	1

5. At birth, were you described as male or female?

At birth were you described as Male or Female	Male or Female
Male	38
Female	77

6. What is your religion?

Religion	What is your religion
No religion	51
Hindu	5
Muslim	3
Buddhist	3
Jewish	4
Christian	41

7. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?

Which of the following options describes you	Which of the following options describes how you think of yourself
Other	6
Gay or lesbian	9
Heterosexual or Straight	90
prefer not to say	18
Bisexual	4

8. Pregnancy and Maternity

Pregnancy and Maternity	Are You Pregnant ?
Yes	0
No	84
Prefer Not to Say	6

9. Have you had a baby in the last 12 months?

Pregnancy and Maternity	Have you had a baby during the last 12 months ?
Yes	1
No	84
Prefer not to say	5

10. What is your legal marital or civil partnership status?

What is your legal marital or civil partnership status?	Legal Marital/Civil Partnership Status
Never married and never registered a civil partnership	31
Married or in a civil partnership	49
Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership	1
Divorced or legally dissolved from a civil partnership	8
Separated but still legally married or in a civil partnership	7

11. What is your main language?

What is your main language ?	Main language
English	107
Greek	1
French	1
Portuguese	1