

Our North Tyneside Plan and Budget Engagement

This year's budget engagement ran from 8th December until the 22nd of January. Delays in information from the Government meant the Authority were unable to start any earlier than the 8th whilst the Authority waited for the Autumn Statement to be announced and for the Provisional Local Government Finance settlement to be published.

With COVID restrictions being a thing of the past, this year the Authority have been able to offer a wider range of ways for residents and key stakeholders to get involved.

Methods have included:

- Face to face engagement via focus groups, meetings & site visits
- Email communications to community groups, boards, forums, businesses, residents & NTC staff
- Digital communications via NTC social media channels and local news media
- Printed materials to hot spot areas of digital exclusion including Community Conversation Corners, NTC staff based at Killingworth, adult social care users, residents of social housing aged 60+ and resident panels.

Top line figures include: *

- Face to face engagement: 599 individuals
- Email communications: Estimated reach of 7991
- Other digital comms: Reach of 10,028 across NTC channels with 692 engagements. We are unable to tell the reach through other channels, but this is likely to increase the number by several thousand more.
- Printed materials: 91 printed surveys were delivered to various sites and to several residents and staff members

**** Data correct as of 17.01.23 with some information still to be received***

There were 199 responses received to the on-line budget engagement survey. People welcomed the initiatives that are being taken to address poverty intervention and the cost-of-living crisis and supported the work that is ongoing with the voluntary sector agencies.

There was an understanding that the Authority had needed to follow the Governments Core Spending Power assumptions regarding the rise in Council Tax and the setting of the Adult Social Care Precept. In relation to the considerations regarding an increase in Council Tax and the Adult Social Care precept, the majority of people who took part in the engagement were supportive of a 2.99% increase in Council Tax for the general uplift. However, only 26.7% of respondents agreed with the proposed 4.99% increase to Council Tax which would include the general uplift and the uplift for the Adult Social Care Precept.

Most respondents agreed with the Authority's focus on the four key approaches to managing the Budget. The responses received included suggestions to help the

Appendix F

Authority to achieve a balanced budget. There were 162 responses received and these were all in line with the current key approaches to managing the Budget.

Individual engagement is broken down in the table below:

Face to face public engagement			
Method	Venue	Numbers	Attendee type
Site visit	John Willie Sams Centre - Dudley	50	Residents
Site visit	The Oxford Centre - Longbenton	19	Residents
Site visit	Wallsend Forum	51	Residents
Site visit	North Shields Customer First Centre	20	Residents
Focus group	Quadrant	13	Tenants/residents panel
Site visit	North Shields Beacon Centre	16	Residents
Focus group	Quadrant	8	Youth Councillors and SEND Youth Forum
Site visit	Warm Welcome sites	35	Staff and service users of warm welcome sites
Site visit	Community Conversation Corners	4	Staff and service users of CCC
Site visit	The Beacon Centre	18	Residents
Site visit	Killingworth Shopping Centre	50	Residents
Site visit	Whitley Bay Customer First Centre	24	Residents
Site visit	White Swan Centre	11	Residents
Focus group	VCS	7	VCS organisations
Meeting	NTSP	23	Professionals
Meeting	UNIONS CSJCF	TBC	Professionals
Meeting	Chamber of Trade	20	Professionals
Meeting	Strategic Partners - Equans & Capita	150	Professionals
Meeting	Head Teachers & School Forum	80	Professionals
Focus group	Housing Revenue Account	TBC	Tenants
TOTAL		599	
Email communications			
Method	Contact name	Numbers	Attendees type
Email	Panel members	161	Residents and tenants

Appendix F

Email	Have Your Say	91	Newsletter distribution list
Email	Teamwork and Chief Executive Brief	3500	NTC staff
Email	Community groups	299	All known community groups in North Tyneside
Email	Poverty Intervention Board	17	PIB members
Email	Parent and Carers Forum	596	Newsletter distribution list
Email	Carers Forum	21	Forum members
Email	VODA	1550	Newsletter distribution list
Email	Health Watch	1220	Newsletter distribution list
Email	Members	60	Elected Members
Email	Warm Welcome Sites	35	Staff and service users of warm welcome sites
Email	Ethnic Diversity Task Force	41	Members of the taskforce
Email	North Tyneside Carers Forum	TBC	Adult social care users
Email	NTC Killingworth staff	400	Senior staff to circulate to frontline staff
TOTAL		7,991	
Digital comms			
Method	Site	Reach	Engagement
Social media	NTC Facebook & Twitter	10,028	692
News article	Northumberland Gazette	Unknown	Unknown
News article	Chronicle	Unknown	Unknown
News article	Our North Tyneside	TBC	
TOTAL		10,028+	692+
Printed materials			
Method	Organisation	Numbers	Attendee type
Printed survey	North Tyneside Living Schemes	TBC	Residents aged 60+
Printed survey	NTC Killingworth site	TBC	Staff based at Killingworth
Printed survey	Housing 21	40	Adult social care users

Appendix F

Printed survey	Resident/tenants panel	21	Residents who want to receive postal surveys
Printed survey	Community Conversation Corners	40	Users of the 4 CCC's
TOTAL		91	