

JOIN THE CAERPHILLY CONVERSATION

In order to deliver a balanced budget for 2020/21, Caerphilly County Borough Council is having to make savings of almost £8.5 million for the forthcoming year. This is in addition to the £103 million the council has had to take from its budget since 2008.

A list of draft budget proposals was presented to the council's Cabinet on 13th November 2019, which would allow the required savings of £8.495 million for 2020/21. The proposals are focussed this year in the following areas:

- Being more efficient
- Doing things differently
- Service reductions/cuts
- Increases in fees and charges
- Embracing the new #TeamCaerphilly - Better Together operating model (primarily focussing on efficiencies through process reviews, automation and a review of the council's investment strategy)

Your views matter! Please take the time to answer the questions below so we can use your views to help inform our budget decisions over the coming years.

1) Having read and considered the list of savings proposals please indicate if you particularly agree or disagree with any of those listed, giving reasons for your answer. It would help us if you could write in the proposal that you most strongly agree/disagree with first:

Proposals that I particularly agree with:	Proposals that I particularly disagree with:



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2) To achieve the savings we must make, we are proposing a council tax increase of 6.95% for 2020/21. This would equate to an additional £1.51 per week based on a council tax Band D property.

Taking this and the level of savings required into account, please select one of the following options to tell us your preference about council tax. Please select one only.

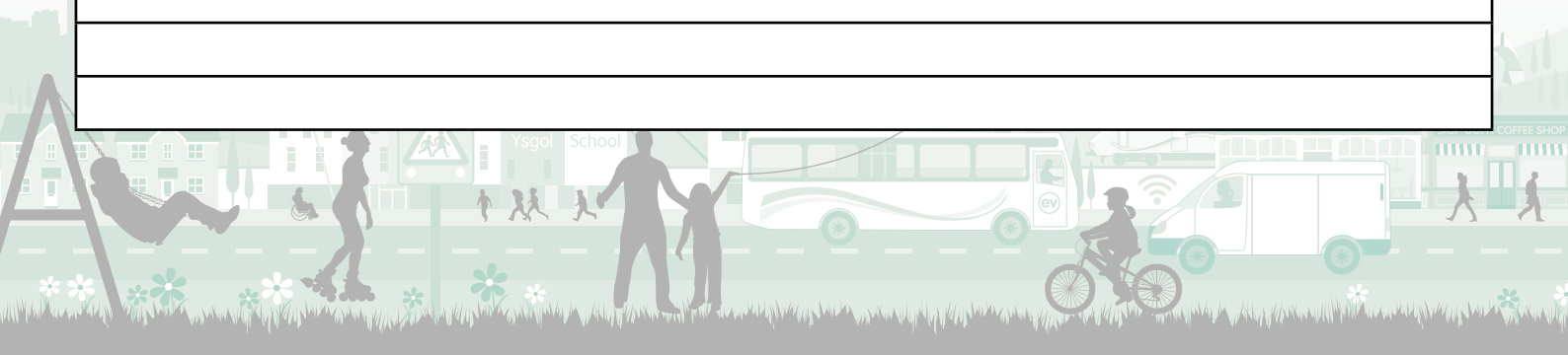
- I support the proposed increase** in council tax (6.95%) which would mean an increase of £1.51 per week for a Band D property.

- I do not support the proposed council tax increase - it's too much. However, I'd support a **lower increase** in council tax. (Please note - every 1% reduction from the proposed 6.95% would mean us having to find an extra £XXX of savings).

- I support the proposed increase in council tax and would be prepared to pay an even **greater increase** if required. (Every 1% increase above the proposed 6.95% would mean £XXX less savings).

- I do not support any increase in council tax** and understand that this would mean the council having to find further savings elsewhere in order to balance the budget.

3) If you said that you would not be happy to support the proposed increase in council tax, please provide details of how else you feel we can achieve the required savings:



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The council has recently embarked on a major transformation programme called #TeamCaerphilly - Better Together.

In the context of the current financial situation, the programme looks at how we can do things differently; become more innovative and efficient, explore opportunities for greater customer focus, embrace more digital opportunities, look at collaborative opportunities, consider alternative delivery models and seek out commercial opportunities.

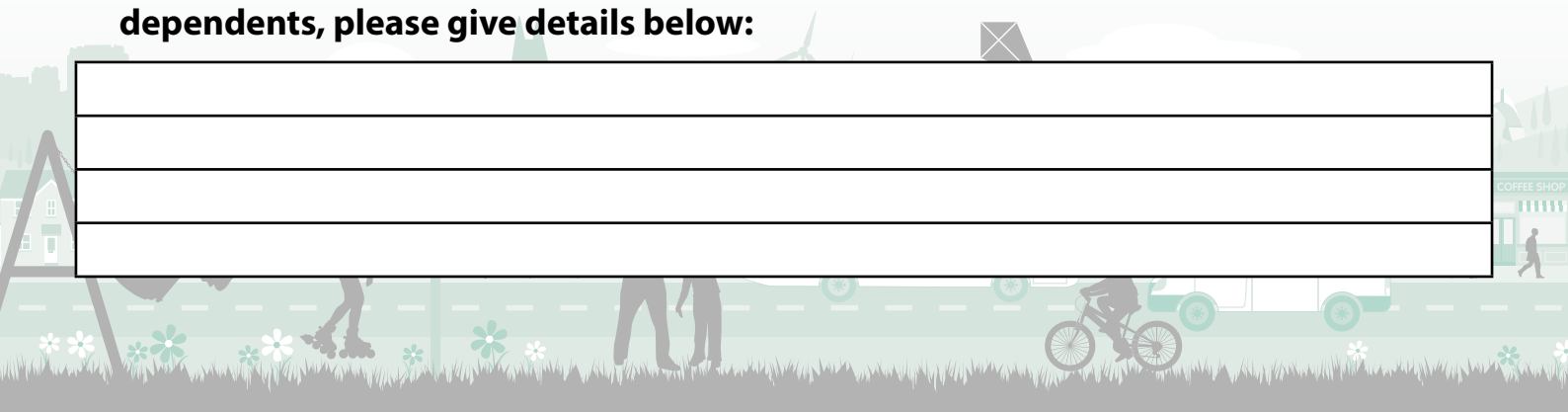
4) Looking towards 2022 and beyond, and given the financial situation facing councils across the country, what ideas do you have for how we could deliver our services differently in order to meet the current needs of our residents and those of our future generations?

The #TeamCaerphilly transformation programme is about reshaping the council for the future. As we have highlighted already, we must do things differently in order to protect the council services that are needed and valued. In future, this means that the council will be smaller and will deliver fewer services, and may deliver its remaining services in a different way.

If we are going to continue to deliver some of the discretionary services (that is things we don't legally have to do) we will need the help of our communities and the voluntary sector to support us in delivering them.

5) What ideas do you have about how you and the wider community can work to support the council to help achieve this?

6) If your responses to any of the questions in this survey have been influenced (positively or negatively) because of any of the following; ethnic origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, religious beliefs or non beliefs, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality or responsibility for any dependents, please give details below:



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A BIT ABOUT YOU...

To ensure that we achieve a representative sample, it would be useful if you could answer the following questions about yourself.

I am completing this survey (Please tick all that apply):

- As a resident of the County Borough As a business person
 Representing a third sector organisation As an elected member
 Other please write in:

My postcode is:

I am (select one):

- <16 16-25 26-39 40-49 50-65 66+

I am (select one):

- Male Female Prefer not to say

Other, please write in

What is your main language? (select one)

- English Welsh Other (including British Sign Language)

Do you have a disability? (select one)

- Yes No

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY.

Please return this form to any of the main council offices or your nearest Library, Leisure Centre, Cash Office or Housing Office.

If you prefer, you can also return the survey and any additional comments in the post to:

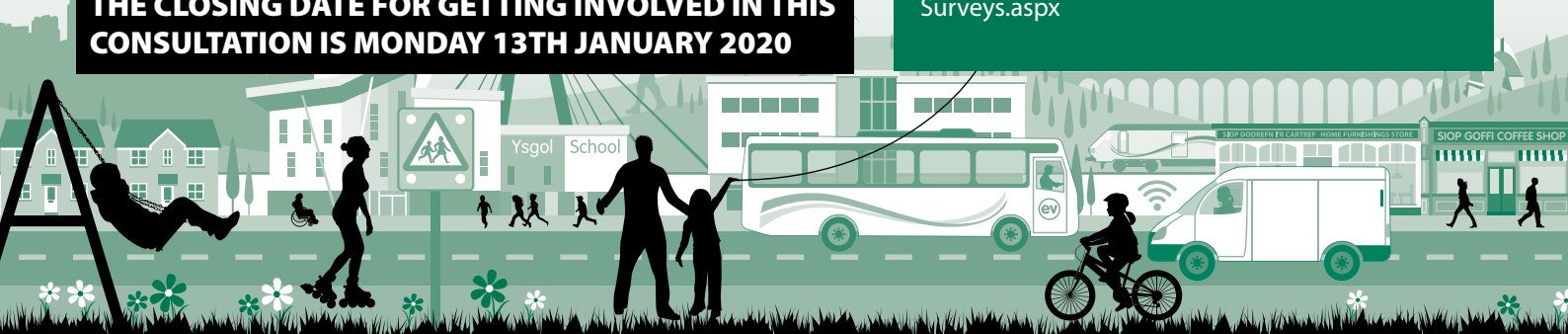
**Consultation and Public Engagement Officer,
Business Improvement Services,
Caerphilly County Borough Council, Penallta House,
Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG.**

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR GETTING INVOLVED IN THIS
CONSULTATION IS MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2020**

PRIVACY NOTICE:

You have a number of rights in relation to the information including the right of access to information we hold about you and the right of complaint if you are unhappy with the way your information is being processed.

For further information on how we process this information and your rights please visit:
<http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyDocs/FOI/PrivacyNotices/Privacy-Notice-Consultations-Surveys.aspx>



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