Budget Consultations Jan 11



1. I broadly agree with the savings suggested.			
	Response Percent	Response Count	
Strongly Agree	12.5%	2	
Agree	31.3%	5	
Neither Agree/Disagree	6.3%	1	
Disagree	37.5%	6	
Strongly Disagree	12.5%	2	
	answered question	16	
	skipped question	0	

2. I would accept charges or paying more for some services.		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	31.3%	5
Agree	18.8%	3
Neither Agree/Disagree	12.5%	2
Disagree	18.8%	3
Strongly Disagree	18.8%	3
	answered question	16
	skipped question	0

3. I would accept a reduced level of service provision.			
	Response Percent	Response Count	
Strongly Agree	6.3%	1	
Agree	31.3%	5	
Neither Agree/Disagree	18.8%	3	
Disagree	43.8%	7	
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0	
	answered question	16	
	skipped question	0	

4. The information provided in relation to the savings options is helpful.			
	Response Percent	Response Count	
Strongly Agree	25.0%	4	
Agree	12.5%	2	
Neither Agree/Disagree	18.8%	3	
Disagree	25.0%	4	
Strongly Disagree	18.8%	3	
	answered question	16	
	skipped question	0	

5. Do you object to any of the savings options outlined?			
Response Count	Response Percent		
12	85.7%	Yes	
2	14.3%	No	
14	If you answered Yes, please specify which ones you object to.		
14	answered question		
2	skipped question		

6. Where you object, what are your preferred alternative savings options?	
	Response Count
	14
answered question	14
skipped question	2

7. Which options/services should the Council consider as a priority for expenditure or service reduction within 2012/13?	
	Response Count
	12
answered question	12
skipped question	4

8. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for savings?	
	Response Count
	11
answered question	11
skipped question	5

5. Do you object to any of the savings options outlined?

5. Do you object to any of the savings options outlined?			
	If you answered Yes, please specify which ones you object to		
1	Removing Head of Nurseries and sticks it in the school far too early for children	Jan 17, 2011 10:40 AM	
2	I think the option of 8 nursery heads Isoing their position is very much a decision that ahas not been thought out for the best of the children. As a parent of a child within ST Mary's Nursery and also a teacher myself, I feel that it is extremely impossible for the Head of St Mary's primary with a massive rloe to be in charge of a nuresery who also have a maximum role. The children will lose out and that will be unacceptable!	Jan 17, 2011 10:49 AM	
3	I was at the meeting, the list contained many services important to various groups of people and it would not be fair for me to choose as I do not know any of what these services give to teh community, we are supposed to be creating a better community spirit, but these cuts contradict this.	Jan 17, 2011 10:58 AM	
4	I strongly disagree with the cuts of heads of teh early education services.	Jan 17, 2011 11:03 AM	
5	I strongly object to EDC10. The removal of heads of Early years centres. I feel this would not benefit the nursery or school in any way. There is a great need for our Head of centre in my childs nursery, all due respect to the head teacher of the school but she is qualified to run a primary school and children of that age and not children of a pre school age, someone be it school staff/children or nursery staff/children and families will suffer along the way. The government is always talking about how important the ealy years are for children and families and a big part of running of the centre is down to the head, who is always there to help with queries or offer advice when needed. The same service would not be given no matter how hard the primary school head teacher tried. I strongly disagree with this proposal as does the majority of parents I have spoke to in our nursery and school and I would hope that the council will take in to consideration the feelings and concerns of the parents because at the end of the day it will be our kids and families that would feel the effect of this.	Jan 17, 2011 11:20 AM	
6	The remove teh 8 Heads of Centre. Each morning I take my child to nursery the Head of Centre personally greets me and inquires how I am. I know from personal experience that this is not the case when the nurseries are managed by the schools. As a parent of both nusery aged and primary aged children I feel that the primary school cuts you off as a parent where as the nursery welcomes me and my ideas and views.	Jan 17, 2011 11:25 AM	
7	You have done a good job with the money you have.	Jan 17, 2011 11:29 AM	
8	Removal of Heads of Centre at Nurseries Iudicrous idea.	Jan 17, 2011 11:32 AM	
9	8 Heads of Centres removed from EECC's	Jan 17, 2011 11:37 AM	

5. Do you object to any of the savings options outlined?

If you answered Yes, please specify which ones you object to.				
10	I do not agree with the proposal to cut the 8 Heads of Centres in nurseries. I feel that if this decision was to go ahead it would make a huge impact for the worse, as these Heads play a key role in delivering the service. I cannot understand that this has been put forward as a proposal especially when there is such a huge emphasis placed on education for pre-fives.	Jan 17, 2011 11:43 AM		
11	No, I think the Council are doing the best they can with the money they've been given. I don't know what they are going to do next year.	Jan 17, 2011 1:52 PM		
12	I strongly disagree with the removal of Head of Centre in 8 nurseries. The head provides a critical role. It is ridiculous to think that the head of the primary school would have sufficient time to provide an equivalent role. It is a false economy.	Jan 17, 2011 2:00 PM		
13	EDC10 - 6 EECC heads of centre cuts saving £200000K	Jan 17, 2011 2:04 PM		
14	EDC10 - Nurseries head of centre reduction	Jan 17, 2011 2:08 PM		

6. Where you object, what are your preferred alternative savings options?

Response Text			
1	Take away free school milk most of it is watsed anyway	Jan 17, 2011 10:40 AM	
2	Free school meals are unneccessary. School milk is unnecessary. These are luxuries we can do without. I would rather see the development of my children came first and allow me as a parent to take care of the rest. You might say that children in poorer incomes will lose out, however tax credits will accommodate a school meal payment each day.	Jan 17, 2011 10:49 AM	
3	on the sheet supplied, I would agree with council staff having to pay for services rather than them being free.	Jan 17, 2011 10:58 AM	
4	Milk from tehschools can be water only. The unnecessary need for all those homework jotters my boys come home with all teh charity work done in scholls I do not disagree with this but money for the school could be raised from time to time at these unecessary events.	Jan 17, 2011 11:03 AM	
5	I would suggest that the removal of school milk would not have that much of an effect on teh kids and would save almost as much money as the 8 heads of centre. I have heard parents saying that their kids don't bother with eth milk as it is always luke warm and not really appealing to them. I believe it is parents responsibility to ensure that their child is getting enough calcium. I also agree withHED08, reduction of concessionary leisure price staff membership. I think that the £140k would be more beneficial going towards Heads of Centres, who would devleop the next generation in our community rather than using money to offer a perk to council employees.		
6	Cut the free milk fo p1-3	Jan 17, 2011 11:25 AM	
7	I think you need to look at school transport mileages. although I live in Whitecrook so I know the dilemma you are facing with certain parents who think everuything should be free.	Jan 17, 2011 11:29 AM	
8	Free school transport for primary children not secondary and free school milk should be withdrawn.	Jan 17, 2011 11:32 AM	
9	Get rid of Sunday shifts and make council workers do a full day	Jan 17, 2011 11:35 AM	
10	School Meals for P1-3, only required for low income families. Free milk for school children can be offered as part of their snack/lunch to buy.	Jan 17, 2011 11:37 AM	

6. Where you object, what are your preferred alternative savings options?

	Response Text	
11	Cut free school milk, as a parent I would rather see the budget being spent on education ie. staffing, class sizes etc. Although I see the importance of a healthy diet for children, I feel this is more a parents responsibility, and other parents should be educated of this as this should not be the responsibility of the school.	Jan 17, 2011 11:43 AM
12	I would prefer for my child to attend nursery than have the head removed. I can afford to pay and I am currently saving in child care costs. I would be able to utilise the childcare voucher scheme to gain tax benefits. This could be a staggered charge depending on earnings or only applicable where income meets a certain threshold to minimise administration charges. I value the head of centre far greater than the provision of free school milk. I would be happy to see the removal of free milk.	Jan 17, 2011 2:00 PM
13	Cancel free school milk - cost £190K. Don't staff toilets in Balloch £35K as these are hardly ever open anyway and I am unaware of any other staffed facilities. Close Gartocharn Nursery and stop Garshake Nursery as this is ONLY for council employees and not available to the whole of West Dunbartonshire communities. Saving around £400K	Jan 17, 2011 2:04 PM
14	Remove entitlement to free school milk - saving £190K. There must be daily wastage in providing this - if so how much is it and is it particular schools?	Jan 17, 2011 2:08 PM

7. Which options/services should the Council consider as a priority for

Response Text				
1	Too many grass cutters too many council workers sitting in bookies when they should be working, keep the after school care and Head of Nurseries	Jan 17, 2011 10:40 AM		
2	Expenditure - keep staffing reduction - our luxuries like school meals etc.	Jan 17, 2011 10:49 AM		
3	That's easy, cut back on management, I have worked for several large multinational companies over the years. If they can run these companies with minimal staff like clockwork then so can we get rid of the waste, penpushers, unnecessary management, believe me there is plenty, right under our noses.	Jan 17, 2011 10:58 AM		
4	I would suggest that people at the top of the tree should have their salaries looked at as it is always the case that front of house staff are always targeted first. I cannot stress enough how strongly I feel about the Heads of Centres being removed from the nurseries, I think if the Council made this decision it would fall flat on its face and would be detrimantal to our children and families.	Jan 17, 2011 11:20 AM		
5	Christmas lights and events Grants Choices programme Support for drug users and alcoholics	Jan 17, 2011 11:25 AM		
6	I was at the Clydebank meeting so I know you can't merge COuncil's but you could always look at sharing some jobs? Maybe a joint Chief Executive and one of teh top managers like Mr Lanagan or Ms Melrose	Jan 17, 2011 11:29 AM		
7	Free School milk and free school dinners for P1-3	Jan 17, 2011 11:32 AM		
8	Meals for underpriviledged kids only and no milk, kids don't like it get diluting juice.	Jan 17, 2011 11:35 AM		
9	Keep trying to protect Social Care and Children's Education things. Cut down on Adult Education. Now you have a living wage you could have a pay freeze. I heard that some councils have a lot of art they've collected, sell it and use the money to pay off debts or invest in schools or do spend to save things.	Jan 17, 2011 1:52 PM		

7. Which options/services should the Council consider as a priority for

Response Text				
10	Some of the options are very black and white. There are more opportunities to charge for services - it doesn't need to charge the full amount. You want people to feel that they are getting their money worth. Increase revenue - people are willing to pay where they value the service and can afford it.	Jan 17, 2011 2:00 PM		
11	Priority should be for Education. Without first class education facilities West dunbartonshire will die. The children are the future and this starts at a very early age with Nursery care. Their work and dedication in the Nurseries in WDC area is second to none and this should not be lost. Yes, no one wishes to be see to take away free milk as it looks bad politically, however, milk tokens etc are available to low income families and there must be wastage of this service every day.	Jan 17, 2011 2:04 PM		
12	Education Keep existing free school meals entitlement for ALL primary 1-3 pupils.	Jan 17, 2011 2:08 PM		

8. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for savings?

Response Text				
1	Reduce the outside consultation firms	Jan 17, 2011 10:40 AM		
2	Free school meals for P 1-3 should go. Breakfast clubs should go. I would rather have staff taking care of the wellbeing and educational development of my child rather than cuts in staffing.	Jan 17, 2011 10:49 AM		
3	I have said it before, management levels including senior management, including senior management, needs to be drastically cut, gold plated pensions need to stop, the amount of workers on long term sick across teh council is embarrassing. Front line services would not need to be cut if you cut back the unecessary heads of departments, chief executive, deputy chief executive included and we don't need 22 councillors either.	Jan 17, 2011 10:58 AM		
4	Cancel some! not all funding parents would agree I'm sure the head of the school taking over the nursery would cause upset for both school and nurserys.	Jan 17, 2011 11:03 AM		
5	I feel the free school meal scheme for P1-3 is great although you could make a saving asking working parents to maybe pay £1 per meal for example, this could potentially save quite a bit of money.	Jan 17, 2011 11:20 AM		
6	Stop all hospitality including that which is offered at budget consultation meetings	Jan 17, 2011 11:25 AM		
7	I know you can't take away school children's milk or will compare you to Margaret Thatcher, but there must be a better way of providing it so that there isn't as much waste.	Jan 17, 2011 11:29 AM		
8	Free bus services, when people can afford to pay a small amount towards running costs	Jan 17, 2011 11:37 AM		
9	Cut or withdraw money which is going to subsidise council employee gym membership.	Jan 17, 2011 11:43 AM		
10	I read somewhere that the Chief Executive is retiring sometime this year. Instead of replacing him/her, could the Council share with another Council (East Dunbartonshire/Paisley)	Jan 17, 2011 1:52 PM		

8. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for savings?

Response Text

11 Reduce £1.6 combined Training and Subsidence expenditure for staff to only ESSENTIAL training courses.

Jan 17, 2011 2:08 PM

Remove subsidised staff canteen at Garshake £55Kpa

Charge back more of the costs involved in supplying specialised equipment etc which the council has the right to do but does not at present.

Charge local groups for use of transport. I'm sorry in this day and age nothing is free - especially given the current economic climate. Perhaps these groups would think more about the use of these services instead of taking them for granted.