

Summary of collective responses from group discussions

Task: Participants were asked to consider which top priority areas they would put forward to Council as potential areas for service or cost reduction. The following illustrate those which were most and least favourable based on the number of votes.

Table 1: *Most favourable areas the Council should consider as potential areas for service or expenditure reduction (in order of priority).*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricting community events activity to high profile events only (e.g Scottish Pipe Band)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merging under-occupied schools (e.g schools with a roll-call of less than 100)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xmas lighting and Xmas switch-on events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing free and concessionary leisure activities (e.g free swimming for children/OAPs)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing the levels of rehabilitation provision for addictions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing a 1% increase in Council Tax
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass cutting etc., on highway verges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing only statutory bus travel to schools (i.e distance from home to school of 2 miles up to age 8 and 3 miles for ages thereafter)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free provision of transport to community groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merging the Registrars service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merging and relocating the number of libraries within the community

Table 2: *Least favourable areas the Council should consider as potential areas for service or cost reduction (in order of priority).*

- **Bringing together the provision of early education centres**
- **Changing the level of learning assistant provision**
- **Removing free school meals for P1-P3**
- **Maintaining public toilets**
- **Reducing street lighting**
- **Providing care of garden scheme**
- **Reducing Criminal justice services**
- **Withdrawing out of school care provision**
- **Removing free school milk**
- **Recycling service including local tips/household waste recycling centre**
- **Reducing the levels of older people's residential care through increasing support for people to live at home for as long as possible, including the expansion of sheltered housing provision**
- **Reducing provision of the careers service within youth justice**
- **School crossing patrol services**
- **Street cleansing and grounds maintenance**
- **Reducing the provision of all non-personal care**
- **Introducing a 5% increase in Council Tax**
- **Maintaining the roads and pathways costs**

- **Household bin collection**
- **Re-provide council run care homes for older people with services purchased from voluntary or private sector providers in new build homes**
- **Reducing the number of older peoples' day care centres run by the council and linking with current externally provided services to obtain efficiency savings, while maintaining places available.**
- **Payment of grant funding to community groups (includes voluntary groups, partners, local grants, and older peoples welfare payments)**

Table 3: *The following areas received no support as areas the Council should consider as potential areas for service or cost reduction.*

- **Maintaining street lighting costs**
- **Winter maintenance such as gritting footways**
- **Environmental health**
- **Close a Council run care home (provision will be picked up by remaining council homes and private/voluntary sector homes already in the area)**
- **Reducing the level of on-site support in sheltered housing**
- **Reducing the level of provision for adults with a learning disability, whether day care or care home or similar**
- **Reducing levels of physical disability day care**
- **Restructuring our community learning and development provision**

Base: 73 participants across all three workshops

Feedback and suggestions from the public

Workshop session	Microsite feedback
Asset Management	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give community centres to the community • Relocation of Garshake • New Dumbarton Academy should not be built • Maintain all Council owned property at once. This can be done at source. • Sell assets • Reduce number of primary schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumbarton academy does not need to be rebuilt. A refurbishment of the games hall and a bit of a spruce up in some places would do fine. This would be at a fraction of the cost. This is especially true since a lot of money has recently been spent on it. This is the view of most staff and the parents I speak to. I work there as a teacher. Please at least check this out. You are being badly misled by those with a vested in being photographed standing in front of a new build school. At least wait until financial stability returns to the economy. • Please do not rebuild Dumbarton academy, please simply refurbish and build a new games hall • Sell all empty council buildings. • Make sure empty council buildings to not have lights on using unnecessary power. • Open up Levensgrove park expand on the use of the buildings there. The large buildings could be utilised more by running a garden centre, i.e. trees that can be found in the park, hanging baskets, activity packs for visitors, schools, families, tea shop.
Charges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paying for what you get e.g placement costs • European schools; outlay at the beginning of the year • Make the polluter pay! • Dumping – fly tipping • Who pays EMA (Educational Maintenance Allowance) - this should not be paid to school pupils • Use the hydro pool at Kilpatrick School as a money maker (for revenue) • Cash could be made by applying law on dog fouling and litter • You need to start fining people for litter and dog fouling as it is the LAW! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tenants of lock up garages to purchase them, bringing in income and removal of high maintenance costs • Sell parking bays outside residents houses, for a yearly sum people could have their own parking bay painted on the road outside their own home

Service provision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close libraries • Close community centres • Social Work - doing a good job, Redundancy • Services provided to diverse group – library - don't need them • Danger of 'slash n' burn' • Switching lights off at non-peak times; is this something we could consider? Better lighting is often better than CCTV cameras • Why are we paying for deaf children to be transported outwith the area when there is adequate provision within this Council to educate them? It would be interesting to find out the cost • Remove taxis for service users with addiction dependency • Health budgets: distribution of extremely appalling food in the hospitals. Big savings could be achieved on this • Christmas lights – perhaps commercial could contribute • Reduce grass cutting services but make sure place looks good • Ask public what our priorities are and what we value, rather than what we can cut. • Reduce level of addiction services i.e rehabilitation • How much will the cuts affect sensory hearing patients? • Does school get money for accepting children from outside the area? • Free bus service should only go to those who are claiming a government pension and not at present when persons reach age 60 and are still working • Only people with OAP pensions should get a free bus pass • We should be looking at all non-statutory services • Care of garden service is poor and they make more mess. Now paying for private garden service. • In regards to housing the Council could save money by not gutting property as tenant leaves, instead new tenant should view carpets etc before moving in and save loans to tenants. Kitchen and bathrooms are put into skips in good condition. • Are there any schools in Clydebank with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make all school staff term time. No need to have technicians, Librarians etc getting paid when no children in school. • Withdraw free school meals for all P13. • Withdraw free school milk. • Withdraw lower primary toothbrushing. • Amalgamate all non denominational and denominational schools and have one head teacher, deputy head, shared teachers, one janitor, one set of cleaners etc • Stop using blank jotters in schools, pupils use a lot more paper when writing in blank jotters. • All schools could run a stationary (enterprise) shop, this would reduce the amount of equipment given out by staff as children could buy their own also would help to raise school funds. • Dripping taps. I realise the Council need to save vast amounts of money but like the saying goes "look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves". No matter how small the potential saving all savings should be auctioned i.e. dripping taps and faulty toilets that constantly run water. People should be encouraged to report them and know how to report them. • Withdraw the Anti Social Behaviour Wardens • The fact that you have chosen to bolt libraries on to community facilities clearly demonstrates that the council fails to value and respect them. Libraries are essential to community cohesion, literacy, culture, digital inclusion, employment, health and well being, and good old reading for pleasure. Whatever you decide relating to libraries (hopefully limited to one or two closures), please make sure you promote their vast array of services to the wider community far too many folk have no idea what a

<p>less than 100 pupils?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black bins emptied every second week 	<p>modern library offers these days. Surely higher usage on similar budgets equals better value for money, and this must be a priority too.</p>
Shared Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doing it together? – Fire, NHS, Local Authority • Working together • Shared Services • Best Value - where are you getting it? Charity/Private • Scottish Enterprise - bringing in business • Combine certain resources with other local authority e.g HR & Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitals in Nottingham have worked closely with local farmers to provide food this in turn has saved the hospitals thousands of pounds per year, could this be achieved by our council and local farmers? • Share the Chief Executive and Directors posts with neighbouring authorities. • Share the contact centre with the other 32 authorities, share council tax payment, wages, recruitment and training with other authorities • Join East and West Dunbartonshire and reap the benefits which shared resources bring
Area Generation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture of the area • Attracting people to the area • Borders scheme • Create life and wellbeing to the area • Inward investment e.g. Aggreko, HCI • Need more jobs • Generate economy • Involving the private sector • Think out the box 	
Council Tax	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council tax; pay more – save services • Council tax debt – recover this and increase charges • What steps are being taken to collect £29m of council tax arrears? • What is being done to reclaim unpaid Council Tax? • £29m council tax should be collected • £1.5m should be taken out of salary • Ridiculous such a number of people still owe money – no Council employee should be in debt to the Council – take money off salaries • Increase Council tax by 1% 	

Workforce	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biggest bulk in spending on salaries. Is there possibility to move all staff to a 4 day week to save redundancies? Would councillors take a reduction in expenses? • All workforce put on a 4 day week for a period of time • What is annual staff costs? • Reduce staff • Is there some assurance that there is in-house cleansing within the Council i.e too many receptions, wastage, hospitality, provost budget, functions, fancy cars? • Could we reduce the hospitality for councillors and public events? • Less ridiculously higher paid employees • Let the people of West Dunbartonshire see that the councillors are cutting their costs – people have no faith in councillors of West Dunbartonshire • Workforce multi-skilled 	

What do you think residents and communities could do for themselves?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay charges but not withdraw services • Safety issues • After midnight reduce lighting by 50% - dimmed could be acceptable • Could we ask traders to pay? • Contributions from commerce • Additional support for children affected by addiction • Communities work for themselves • Involve community more – give them the right to do it • Reverse public mindset • Information needs to get back to the community about what it costs – public value!

General feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumbarton is a good place to stay! Disappointed with turnout at meeting • Thank you for all your hard work and effort and giving up an evening to put important things across to the community