

Q6 Which of the following Council Plan commitments would you say are the three highest priorities for investment over the next 10 years? (Please select only three)

	Highest priority	Second priority	Third priority
We will raise educational outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will ensure that children are properly supported in their early years	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will work to eliminate child poverty across South Gloucestershire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will support all children and young people in maintaining positive mental health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will support children with learning disabilities to live an independent life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will be an exemplar in corporate parenting (children and young people looked after by the council or who are care leavers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will ensure people have access to the best possible information, advice and guidance to support themselves and their families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will shift the balance of support more towards prevention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will support the most vulnerable adults to maintain their independence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will enable communities to work together to help improve their lives and address the problems that are important to them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will ensure that people feel safeguarded and supported in our care, at home, and in their communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will clean streets and maintain roads effectively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will lead the response to the climate emergency and deliver on our commitments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will promote clean, high quality design of new and existing communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will plan to join up housing with appropriate infrastructure such as schools and transport networks that make it easier for people to get around	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will enable people and business to recover and thrive within cohesive communities that value diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will demonstrate how well we deliver value for money in the services we commission and provide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will work as one council providing staff with the skills, tools and support to perform at their best and live our values	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will develop our digital infrastructure to support residents and staff in day-to-day life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We will increase our commercial operations and use assets for maximum benefit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Council Tax options for 2021/22

In February 2020 the council approved its 2020/21 revenue budget confirming a general council tax increase of 1.99% along with a 2% precept for adult social care. It also approved outline budgets for the following three years (up to 2023/24) to help it plan for the future.

The council's preferred option is a 1.99% increase in general council tax and 2% adult social care precept (Option A), should this flexibility be made available by government, as this will lead to the least reduction in spending on services.

This is on the basis that additional savings of around £1.54m per 1% of council tax will need to be found in each year that an increase is not made over and above the savings that the council is already working to deliver.

Please note: the council has no control over the council tax collected on behalf of the Police, Fire Service, or parish and town councils. Each of these bodies will make their own independent decisions.

The council would like your views on the level of council tax the council should consider for 2021/22:

Option A: To increase council tax in 2021/22 by 3.99% (1.99% general council tax and 2% adult social care precept)

This would be an increase of £61.58 per year (or £5.13 per month) for a band D household. This would raise an additional £6 million.

Option B: To increase council tax in 2021/22 by 1.99% (1.99% general council tax and 0% adult social care precept)

This would be an increase of £30.71 per year (or £2.56 per month) for a band D household. This would raise an additional £3 million.

Option C: To freeze council tax in 2021/22 at the current level

While the Council is committed to protecting frontline services as much as possible, if council tax is not increased, this would mean further reductions to council services because the current level of service would no longer be affordable. The Council would need to make additional savings of around £3m on top of the £4.6m which have already been identified.

Q7 Which of the following options would you prefer?

- Option A: increase council tax by 3.99%
- Option B: increase council tax by 1.99%
- Option C: freeze council tax at the current level
- No preference
- Don't know

Q8 To what extent would you agree or disagree with a general council tax increase of 1.99% if it was ring-fenced for a specific service, rather than for all services?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q9 If you would prefer the council tax increase to be ring-fenced for a specific service, which service would you want this funding to go towards?

Q10 The government currently sets limits to the annual increases in both general council tax and the adult social care precept. Should government relax the current annual council tax increase thresholds, to what extent would you support or oppose a council tax rise greater than 3.99%?

- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose

Potential schemes to support vulnerable residents

There is growing evidence that people are struggling financially as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and applications to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme have increased compared to previous years.

Q11 In principle, would you be willing to pay more Council Tax if the increase was used to help residents on low incomes?

- Yes
- No

A number of councils across the country have either introduced, or are considering introducing, a voluntary contribution scheme to fund residents' priorities.

The council has recently consulted on its Council Plan 2020-2024, and is considering opportunities for funding the arising ambitions. One of the four priorities which had strong support is Creating the best start in life for our children and young people.

The council is considering introducing a voluntary contribution scheme to provide additional funding towards this priority. If the decision is taken to progress with the scheme then there will be a further consultation on the detail of how the scheme will be operated.

Q12 Would you support a South Gloucestershire Community Contribution Scheme that allows residents to pay a voluntary sum to contribute towards Creating the Best Start in Life for Our Children and Young People?

- Yes
- No

Q13 If the scheme was introduced would you consider making a contribution?

- Yes
- No

Q14 Please tell us the main reason that you would or would not consider making a contribution:

We would like to understand how residents feel about the council as an organisation, in order to make sure we're supporting communities in the right way.

Q15 Please indicate the level to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The council can be relied on to consistently deliver services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The council is clear and honest about what it does and why	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The council contributes towards improving the local area and residents' wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The council has the public's best interests at heart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The council works collaboratively with other organisations and the public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other comments about the budget and council savings plan

Q16 Please use this space to make any other comments about the budget and council savings plan:

What do you think of your local area and the council?

Throughout this survey we ask you to think about “your local area”. When answering, please consider your local area to be the area within 15 to 20 minutes walking distance from your home.

Q17 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place to live?

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Q23 To what extent do you think South Gloucestershire Council acts on the concerns of local residents?

- A great deal
- A fair amount
- Not very much
- Not at all
- Don't know

About you

Q24 Are you responding as?

- A local resident
- A voluntary, community sector organisation
- A parish or town council
- Other

If 'other' please specify or if you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please tell us its name.

Q25 Please tell us your full postcode i.e. BS* ***

This section is really important as it is a requirement for the council to fulfil its Public Sector Equality Duty by understanding more about the people who use council services and may be affected by any changes to the council's budget. Any responses to these questions will remain confidential, individuals will not be identified and personal details will not be published.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, you do not need to answer these questions.

Q26 Are you?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Q27 How old are you?

- 16 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 75
- Over 75
- Prefer not to say

Q28 Do you consider yourself to be disabled? (please tick all that apply)

- No
- Prefer not to say
- Yes - Physical impairment
- Yes - Sensory impairment
- Yes - Mental health condition
- Yes - Learning disability/ difficulty or cognitive impairment
- Yes - Long standing illness or health condition
- Yes - Other (please state below)

Q29 Which council tax band are you in? (if you are not sure a rough guess is fine)

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- H
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

If other, please specify

Q30 Please tell us your ethnic origin

- Arab
- Asian/Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Asian/Asian British - Chinese
- Asian/Asian British - Indian
- Asian/Asian British - Other
- Asian/Asian British - Pakistani
- Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - African
- Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - Caribbean
- Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - Other
- Gypsy or Traveller
- Mixed/multiple ethnic group - Other
- Mixed/multiple ethnic group - White & Asian
- Mixed/multiple ethnic group - White & Black African
- Mixed/multiple ethnic group - White & Black Caribbean
- White - English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- White - Other
- White Irish
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If other, please specify

Q31 Sexual Orientation:

- Bisexual
- Gay man
- Gay woman/ lesbian
- Heterosexual
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Q32 Do you identify as transgender?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q33 Religion/ belief

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Any other religion (please state below)
- No religion
- Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking the time to tell us your views.

Please return your completed survey by **12th December 2020** by posting it to: Freepost Plus RTXL-YHGY-GSYS, South Gloucestershire Council, Corporate Research & Consultation Team, Council offices, Badminton Road, Yate, BRISTOL, BS37 5AF

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