



Gwynedd Council's Financial Strategy public consultation results

January 2019

www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/financialstrategy

Contents Page

1. Background	3
2. Conducting the survey	5
3. Overview of the survey respondents	6
4. Methodology used to analyse the results	10
5. Main messages	11
6. Overall survey results	12
7. Council Tax question: Comparison of results for different groups (age, gender etc).	16
8. Organisation / business responses	21
• Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax <u>by more than 5.5%</u> .	22
• Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents	34
• Appendix C: General comments by all respondents	41
• Appendix Ch: Comments by businesses / organisations	45
• Appendix D: Arthog Community Council correspondence	51

1. Background

1.1 The financial situation facing Gwynedd Council over the years to come is going to be more challenging than ever.

1.2 In 2019/20 alone, the Council is facing a financial deficit of **£13 million**. This is due to:

	£m
Inflation	9.5
More children and older people needing help	3.0
Further reductions in Government funding	0.5
Total	13.0

1.3 As Gwynedd has been cutting back on expenditure for more than a decade, the Council is now reaching a situation where deep cuts are inevitable. In order to cope with this challenging situation, the Council's departments have been looking for ways to reduce their spending and ways to generate additional income.

1.4 Gwynedd Council has already asked the views of the people of Gwynedd about which local services are important to them in the **'Which services are important to you?'** survey that took place in **September – November 2018**.

1.5 The results from the **'Which services are important to you?'** survey clearly shows that the services the Council provides are either important or very important to the people of Gwynedd or to a specific group or community within the county. In response to what the people of Gwynedd have already said, the Council intends to:

- **protect front line services** by saving a further £2 million in expenditure on central and "back office" services and by finding new ways of providing services that won't effect the public;
- **protect Care and Education** (the two areas responsible for almost 2/3 of the Council's expenditure) specifically by not asking schools to contribute to the further savings needed in 2019/20 and by limiting the contribution of these two service areas to efficiency savings or savings that will only have a marginal effect;
- **protect the Public Transport budget** as this is a priority for various groups that have protected characteristics (people under 25 years old, people over 65 years old and disabled people in particular);
- **limit the cuts that effect the Business Sector** to an absolute minimum.

1.6 The Council has already been planning some savings over recent years, and by pursuing further grants it is possible to reduce the gap from **£13 million** to **£6.8 million**.

1.7 The Council has also identified opportunities to reduce its back office costs even further and is hopeful that there is room to implement further savings of **£2 million**.

1.8 There are two options left for the Council to meet the remaining **£4.8 million** gap for 2019/20 – **further savings** and/or **increasing the Council Tax**:

- **Further savings** – the Council is of the opinion that it can deliver further savings that would produce £1 million in 2019/20.
- **Increasing the Council Tax** – delivering the £1 million of savings through the proposals outlined would leave the Council with £3.8 million to raise from Council Tax. This would mean a **5.5%** increase in Council Tax.

1.9 The purpose of the **Gwynedd Council Financial Strategy** consultation was:

- to explain the financial situation that's facing the Council to the people and organisations of Gwynedd;
- present the two options available to the Council – achieving further savings and/or increasing the Council Tax;
- offer the opportunity for the people and organisations of Gwynedd to have their say on the 65 proposals considered by the Council;
- provide appropriate opportunities for individuals, community groups, interest groups and organisations to note any possible effects on one of the protected characteristics groups.

1.10 As an introduction to the questionnaire it was explained that:

- the Council faces a challenging financial situation over the coming years;
- the results from the consultation will be presented to Gwynedd councillors as information that will be useful in considering how best to allocate the inadequate amounts of money available to fund local services between 2019/20 and 2022/23;
- it's the responsibility of Gwynedd councillors to weigh up all the information and evidence they will receive.

2. Conducting the survey

2.1 The survey was undertaken over **4 weeks** between 4 – 31 January, 2019.

2.2 There was an opportunity for residents and organisations to participate **in two ways**:

- i) Complete the questionnaire '**Gwynedd Council Financial Strategy**' in one of two ways:
 - Online via the website **www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/financialstrategy**;
 - A **paper booklet and questionnaire** available through Siop Gwynedd, the Council's libraries and leisure centres.
- ii) Send in a letter or an email with any feedback or comments.

2.3 A wide range of methods were used to promote and raise awareness of the opportunities to participate in the survey, including:

- publishing a series of **press releases**, which were used as a basis for articles in the local and regional newspapers (Daily Post, Cambrian News, North Wales Chronicle)
- a proactive campaign on **social media** which included a regular series of messages and video clips that were promoted through the Council's **Twitter, Facebook** and **Instagram** accounts and through a number of partners;
- circulating details of the survey to Community Councils;
- circulating details of the survey to a number of bodies to share with their members, including members of the:
 - **Gwynedd Third Sector Liaison Group**;
 - **Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Service Board**;
 - **Gwynedd Business Network**;
 - **Eryri and Meirionnydd Young Farmers**;
 - **Bangor University Students' Union**;
 - **Yr Urdd**;
 - **Age Cymru Gwynedd a Môn**;
 - **arts organisations**;
 - **environmental groups** etc;
- Contacting groups and organisations affected directly by one or more of the 65 proposals.

3. Overview of the survey respondents

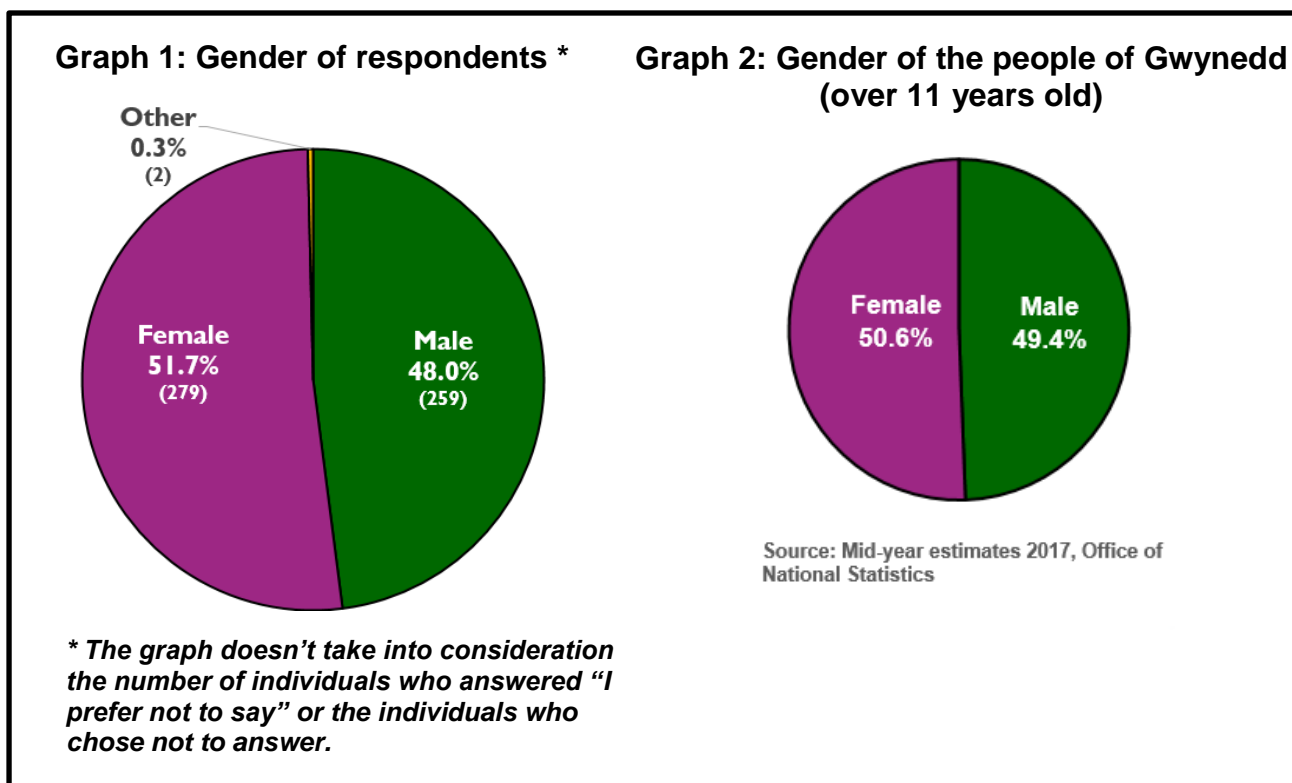
3.1 Over the engagement period **588** people from Gwynedd and **21** local businesses / organisations took the opportunity to complete the survey.

3.2 Gender

3.2.1 Of the individuals who responded:

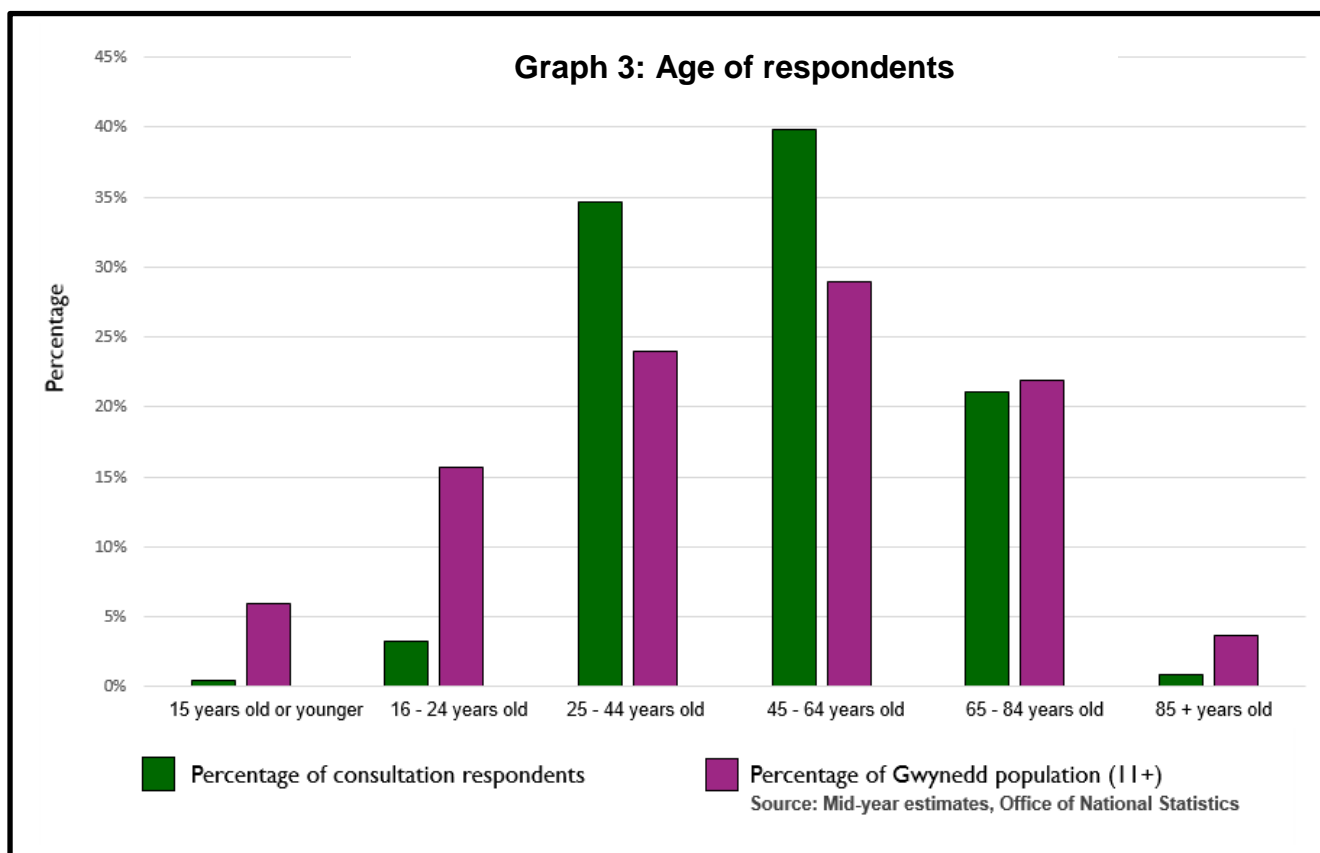
- **279** were **women**;
- **259** were **men**;
- **2** noted '**Other**';

3.2.2 In addition to this, **48** individuals stated that they **preferred not to say** or **chose not to answer**.



3.3 Age

3.3.1 The graph below shows the number and percentage of respondents according to age Group. **33** people chose **not to answer the question**.



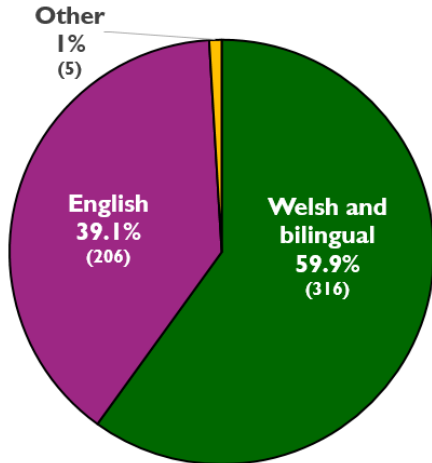
3.4 Language

3.4.1 Of the individuals who responded:

- **310** (52.7%) noted that **Welsh** was their first language;
- **206** (35.0%) noted that **English** was their first language;
- **6** (1.0%) noted that they were **bilingual in Welsh and English**;
- **5** (0.9%) noted their first language as **'Other'**;
- **61** (10.4%) individuals stated that they **preferred not to say / didn't answer the question**.

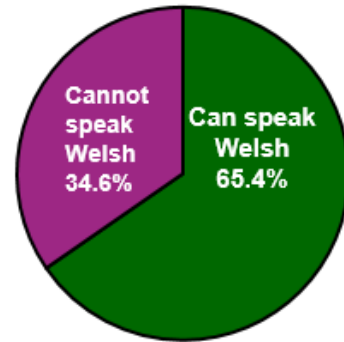
3.4.2 The following graphs show the number and percentage of respondents according to their first language and the percentage of the linguistic background of Gwynedd's residents.

Graph 4: Respondents first language*



* The graph doesn't take into consideration the number of individuals who answered "I prefer not to say" or the individuals who chose not to answer.

Graph 5: The percentage of Gwynedd population over the age of 3 years old that noted that they can speak Welsh

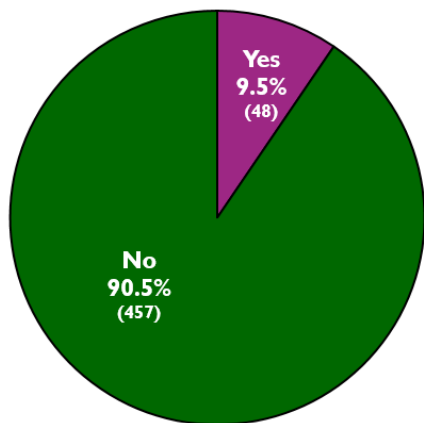


Source: Census 2011

3.5 Disability

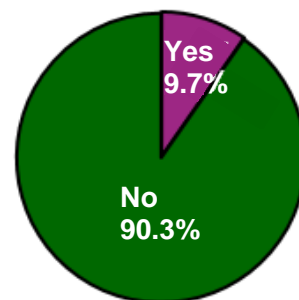
3.5.1 themselves as disabled. **83** individuals decided not to answer this question or chose 'I prefer not to say'. Even though it's not possible to make a direct comparison, **graph 7** indicates that **9.7%** of Gwynedd residents have noted that they have a condition that "severely limits their day to day activities". This compares to the **9.5%** of respondents that noted in the consultation that they consider themselves as disabled.

Graph 6: Number of respondents that considered themselves as disabled



* The graph doesn't take into consideration the number of individuals who answered "I prefer not to say" or the individuals who chose not to answer.

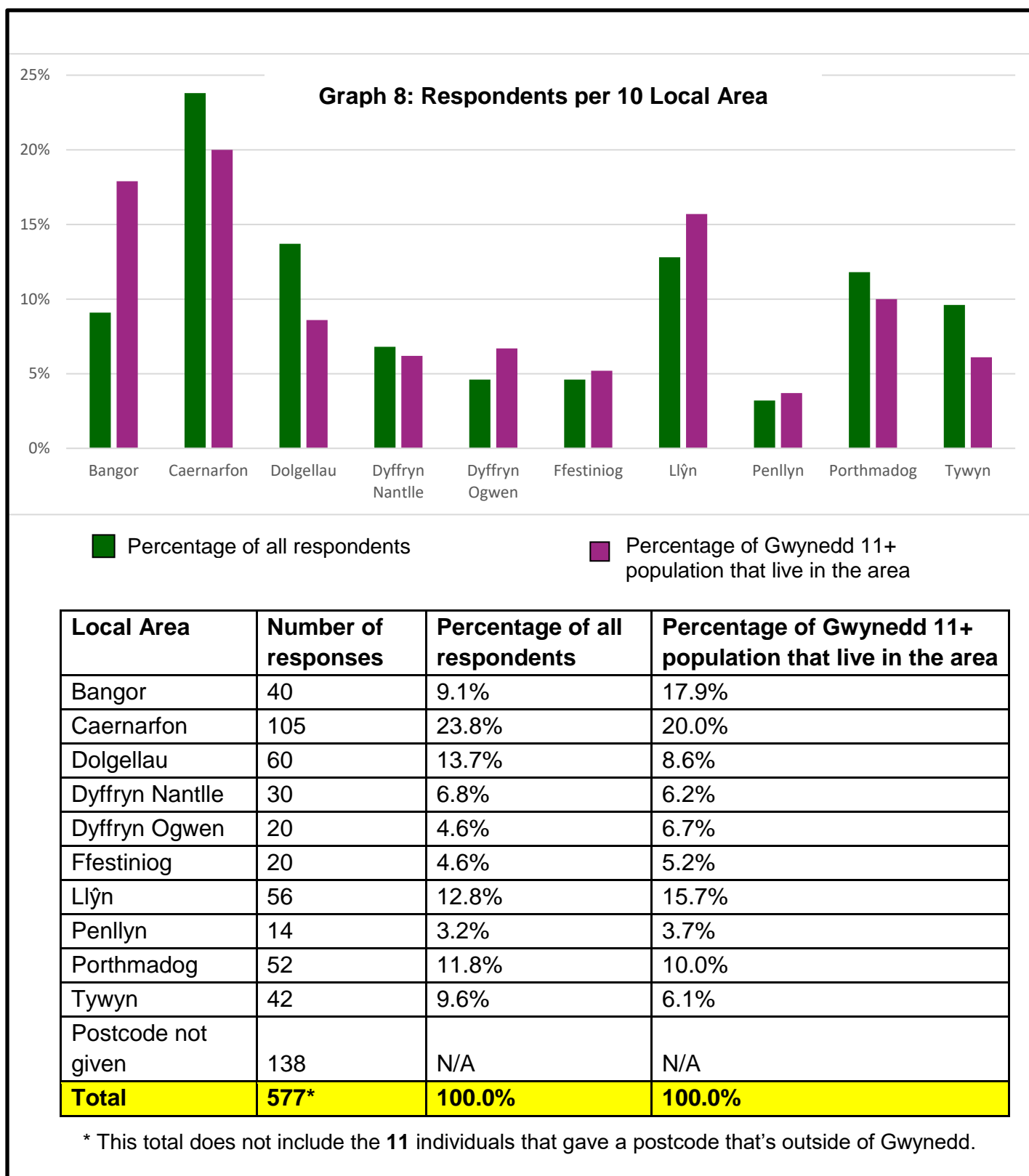
Graph 7: Percentage Gwynedd residents that stated that they had a condition that "severely limits their day to day activities"



Source: Census 2011

3.6 Local Area

3.6.1 The following table and graph shows the number and percentage of respondents per local area. **138** individuals chose not to give their postcode and **11** individuals noted a postcode outside of Gwynedd.



4. Methodology used to analyse the results

4.1 Council Tax question

4.2 The respondents who had chosen the option “*Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20** in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1*” were encouraged to note which proposal/s they felt the Council **should not** implement.

4.3 There was an opportunity for the respondents that chose the following options to note any comments on the financial strategy or to note any possible effects on one or more of the equality characteristics groups:

- “*I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes an appropriate balance** between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level*”
- “*Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20** and **implement more cuts to Services** than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me*”
- “*I do not wish to express an opinion on the Council Tax but wish to comment on the proposals listed in Table 1*”

5. Main messages

- 5.1 Around half (48.6%) of the respondents felt that the Council should increase the Council Tax by **less than 5.5%** for 2019/20 **and implement more cuts to services** than the 65 proposals listed, whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in the services that are most important to them (see page 13).
- 5.2 The other half (51.4%) were either in favour of the Cabinet's option to increase the Council Tax by 5.5% (34.3% respondents supported this), or the option to increase the Council Tax by more than this in order to reduce the number of savings (see page 13).
- 5.3 A small minority (17.1%) felt that the Council should increase the Council Tax by **more than 5.5%** for 2019/20 in order to **reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals** presented to them. None of the proposals particularly stood out as ones to protect by this group of respondents with 43 of the 65 proposals receiving between 1 and 11 comments. None of the proposals received more than 11 comments (see page 13).
- 5.4 A higher percentage of disabled respondents (30%) noted that Gwynedd Council should increase the Council Tax by **more than 5.5%**, compared to the results as a whole sample. Please note that only 48 disabled people answered the consultation.
- 5.5 149 specific comments regarding the proposals were received by 79 individuals that wished to increase the Council Tax **by more than 5.5%**. See Appendix A (page 22)
- 5.6 There was an opportunity at the end of the questionnaire for each respondent to provide comments. The comments referring to specific proposals can be found in Appendix B (page 35) and the general comments found in Appendix C (page 41).

6. Overall survey results

6.1 **Graph 9 shows the results for the Council Tax question. 461** individuals chose to give an opinion on the Council Tax.

6.2 **Graph 10** shows the proposals that the respondents that chose “*Gwynedd Council should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20 in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1*” feel that the Council **should not** implement and are listed in popularity order. The table also notes any comments and possible effect on one or more of the equality characteristics groups. The full comments can be found in **Appendix A**.

6.3 There was an opportunity for each respondent to give further comments on the Financial Strategy and note any possible effect on one or more of the equality feature groups, protected under the Equality Act 2010:

- disabled people;
- people of different ages;
- people of different genders;
- people of any different race;
- people with / without a religious belief;
- people with any sexual orientation;
- people who are transsexual;
- pregnant women / maternity.

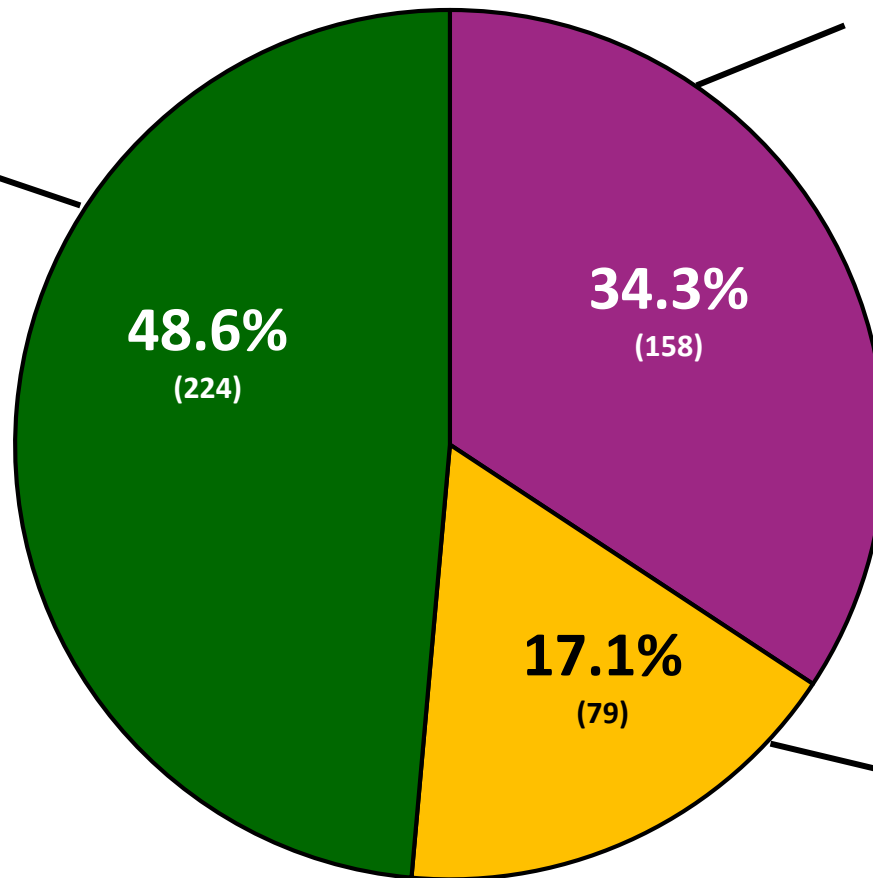
6.4 **134** comments were received on **specific proposals** and **248 general comments** on the Financial Strategy.

6.5 Any **specific proposal** that's received comments can be found in popularity order in **Appendix B**. It's important to note that these comments don't necessarily support the proposal, they vary in comments that support, oppose the proposals and neutral comments.

6.6 The **general comments** have been categorised into themes and any theme that's received 5 comments or more can be found in **graph 12**. To see the general comments in full go to **Appendix C**.

Graph 9: Council Tax question results*

“Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20** and **implement more cuts to services** than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me”

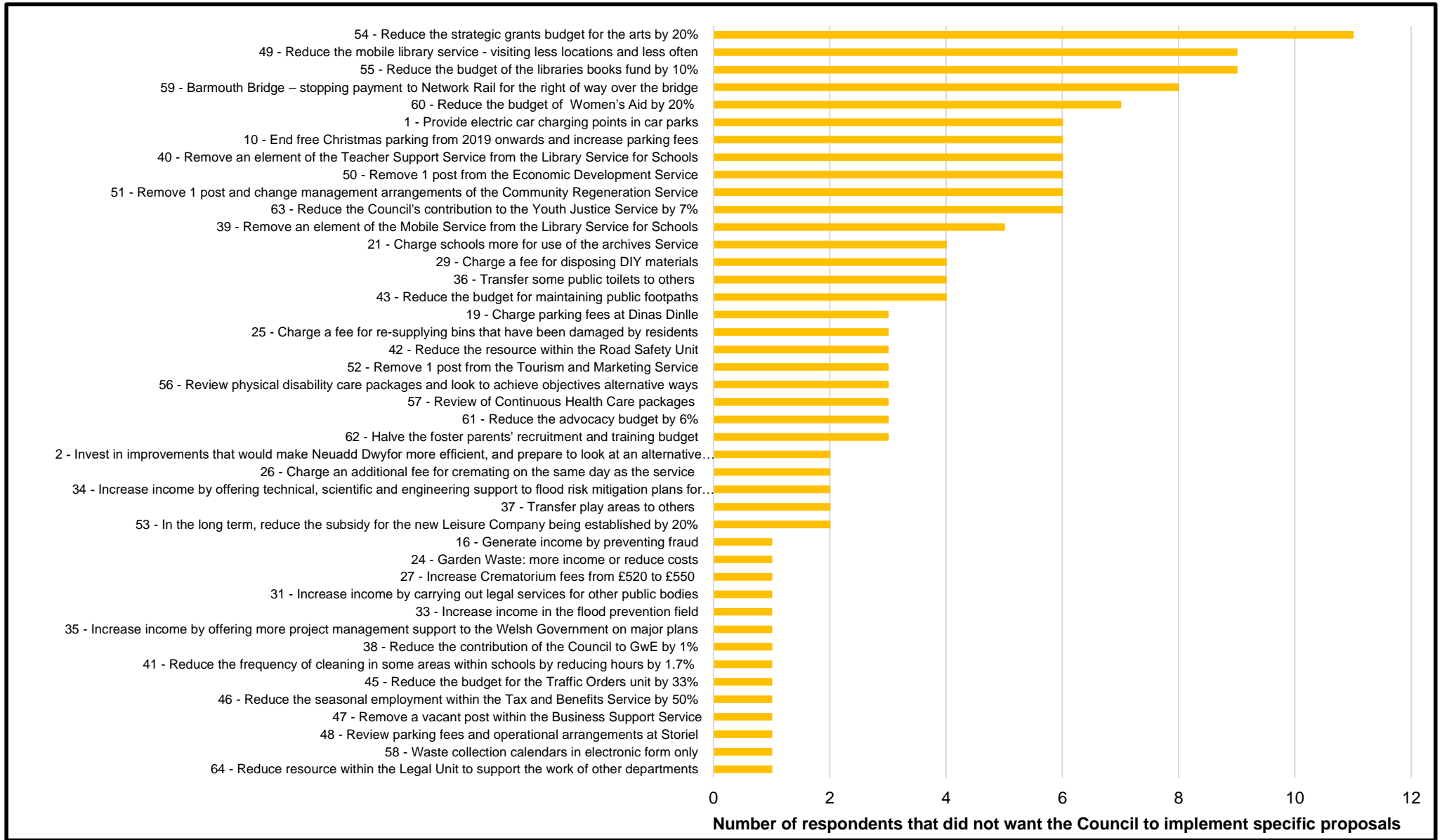


“I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes and appropriate balance** between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level”

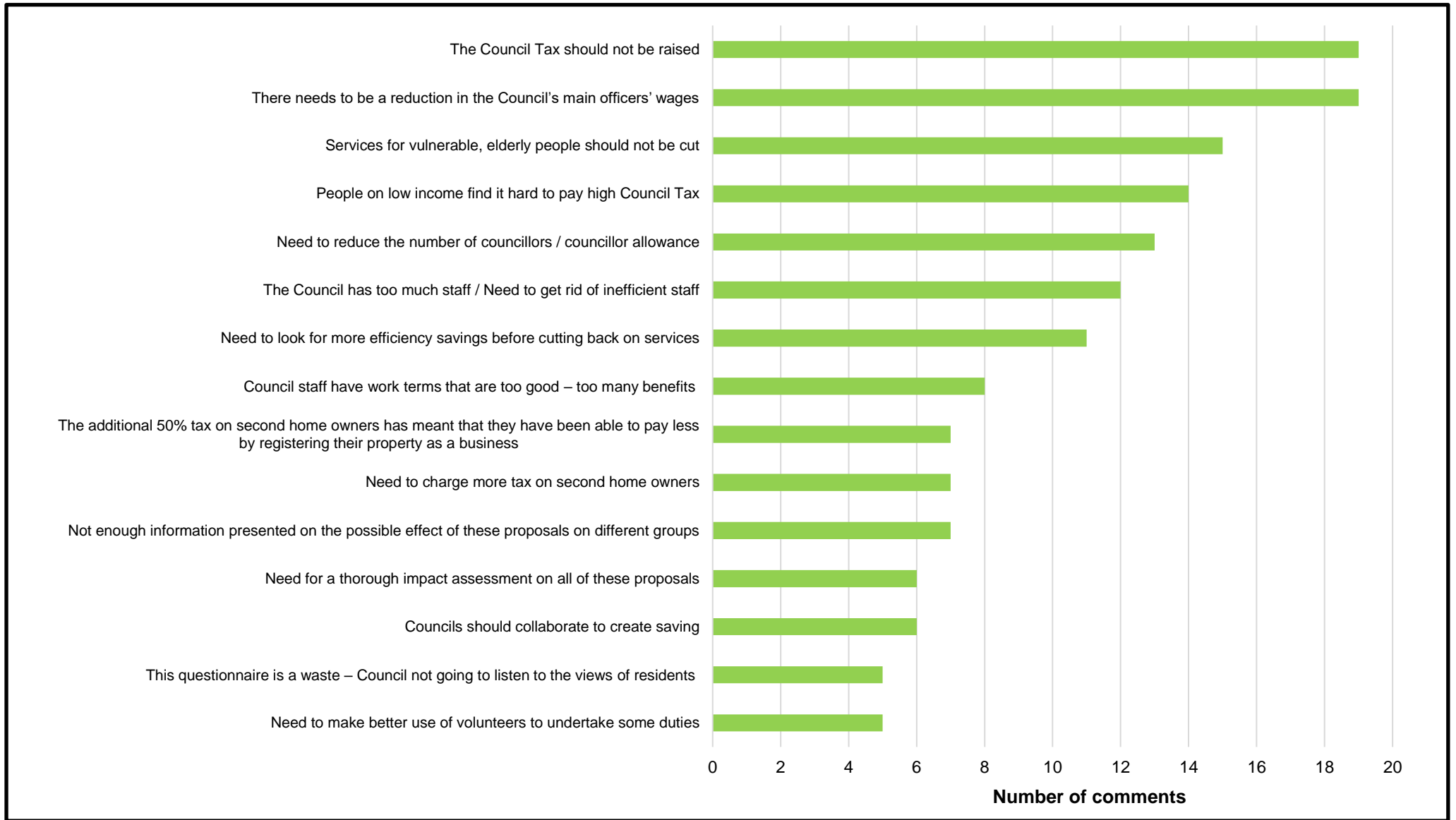
“Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20** in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1”

** 127 of the respondents chose “I do not wish to express an opinion on the Council Tax but wish to comment on the proposals listed in Table 1” or did not answer the question.*

Graph 10: Number of respondents that did not want the Council to implement specific proposals*



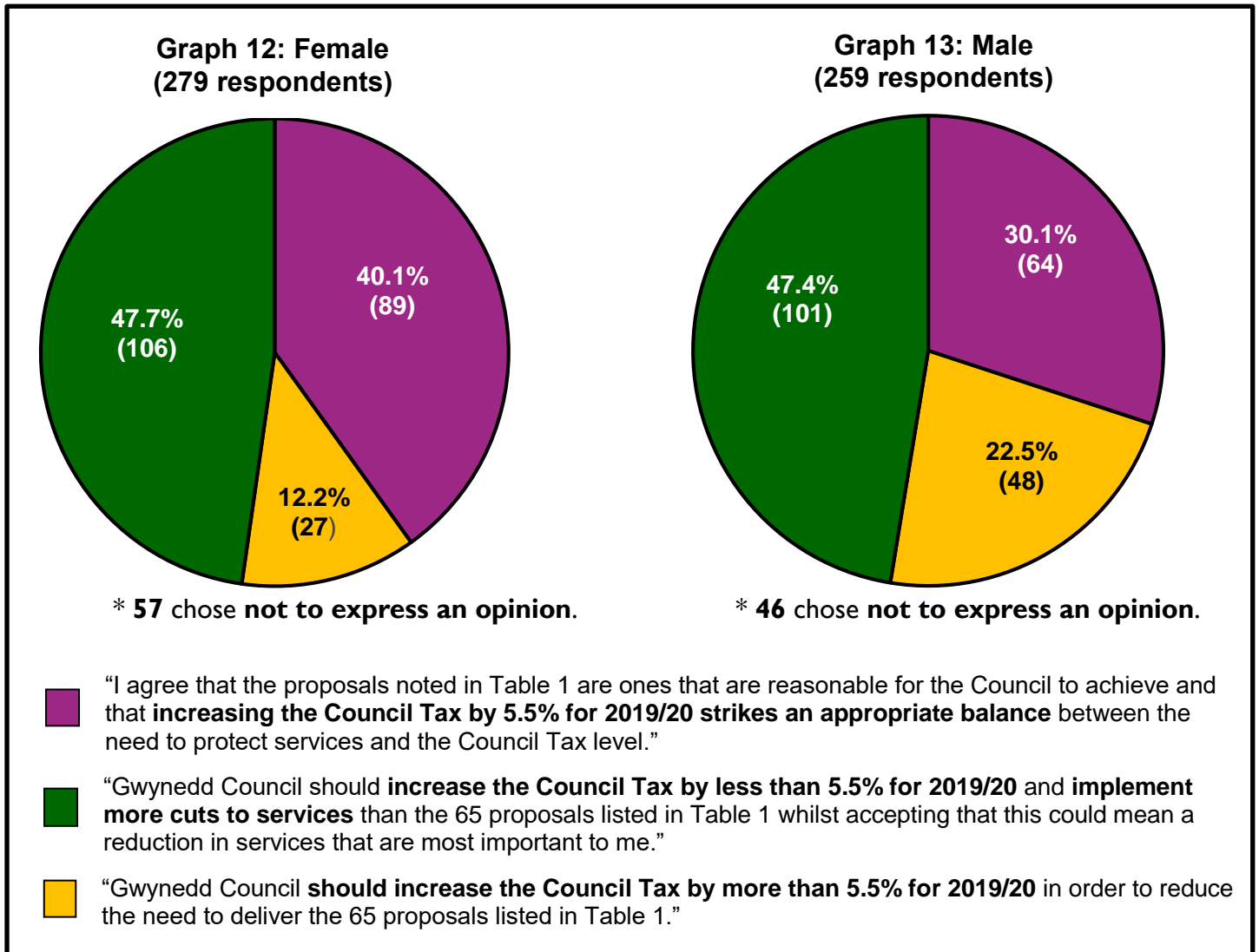
Graph 11: The general comments where 5 or more respondents have made the comment



7. Council Tax question: Comparison of results for different groups (age, gender etc).

7.1 Results based on gender

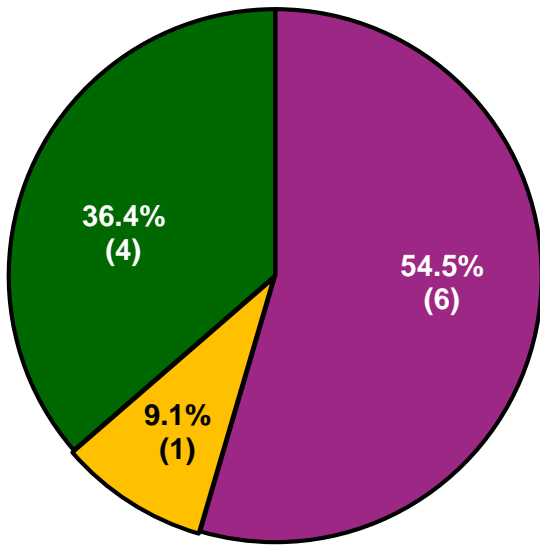
7.1.1 **Graph 12** and **graph 13** show the results for the Council Tax question based on gender. A higher percentage of men (22.5%) noted that the Council should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% in order to reduce the number of proposals, compared to the number of women (12.2%).



7.2 Results based on age

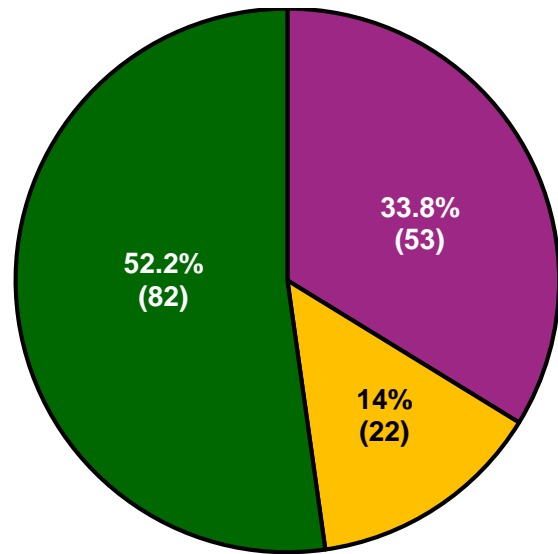
7.2.1 **Graphs 14-17** show the results based on age group. Even though a higher percentage of young people have noted that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes and appropriate balance**, it's important to note that only 20 individuals under the age of 25 participated in the survey.

**Graph 14: Under 25 years old respondents
(20 respondents)**



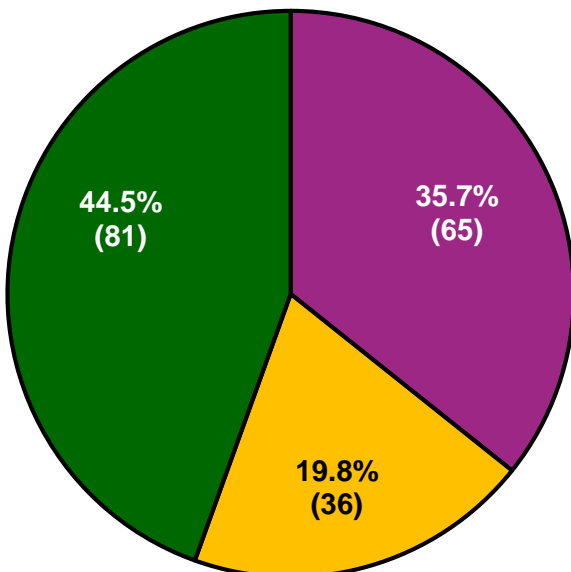
* 9 chose not to express an opinion

**Graph 15: 25-44 years old respondents
(192 respondents)**



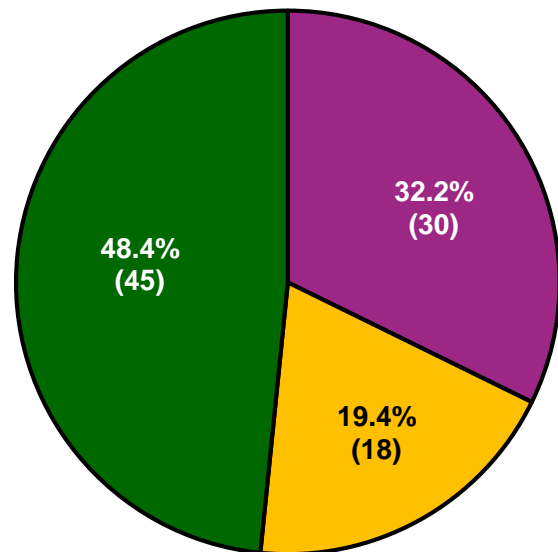
* 35 chose not to express an opinion

**Graph 16: 45-64 years old respondents
(221 respondents)**



* 39 chose not to express an opinion

**Graph 17: 65+ years old respondents
(122 respondents)**



* 29 chose not to express an opinion

"I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes an appropriate balance** between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level."

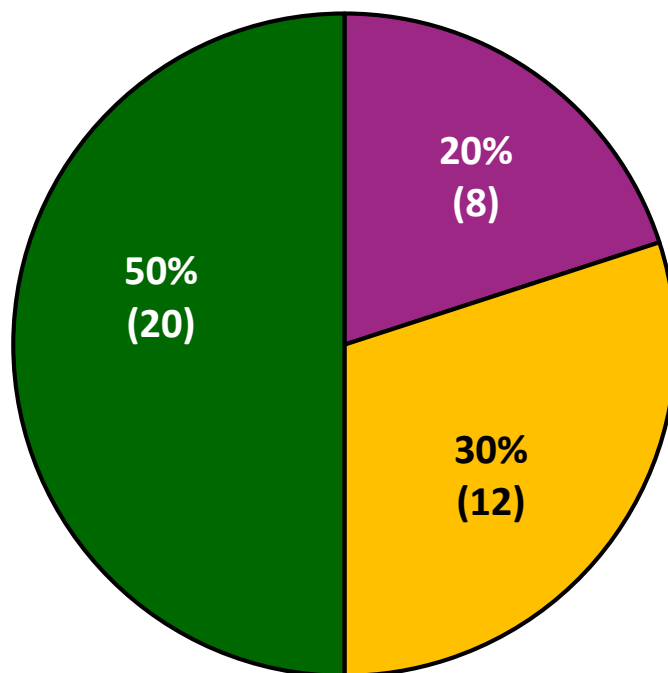
"Gwynedd Council should **increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20 and implement more cuts to services** than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me."

"Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20** in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1."




7.3 Disabled respondents results

7.3.1 **Graph 18** shows the results for the respondents that noted they were disabled. Despite the sample being small, a higher percentage of disabled people (30%) noted that Gwynedd Council should **increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5%** compared to the responses as a whole.

Graph 18: Respondents that considers themselves disabled (48 respondents)



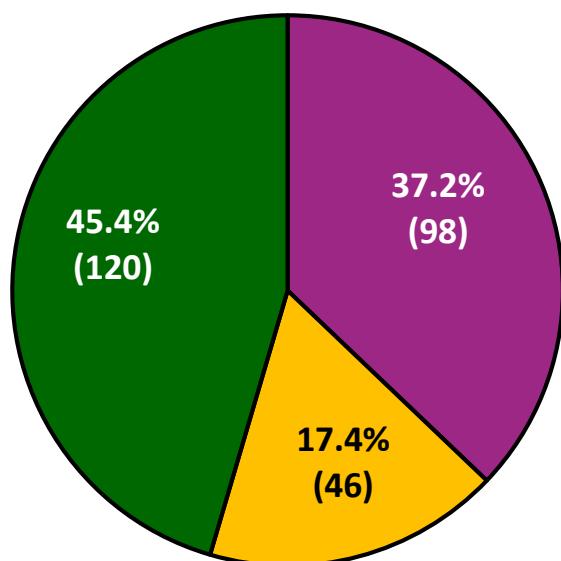
* 8 chose not to express an opinion.

-  "I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes an appropriate balance** between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level."
-  "Gwynedd Council should **increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20** and **implement more cuts to services** than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me."
-  "Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20** in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1."

7.4 Results based on first language

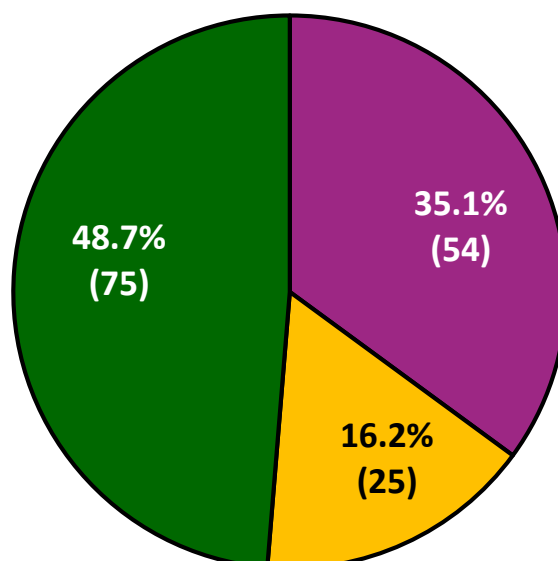
7.4.1 **Graph 19 and graph 20** shows the results based on first language. There weren't any significant differences between the respondents that noted Welsh / bilingual as their first language and those who noted English as their first language.

Graph 19: Welsh / bilingual first language (316 respondents)



* 52 chose not to express an opinion.

Graph 20: English first language (206 respondents)



* 52 chose not to express an opinion.

- "I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that **increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes an appropriate balance** between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level."
- "Gwynedd Council should **increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20** and **implement more cuts to services** than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me."
- "Gwynedd Council **should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20** in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1."

7.5 Results per 10 Local Areas

7.5.1 **Table 1** shows the results per 10 Local Area.

Table 1: Results per 10 Local Area

Tick the statement that best reflects you opinion	Number of respondents as a whole	Bangor	Caernarfon	Dolgellau	Dyffryn Nantlle	Dyffryn Ogwen	Ffestiniog	Llŷn	Penllyn	Porthmadog	Tywyn
"I agree that the proposals noted in Table 1 are ones that are reasonable for the Council to achieve and that increasing the Council Tax by 5.5% for 2019/20 strikes an appropriate balance between the need to protect services and the Council Tax level."	158 (34.3%)	10 (32.3%)	31 (34.0%)	16 (33.3%)	11 (42.3%)	5 (27.8%)	8 (47.1%)	18 (38.3%)	4 (33.4%)	16 (38.1%)	15 (45.5%)
"Gwynedd Council should increase the Council Tax by more than 5.5% for 2019/20 in order to reduce the need to deliver the 65 proposals listed in Table 1."	79 (17.1%)	7 (22.6%)	16 (17.6%)	6 (12.5%)	4 (15.4%)	6 (33.3%)	4 (23.5%)	3 (6.4%)	4 (33.3%)	9 (19.0%)	6 (18.1%)
"Gwynedd Council should increase the Council Tax by less than 5.5% for 2019/20 and implementing more cuts to services than the 65 proposals listed in Table 1 whilst accepting that this could mean a reduction in services that are most important to me"	224 (48.6%)	14 (45.1%)	44 (48.4%)	26 (54.2%)	11 (42.3%)	7 (38.9%)	5 (29.4%)	26 (55.3%)	4 (33.3%)	18 (42.9%)	12 (36.4%)
	461	31	91	48	26	18	17	47	12	42	33
"I do not wish to express an opinion on the Council Tax but wish to comment on the proposals listed in Table 1"	127	9	14	12	4	2	3	9	2	10	9
Total	588	40	105	60	30	20	20	56	14	52	42

8 Organisation / business responses

8.1 **21** responses were received on behalf of an organisation or business.

8.2 We did not ask businesses / organisations to answer the question on Council Tax but there was an opportunity for them to comment on any of the 65 proposals by noting any effect on one or more of the equality feature groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.

8.3 The full list of names and comments made by different organisations / businesses can be found in **Appendix Ch** (page 45).

8.4 Correspondence by 1 community council was received (see **Appendix D** on page 51).

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
54 - Reduce the strategic grants budget for the arts by 20%	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The arts have received enough cuts already (4) • Reducing the Strategic Grants would have an adverse future effect on the range of Arts within the county. • The cultural loss would be far greater than the minute sum of money saved. • Budget should not be cut • Small, local enterprises will suffer – the ones that try to include everybody such as Cofis Bach and Dawns i Bawb. • Strategic grants are important to sustain art organisations. • Investing in the arts is an investment to the future. • The arts is an important sector in Gwynedd and is one that employs young people that would otherwise move away from their local community (2) • The funding by the Council brings in additional finance and grants into the area. • Everybody should have the right to try art events and it would be hard, even impossible to do so without finance from the Council. • The arts in Gwynedd does fantastic work for children and young people’s wellbeing (2) • The fact that there’s demand for the work of the theatre companies based in Gwynedd proves the special work done by those companies – and this raises the profile of the county across the whole of Wales. • I have further extensive concerns about this proposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled people • Young people • All of the equality groups

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
49 - Reduce the mobile library service - visiting less locations and less often	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should only reduce the frequency of the service and not change the locations that the mobile library visits. • This service is vital for older people to socialise, reduce loneliness which in turn prevents costs to the Health Service (3) • It shouldn't be cut if it's well used. • Negative impact on users is much greater than worth of saving. • Books help people with their mental health. • By reading, children learn. • Reducing this service would contribute towards another step in reducing the quality of life in rural areas – no public transport to reach libraries (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people • Disabled people • There would be an effect on each equality group
55 - Reduce the budget of the libraries books fund by 10%	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An educated population will lead to economic growth • The libraries should not be run by volunteers – it's a profession • The arts have received enough cuts already • Another cut to this service would be unfair and unjustifiable • You should ensure a wide collection of current books especially for young children. • I rely on the library for books to help me learn and gain skills. • Reducing the variety of books available would have a negative effect – less use in the long run. • The Council should ensure expenditure on books that correspond to the National Library Standards that defines the local authority's statutory obligation to provide a comprehensive and effective service. • The standards of the service has already deteriorated and it would be sad to see it deteriorate further, the cuts have already been substantial. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children – less educational opportunities • Disabled people – no access to information • It would have an effect on every equality group • Disabled people, children and older people especially those in low income groups that can't by books of their own.

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
59 - Barmouth Bridge – stopping payment to Network Rail for the right of way over the bridge.	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a way to introduce a toll rather than risk the Bridge closing. • The value of this is more than the value of the saving. • Less tourists will visit the area. (4) • Effect on the costal path and National Cycling path. (2) • It's irresponsible of the Council to depend on National Rail to keep the path open if a cut is made in the service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled people • Older people • Children
60 - Reduce the budget of Women's Aid by 20%	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such an important service for children with difficult childhoods should not be cut. • Has there been any discussions with the organisation to see what effect this would have? • The service is priceless – helps with domestic abuse against children, reduces the burden on the health and police service. • This service truly saves lives. • Not the time to cut this service as domestic violence is on the rise. • I know of the benefits Women's Aid gives • A cruel and callous service cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnant women • New mothers • Disabled people • People of any race, gender, age • Effects women, children and some religions
1 - Provide electric car charging points in car parks	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough electric cars in use yet – you should wait to see what the need will be further on. (2) • Need to attract outside grants for this. • This shouldn't be the Councils' responsibility. • This scheme would only benefit those who have enough money to by electric cars 	
10 – End free Christmas parking from 2019 onwards, increase parking fees and the number of pay and display carparks	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It helps support businesses over the winter months (4) • Parking fees are already too high for local residents. • These are three different plans and should be considered separately. 	

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
40 - Remove an element of the Teacher Support Service from the Library Service for Schools	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This service is important to educate children. • Negative effect on children’s literacy. • Negative effect on disadvantaged children. • The value of this service is worth much more valuable to schools than the value of the saving. • Books help people with their mental health • Twofold cuts to schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on children • It would effect every equality feature group
50 - Remove 1 post from the Economic Development Service (reduce staffing by 33%)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This post does not need to be cut because the officer's costs can be added to external grant applications. • Negative effect on the county’s economy. • The post should not be removed – the local economy benefits from it (2) • Save the post but stop spending on Llanbedr airport • The service is key to develop strategic projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would effect every equality feature group
51 - Remove 1 post and change the management arrangements of the Community Regeneration Service (a 20% reduction)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An alternative way of keeping this post should be looked at through discussions with Mantell Gwynedd. • In this uncertain period with Brexit it would be very difficult to remove this post as it is essential to develop community groups and connects the different Council departments to work together which would ultimately reduce costs to the Council. • Negative effect on the county’s economy • A crew that can be relied upon to give support regardless of the challenge and contribute to the local economy by attracting grants that in turn are spent locally. • Getting rid of this post makes no sense if the Council expects communities to take greater responsibilities in providing services within the communities (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less support for communities / volunteers

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Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
63 - Reduce the Council's contribution to the Youth Justice Service by 7%.	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You should look at ways to avoid getting children in to the youth justice system in the first place - this would save money in the long term. You should protect this service to support vulnerable young people (2) Reducing the contact hours and less community projects are concerning – vulnerable you people suffer. By reducing the budget more children will re-offend – therefore additional costs in the long run for the police, health and education services. A cruel and callous service cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would have an effect on every equality group Children and young people
39 - Remove an element of the Mobile Service from the Library Service for Schools	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service is important for children's education. Negative effect on children's literacy. Negative effect on disadvantaged children. An agreement is in place to keep this service until March 2020. Visiting the mobile library is an opportunity that some wouldn't receive otherwise and it contributes towards the development and education of children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on children Disabled children
21 - Charge schools more for use of the archives service.	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree with the cut but it should be implemented more effectively. School budgets should not be cut. It's a small saving in financial terms but a huge loss for the schools and makes the service totally unsustainable. (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on children in schools that don't have much to spend
29 - Charge a fee for disposing DIY materials (e.g. rubble at £3 per bag or £30 per trailer)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will lead to 'fly tipping' and the Council spending more to clean up the mess. (4) Need to make sure that offenders are prosecuted and educated. Need to ensure that only the people of Gwynedd use the recycling centres. Hard to believe that the income would be greater than the cost of administrating. There should be a way of licensing traders to use these sites and generating income by doing so. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on every equality group Generally, disabled people have less income therefore charging an extra fee would effect them financially.

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
36 - Transfer some public toilets to others	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tourism industry depends on public toilets (2) • Negative effect on children, older people and disabled people if they close. • Other bodies don't have the resources to take responsibility of public toilets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on children / people with health problems who depend on the facilities. • It could mean putting children in nappies when they don't need to be in order to go out.
43 - Reduce the budget for maintaining public footpaths	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of a legal challenge which would possibly be more that any saving made. • The public footpaths are already in a deplorable condition and the lack of signage is illegal. • Important to keep public areas tidy and clean. • Footpaths are essential for tourism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not accessible to disabled people, children and women
19 - Charge parking fees at Dinas Dinlle.	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This punishes Gwynedd residents for using a local attraction. (2) • Ruin a popular attraction and in the long term will attract less visitors. • A risk that people to park on the road – dangerous. • It is registered as common land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled people and older people less likely to visit because of parking costs
25 - Charge a fee for re-supplying bins that have been damaged by residents	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be very difficult to prove who damaged the bins (3) • Some would find it difficult to pay therefore recycling rates would decline. 	
42 - Reduce the resource within the Road Safety Unit	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative effect on disadvantaged children. • The team is already small – couldn't cope with further cuts in resources. • A risk to children's safety as the cross the road. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A particular effect on disabled children.

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
52 - Remove 1 post from the Tourism and Marketing Service (reduce staffing by 25%)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative effect on the county's economy. Cutting back the service would be unwise, especially in the uncertain climate due to Brexit. In a time where tourism is on the rise in Gwynedd, it's unwise to reduce the budget. We need to support the growth for the benefit of our economy and communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the equality groups.
56 - Review physical disability care packages and look to achieve objectives through alternative ways	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More intense requirements would ultimately mean higher costs. Needs a full impact assessment before considering this. The danger with cutting back and adapting, especially with complicated matters like this one is that the individual could suffer dearly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disabled people – cutting back on the service could have an effect on their quality of life.
57 - Review of Continuous Health Care packages	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More intense requirements would ultimately mean higher costs. Too much effect on vulnerable people to be able to justify this saving. A cruel and callous service cut. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A huge effect on some of the groups.
61 - Reduce the advocacy budget by 6%	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Services Welfare Act will increase the number that will be eligible for the advocacy service and it is therefore premature to cut its budget and would have a negative impact on the experiences of children and young people. More intense requirements would ultimately mean higher costs. The actual worth of this saving is too little to justify it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on every equality group Effect on disabled children / young people.
62 - Halve the foster parents' recruitment and training budget	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a lack of foster parents in Gwynedd already – this will worsen the situation. (2) Highly important to recruit good foster carers, but there's a need for pooling the communication resources the Council already have. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on every equality group. Children and young people.

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reducing this budget means less recruitment and therefore higher costs of locating out of the county or in residential places alongside the detrimental effect on the children having to be moved often. | |
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Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
2 – Invest in improvements that would make Neuadd Dwyfor more efficient, and prepare to look at an alternative model for future management of the facility.	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the only art enterprise the Council has – it should be protected and enhanced. • This proposal make no sense financially – don't invest 	
26 - Charge an additional fee for cremating on the same day as the service	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very insensitive proposal – it could cause concern to the family. • The Council should consider the needs of different religions before going ahead with the additional fees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on every equality group • Religious groups
34 – Increase income by offering technical, scientific and engineering support to flood risk mitigation plans for Councils across Wales	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This proposal should be assessed in 3 years. • Natural Resource Wales's hypothesis on flood locations is worthless. 	
37 - Transfer play areas to others	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value of play areas in communities is more than the value of the saving. • Health and Safety standards would deteriorate over time if play areas were to be transferred from the Council's care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects people of all ages

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
53 – In the long term, reduce the subsidy to the new Leisure Company being established by 20%	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts should not be implemented until the new company has been established and is running successfully. • This idea will not work. 	
16 – Generate income by preventing fraud	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you know how much income you could charge? 	
24 – Garden Waste: more income or reduce costs	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing collections over winter would make sense but not to stop the service altogether. 	
27 – Increase Crematorium fees from £520 to £550	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial fees are already high enough without adding extra costs. 	
31 – Increase income by carrying out legal services for other public bodies	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This suggests that you have too many legal staff if this doesn't have any effect on the people of Gwynedd. 	
33 – Increase income in the flood prevention field	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This proposal should be assessed in 3 years. 	

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
35 – Increase income by offering more project management support to the Welsh Government on major plans	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the Council have the expertise to manage projects 	
38 – Reduce the contribution of the Council to GwE by 1%	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs to ensure that this service is bilingual 	
41 - Reduce the frequency of cleaning in some areas within schools by reducing hours by 1.7%	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's health should not be put at risk by breaking the cleaning budget. 	
45 – Reduce the budget for the Traffic Orders unit by 33%	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any reduction to the budget of this unit would have an effect on traffic control 	
46 – Reduce seasonal employment within the Tax and Benefits Service by 50%	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This reduction in service would result in delay when helping the people of Gwynedd to pay rent or make a necessary adjustment to their Council Tax accounts. 	

Appendix A: Comments on the proposals by respondents who wanted to raise the Council Tax by more than 5.5%.

Proposal reference number	Number of comments	Reasons given for not wanting the proposal to be implemented	Comments regarding the impact of the proposal on one or more of the equality feature groups (number of comments)
47 - Remove a vacant post within the Business Support Service (a reduction of 25% in the number of staff)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses need more support and you need to attract new businesses and not less in order to strengthen the economy. 	
48 – Review parking fees and operational arrangements at Storiel	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saving is too little to justify compared to the loss for the public. 	
58 – Waste calendars in electronic form only	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not everybody has/wants access to the internet – especially older people 	
64 – Reduce resource within the Legal Unit to support the work of other departments	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is sure to be on the expense of the Council legal work 	

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 10 : End free Christmas parking from 2019 onwards / Increase parking fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free parking over Christmas should not be stopped – attracts people to the streets (8) Parking fees should not be risen at all (5) Need to look at parking fees e.g. Charge £1 for two hours parking etc (3) 	19
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree there shouldn't be a free parking period over Christmas (3) 	
Proposal 59 : Barmouth Bridge – stopping payment to Network Rail for the right of way over the bridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not paying Network Rail for the right of way should not be considered – crucial for tourism and local people wellbeing. (9) Charging a toll to cross Barmouth Bridge would make more sense (1) 	11
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shouldn't listen to the minority – Network Rail should not be paid (1) 	
Proposal 25 : Codi ffi am ail gyflenwi biniau sydd wedi'u difrodi gan drigolion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will you prove who is damaging the brown bins. The bins are of poor quality and are easy to damage (10) 	10
Proposal 24 : Garden Waste: more income or reduce costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cuts should not be made to the garden waste service as it could cause other problems such as people burning the waste, the Council missing recycling targets. (5) 	9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing brown bins collection to 9 months would be a good idea (4) 	

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 54 : Reduce the strategic grants budget for the arts by 20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The arts have had enough cuts already – this has a negative effect on the child and young people development and on local businesses (8) 	8
Proposal 1 : Provide electric car charging points in car parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to look at charging points in the longterm as means to create income (2) No need to provide electric car charging points – not enough demand in Gwynedd (2) Will these charging points be available across the county? (1) Agree that we need charging points but don't feel that it's the Council's duty to provide them (1) 	7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefits to people as electric cars become more popular – those who can only drive an automatic car / less carbon emissions (1) 	
Proposal 36 : Transfer some public toilets to others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the numbers of public toilets would have an effect on the older generation who depend on them when going out. (6) 	7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree that transferring the toilets to others that can is a good idea (1) 	
Proposal 2 : Invest in improvements that would make Neuadd Dwyfor more efficient, and prepare to look at alternative model for future management of the facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council should not continue to run Neuadd Dwyfor as it doesn't run any other facility of its type in any other part of the county (4) Like going to Neuadd Dwyfor but not enough use of the place (1) Closing Neuadd Dwyfor would mean less opportunities for local schools/college to perform (1) 	6
Proposal 7 : Increase the fee for the before school care club from £0.80 to £1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free breakfast should not be offered in schools (3) 	6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A larger fee should be charged for the free school breakfast club (3) 	

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 43 : Reduce the budget for maintaining public footpaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less older people will use the Public footpaths if they aren't maintained regularly (5) • Public footpaths – question the worth of the saving compared to the economic worth (1) 	6
Proposal 49 : Reduce the mobile library service – visiting less locations and less often	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worry about the negative effect on disabled children/adults if the mobile library service stops (5) • You should get rid of the mobile library service (1) 	6
Proposal 21 : Charge schools more for the use of the archives service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees should not be charged on schools – effects on children's education in the long run (3) 	3
Proposal 37 : Transfer play areas to others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worry about children's play areas closing – is this going against the Play Strategy 	3
Proposal 41 : Reduce the frequency of cleaning in some areas within schools by reducing hours by 1.7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't agree with the cuts to school cleaning hours – children should be able to learn in a clean environment (3) 	3
Proposal 58 : Waste collection calendars in electronic form only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone doesn't have access to a computer/the internet to be able to receive an electronic calendar (3) 	3

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 6 : Install LED lamps to the remainder of the county's street lights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED street lights don't produce enough light – can't see properly with them during the night 	2
Proposal 19 : Charge parking fees at Dinas Dinlle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charging a parking fee at Dinas Dinlle and Llanberis will affect the number of visitors visiting the area (2) 	2
Proposal 20 : Increase launching fees across the beaches of Gwynedd from £10 to £15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the launching fees on beaches – maybe charge an even larger fee 	2
Proposal 23 : Increase the income from street enforcement by fining more individuals who litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree that individuals who litter need to be fined – but this needs to be consistent across the county 	2
Proposal 29 : Charge a fee for disposing DIY materials (e.g. Rubble at £3 per bag or £30 per trailer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree that a fee should be charged for disposing materials in Recycling Centres (1) Charging a fee for disposing waste in Recycling Centres is a stupid idea – would result in increased fly tipping (1) 	2

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 56 : Review physical disability care packages and look to achieve objectives through alternative ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical disabilities care packages – collaboration is important but hard to predict financial cuts or savings without doing the research first (2) 	2
Proposal 61 : Reduce the advocacy budget by 6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Services Wellbeing Act will increase the number eligible for the advocacy service therefore its premature to reduce this budget and result in a negative effect on the children and young people’s experiences. (2) 	2
Proposal 63 : Reduce the Council’s contribution to the Youth Justice Service by 7%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the Youth Justice budget would effect a group of vulnerable children (2) 	2
Proposal 3 : Create a new Respite Care Unit at Tan y Marian, Pwllheli which will reduce costs of having to pay for external placements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to conduct a consultation on the new Respite Care Unit – ensure that the care is of the same standard or better than at curent (1) 	1

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 56 : Review physical disability care packages and look to achieve objectives through alternative ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical disabilities care packages – collaboration is important but hard to predict financial cuts or savings without doing the research first (2) 	2
Proposal 61 : Reduce the advocacy budget by 6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Services Wellbeing Act will increase the number eligible for the advocacy service therefore its premature to reduce this budget and result in a negative effect on the children and young people’s experiences. (2) 	2
Proposal 63 : Reduce the Council’s contribution to the Youth Justice Service by 7%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the Youth Justice budget would effect a group of vulnerable children (2) 	2
Proposal 3 : Create a new Respite Care Unit at Tan y Marian, Pwllheli which will reduce costs of having to pay for external placements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to conduct a consultation on the new Respite Care Unit – ensure that the care is of the same standard or better than at curent (1) 	1

Appendix B: Comments on specific proposals by all of the respondents

Proposal	Comments	Total comments
Proposal 56 : Review physical disability care packages and look to achieve objectives through alternative ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical disabilities care packages – collaboration is important but hard to predict financial cuts or savings without doing the research first (2) 	2
Proposal 61 : Reduce the advocacy budget by 6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Services Wellbeing Act will increase the number eligible for the advocacy service therefore its premature to reduce this budget and result in a negative effect on the children and young people’s experiences. (2) 	2
Proposal 63 : Reduce the Council’s contribution to the Youth Justice Service by 7%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the Youth Justice budget would effect a group of vulnerable children (2) 	2
Proposal 3 : Create a new Respite Care Unit at Tan y Marian, Pwllheli which will reduce costs of having to pay for external placements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to conduct a consultation on the new Respite Care Unit – ensure that the care is of the same standard or better than at curent (1) 	1

Appendix C: General comments by all respondents

Comment	Number of respondents that have noted this
The Council Tax should not be raised	19
There needs to be a reduction in the Council's main officers' wages	19
Services for vulnerable, elderly people should not be cut	15
People on low income find it hard to pay high Council Tax	14
Need to reduce the number of councillors / councillor allowance	13
The Council has too much staff / Need to get rid of inefficient staff	12
Need to look for more efficiency savings before cutting back on services	11
Council staff have work terms that are too good – too many benefits	8
The additional 50% tax on second home owners has meant that they have been able to pay less by registering their property as a business	7
Need to charge more tax on second home owners	7
Not enough information presented on the possible effect of these proposals on different groups	7
Need for a thorough impact assessment on all of these proposals	6
Councils should collaborate to create saving	6
This questionnaire is a waste – Council not going to listen to the views of residents	5
Need to make better use of volunteers to undertake some duties	5
Gwynedd Council puts too much emphasis on the Welsh language – additional costs by being bilingual	4
The area's wages are too low	4
Green bin collection should be changed to every 4 weeks	3
Glad to see the proposals to increase income rather than cut services	3
There needs to be a Council Tax increase in order to save services	3
They should look at how much is spent on maintaining roads	3

Appendix C: General comments by all respondents

Comment	Number of respondents that have noted this
Need to look at local Council Tax that reflects the people's means of paying e.g. household income	3
The Council Tax should reflect the standard of services received	3
The results of this questionnaire will not reflect the true opinion of the people of Gwynedd as there wasn't an option to reject the cuts and not to raise the Council Tax rate	3
There needs to be more effort to get money for Local Government	2
Need to turn street lights off between 1am and 5am	2
The leisure service should not be cut	2
The Council offices should be made more energy efficient	2
Council offices should be closed over Christmas	2
Agree that charging fees is a fair way to reduce the effects of cuts	2
Too much money wasted on external consultants	2
These service cuts are going to have a negative impact on disabled people	2
These service cuts are going to have an adverse effect on rural communities	2
Too much support for those who aren't working	2
There needs to be a Council Tax on static caravans	2
Irrelevant comment	2
An effort should be made to fill empty social housing much quicker	1
Lessons need to be learnt from "Her Gwynedd" – give publicity to the decisions made and when they will happen	1
The Council shouldn't run Doc Fictoria and Marina Pwllheli	1
Glad to see that Care and Education are protected	1
It's completely shameful that there's no need for you to be fluent in Welsh to be a police officer in North Wales – attracting non-Welsh speakers into the area	1
Need to ensure that there are signs/information available to tourists	1

Appendix C: General comments by all respondents

Comment	Number of respondents that have noted this
Welcome the fact that the Council is investing to create savings	1
Need to stop spending on preferred education and school transport	1
Need to ensure that each parking fine is collected	1
Need to reduce the number of road inspectors	1
Multi tenancy owners should pay some sort of tax	1
I'd like to see private care homes managed by the Council	1
There needs to be less Councils in Wales	1
Harsh cutting back on services will create a problem in the future	1
Tourism tax should be considered	1
Waste collection staff that drop rubbish on the roads when collecting rubbish	1
I have never agreed that we should pay tax for the Police Commissioner	1
The county's houses need to be re-banded for Council Tax purposes	1
Teachers should go on courses during school holidays – this would save paying for expensive supply teachers	1
There's no need to support the arts to such extent	1
There should be an additional charge to park vehicles that take more than one parking space e.g. caravans	1
There should be a financial penalty for those caught feeding seagulls / not picking up dog waste	1
Too many of the Education Department's staff attracted to work for GWE	1
Too many staff in small schools	1
The current Council Tax rate should be reduced	1
People on low income should receive a public transport travel card	1
You should go after those who don't pay Council Tax	1
The Language Centres should not be closed on any account	1

Appendix C: General comments by all respondents

Comment	Number of respondents that have noted this
Worry about the disabled people/pram access to cemeteries if they aren't maintained regularly	1
Make more cuts to "ring fenced" services such as Care and Education	1
Welcome the Council's honesty regarding the cuts	1
I have faith in the Council's wisdom to make a decision on the expenditure for the year to come.	1
Why is there a need to ask the equality questions?	1
A child membership fee should be in place in Leisure Centres	1
The additional 50% Council Tax on second homes is very unfair – paying more for less services as we don't live here for the majority of the year	1
Getting rid of Newyddion Gwynedd would result in a saving	1
More correspondence / forms should be available electronically	1
The effect of these cuts on the Welsh language should be considered	1
Service cuts could have a negative effect on transsexual people	1
Service cuts could have a negative effect on pregnant women	1

Appendix Ch: Comments by businesses / organisations

Name of business / organisation	Comments on the Financial Strategy	Effect on one or more of the equality feature groups
Derwen Children's Integrated Services for Children with Disabilities	The advocacy service for Children -especially those with disabilities are depleted enough as it is. It is imperative that the voice of the child is heard as reiterated in the Social service Well being ACT 2014 and the Unite Nations 'Every Child's right to be heard'	A reduced advocacy service would mean that Children with disabilities wouldn't have the opportunity to have their voice heard!
Pontio, Prifysgol Bangor	Byddai gostwng neu ddileu arian strategol celfyddydol yn effeithio ar ansawdd bywyd a llesiant pobl anabl, o wahanol oedran ac o wahanol ryw	
Plas Glyn y Weddw	Mae torri y gyllideb celf ymhellach yn mynd i gael effaith negyddol ar y nifer o brosiectau celf yn y sir ac o ganlyniad yn mynd i effeithio ar ansawdd y gweithgareddau celf yn y dyfodol.	Pob sector o gymdeithas yn mynd i gael ei effeithio
Dawns i Bawb	Rydym yn deall y penderfyniadau anodd sydd yn gorfod cael eu gwneud. Mae popeth yn mynd i gael rhyw fath o effaith ar drigolion, gwasanaethau a busnesau lleol fel ein cwmni ni. Dydy Dawns i Bawb, na'r sector celfyddydau, ddim yn derbyn llawer iawn o bres gan y Cyngor. Roeddwn wedi colli 50% o'n grant blwyddyn diwethaf ac oedd rhaid gwneud tipyn o newidiadau i'n darpariaeth Gwynedd mewn ymateb i hyn. Roedd yr effaith yn heriol ond llwyddwyd i gadw'n rhaglen yn mynd. Mae 20% ar ben hwn bron yn amhosib i gynllunio. Mae DiB yn darparu rhaglen ddawns i bobl o bob oedran a gallu dros y Sir cyfan ac yn llwyddo darparu gweithgareddau dawnns i dros 13,000 o bobl yng Ngwynedd pob blwyddyn. Mae'ch cyfraniad chi yn hanfodol i ni gallu gwneud hyn. A da ni'n ddim ond un esiampl. Mae na llwyth o sefydliadau a chwmnïau eraill sy'n gwneud gwaith debyg gyda'ch cefnogaeth ariannol. Rydym yn rhwydwaith cryf gydag arweiniad gan Gwynedd Greadigol ac yn y sector celfyddydol dros Gymru, mae Gwynedd yn un o'r rhai mwyaf addawol achos y ffordd mae Gwynedd Greadigol yn cyd-weithio gyda'r cwmnïau a theatrau. Mae Gwynedd Greadigol wedi derbyn llythyron gan bobl lleol ac ysgolion sy'n sôn am bwysigrwydd cwmnïau fel Dawns i Bawb a sut mae'r celfyddydau yn ymateb mewn ffordd positif i iechyd a lles pobl o bob oedran, i addysg ein plant, i'r iaith Cymraeg ac i'r Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol. Mae gan y celfyddydau lle pwysig yn ein byd a mae partneriaeth sydd newydd cael ei datblygu rhwng Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru a'r NHS yn tystiolaeth o hwn. Mae'r wlad yn wynebu	

	amser caled iawn. Mae celfyddydau'n rhoi cyfle i bobl gael llais, dweud eu dweud, teimlo'n grymus fel unigolyn a chymunedau, rhannu, cymdeithasu a theimlo'n positif. Yn yr amser ansicr hwn, da ni'n angen y celfyddydau mwy nag erioed.	
BCUHB	Cyfuniad o'r ddau yn gwneud synnwyr	Effeithio pob grŵp nodwedd
Sustrans Cymru	Item 59 - Barmouth Bridge – stopping payment to Network Rail for the right of way over the bridge. The right of way across the bridge is an important link for local communities, the National Cycle Network (NCN) and for the Wales Coast Path. The removal of this link would effect a large number of people (over 100,000 people use the Mawddach Trail / NCN 8 each year) in terms of their accessibility, their health and well-being and also the local economy. Every effort should be made to keep this vital link open and accessible all year round.	Any closure would effect the community as a whole but could have an extra negative effect on disabled people and / or people of different age groups
Ysgol Pendalar	Fe hanerwyd y gyllideb yma yn ystod proses arbedion Her Gwynedd. Byddai gweithredu'r cynllun yma yn golygu y byddai'r Cyngor yn gorfod ystyried lefel y cymorth y gellid ei roi i'r 11 prif gwmni celfyddydol yng Ngwynedd. Mae cyd-weithio gyda'r cwmnïau celfyddydol rhain yn cynnig gwerth aruthrol i ddisgyblion yn yr ysgol arbennig. Mae'r cyfle i weithio gyda artistiaid proffesiynol ar brosiectau arloesol yn codi dyheadau, hunan hyder a hunan ddelwedd disgyblion ac yn ennyn diddordeb a mwynhad y celfyddydau ynddynt.	
Theatr y Ddraig	We depend on the small amount of money (just £3,000) we receive from the Gwynedd Arts Fund to attract more funding and to generate further business. Although we are an arts organisation we are also a business and we contribute to the economy - employing people, using local contractors and buying local produce. I think it's unfair to shave 20% off our funding - we have already been cut by 50% and have been hit hard by this. Also it is unfair that people who live near Pwllheli have £100,000 spent on their theatre/cinema but the people who live in Barmouth have nothing spent on theirs. People from remote geographical communities are being discriminated against by these cuts.	
Cwmni'r Tebot	Fel cwmni theatr sydd yn dechrau arni ac yn cynnig cyfleoedd i unigolion ifanc, lleol, bydd torri'r arian sydd ar gael i'r celfyddydau yn drychinebus i ni. Nid yn unig gan ein bod yn gobeithio elwa o'r gronfa ond hefyd am ein bod yn cyd-weithio gyda chwmnïau eraill yng Ngwynedd ac yn elwa o'u profiad a'u harbenigedd ac y byddant hwythau yn dioddef o dan law y toriadau hyn. Cwmni theatr cymunedol sydd a'n bryd ar wasanaethu cymunedau bychain sydd yn aml yn cael eu anghofio ydym ni a byddai toriad fel hyn, wrth i ni ddatblygu yn gnoc. Mae cyfraniad celfyddydol Gwynedd yn un sydd i'w deimlo drwy Gymru a thu hwnt ac mae o'n 'fffenest siop' dda i'r Cyngor am eu bod yn galluogi cwmnïau a mudiadau i wneud gwaith da.	

<p>Inigo Jones</p>	<p>Mae'r cynnig i dorri un swydd yn yr adran twristiaeth yn annoeth ac yn ein arwain i fethu yn ein ymdrechion i gryfhau'r diwydiant.</p> <p>Os caiff ei weithredu ni fydd y lefelau staffio yn ddigonol i roi cynigion ymlaen i ennill cyllid o ffynonellau allanol sydd wedi bod yn y gorffennol, ag all fod eto yn y dyfodol, yn fuddiol i sicrhau incwm sydd gymaint ei angen ag all ddarparu enillion sylweddol ar fuddsoddiad.</p> <p>Byddai swyddogaethau pwysig eraill yr adran Dwristiaeth hefyd yn cael eu heffeithio yn ddifrifol.</p> <p>Mae Twristiaeth yng Ngwynedd yn gwbl bwysig i'r economi leol, ac mae gwneud toriadau mewn adran dwristiaeth sydd yn barod ar ei gliniau yn gyrru'r neges gwbl anghywir, yn enwedig pan mae'r cyngor yn gofyn i'r diwydiant dwristiaeth am gefnogaeth i ddarganfod ffyrdd gwahanol o godi cyllid ar gyfer y ddiwydiant yn y dyfodol</p>	
<p>Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri</p>	<p>Mae Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri yn dymuno nodi'r angen am ystyriaeth i flaenoriaethau'r Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus.</p>	
<p>Cyngor Cymdeithas Botwnnog</p>	<p>Cynlluniau i fuddsoddi er mwyn creu arbediad:</p> <p>25 - Ni chytunwn â hyn gan fod llawer o'r biniau sydd yn cael eu difrodi yn malu wrth gael eu gwagio gan weithwyr y loriau sbwriel</p> <p>36 a 37 - yn anffodus nid yw cyfanswm yr arian sydd gennym yn ein Cyngor Cymuned yn ddigon i ni gymeryd drosodd a'u rhedeg.</p> <p>51 - Byddai'n golled fawr iawn i drigolion Llyn pe byddai Cyngor Gwynedd yn methu cefnogi 'O Ddrws i Ddrws' - colled i bobl hyn a phobl anabl sy'n methu gyrru ac heb fod yn berchen ar fodur i'w cludo i'r feddygfa, i'r ysbyty ayyb.</p>	
<p>Cyngor Cymuned Brynchrug</p>	<p>Pryder ynglŷn ag effaith y toriadau ar drigolion. Dylid ceisio sicrhau nad yw'r gwasanaethau y mae'r cyhoedd yn eu defnyddio o ddydd i ddydd yn cael eu colli e.e. torri gwair, ysgubo ffyrdd</p>	
<p>Cyngor Cymuned Arthog</p>	<p>Gweler llythyr yn Atodiad D</p>	
<p>Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias, Galeri, Caernarfon</p>	<p>Mae'n destun pryder i ni bod awgrym i dorri y grantiau strategol i'r celfyddydau o 20% yn arbennig gan bod y gronfa eisoes wedi cael ei thorri yn ei hanner yn dilyn ymgynhorïad Her Gwynedd. Carwn gynnig ychydig sylwadau ar bwysigrwydd y gronfa hon :</p> <p>Ers cael ein derbyn fel aelod newydd o'r portffolio grantiau strategol yn 2011, rydym ni (Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias) wedi gallu sicrhau parhad a datblygiad nifer o brosiectau pwysig megis Doniau Cudd</p>	

(ein prosiect cerdd creadigol i oedolion sydd ag anableddau dysgu), Camau Cerdd (sesiynau cerdd i blant o 6mis i 7oed), cyngherddau cymunedol, gwaith gyda phobl hŷn a threfnu Gwyliau cerdd o statws rhyngwladol. Mae'r gweithgareddau rhain yn dod a budd sylweddol i Wynedd ar sawl lefel :

- Darparu profiadau celfyddydol safonol i drigolion Gwynedd o 0 – 100+ oed yn cynnwys henoed, yr anabl, plant a theuluoedd gan hybu iechyd a lles.
 - Darparu gwaith i gerddorion hunan-gyflogedig sy'n ymdrechu i gynnal bywoliaeth ym maes y Celfyddydau yng Ngwynedd.
 - Denu pobl o'r tu allan i'r Sir a Chymru i Gaernarfon gan gyfrannu at yr economi leol.
- Creu partneriaethau gyda chwmnïau eraill ac adrannau eraill o fewn y Cyngor megis y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Mae gallu dangos cefnogaeth gan y Cyngor Sir hefyd yn gymorth mawr wrth ymgeisio am grantiau o ffynnonellau eraill o Gymru a'r tu hwnt. Enghraifft ddiweddar o hynny yw ein llwyddiant i sicrhau grant o £198,189 o Gronfa Spirit of 2012 fel rhan o'u Music Challenge Fund. Nód y Gronfa hon yw cefnogi prosiectau sy'n dod a phobl abl ac anabl ynghyd i gymryd rhan mewn cerddoriaeth gan wella iechyd meddwl a lles. Heb os roedd ein 'track record' o gynnal Doniau Cudd gan gydweithio gyda Tim Anableddau Dysgu Cyngor Gwynedd a gyda chefnogaeth ariannol y Gronfa Strategol yn gryfder mawr yn y cais ac yn gymorth i sicrhau'r buddsoddiad sylweddol yma. Bydd y prosiect yn dod a budd i drigolion Gwynedd trwy'r sesiynau rheolaidd fydd yn cael eu cynnal yn Harlech, Caernarfon a Phyllheli dros y 3 mlynedd nesaf. Bydd hefyd yn darparu gwaith i nifer o gerddorion llawrydd o'r Sir, yn cynnwys sawl un sydd wedi datblygu sgiliau ym maes iechyd a lles trwy weithio ar rai o'r prosiectau a arianwyd trwy'r grant strategol yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Yn ogystal mae un swydd ran amser Rheolwr Prosiect yn cael ei chreu.

Yn yr un modd mae Gwyliau Rhyngwladol a drefnir gennym yn dod a budd economaidd sylweddol i'r ardal. Daeth Gŵyl 2018 á thelynorion a'u teuluoedd o 24 gwlad i Gaernarfon am wythnos lawn o weithgareddau gan ddod a budd sylweddol i westai, bwytai, siopau ac atyniadau twristiaid lleol. Mae rhai prosiectau y bu i ni eu sefydlu gyda chymorth y gronfa bellach yn cynhyrchu incwm digonol a ddim yn dibynnu ar gyfraniad o'r gronfa strategol felly mae'r elfen o 'seed funding' yn holl bwysig hefyd.

	<p>Mae'r gronfa hefyd yn helpu i ddenu buddsoddiad pellach yn y celfyddydau gan drigolion y Sir e.e. yn ddiweddar trwy ein grant bu i ni gynnig gwers flasu un i un am ddim i hyd at 15 o bobl dros 55oed. Mae 13 wedi mynychu gwers flasu hyd yma a 8 ohonynt wedi penderfynu parhau i dderbyn gwersi ar eu costau eu hunain gan gyfrannu at gyflogaeth tiwtoriaid cerdd lleol a'n incwm ninnau.</p> <p>Dim ond ambell enghraifft yw'r rhai uchod o sut mae'r gronfa nid yn unig yn cyfrannu at sicrhau profiadau celfyddydol o safon i drigolion Gwynedd ond yn cyfrannu at economi a chyflogaeth y Sir, iechyd a lles ei thrigolion ac yn hyrwyddo'r Sir i bob cwr o'r byd. Mae sawl enghraifft arall ymhlith y cwmnïau eraill sy'n elwa o'r gronfa strategol yn sicr.</p> <p>Mawr obeithiwn yn dilyn y toriad sylweddol o 50% a wnaethpwyd eisoes y bydd y Cynghorwyr yn penderfynu yn erbyn gwneud unrhyw doriadau pellach.</p> <p>O'n safbwynt ni fel cwmni mae'r prosiectau rydym yn gofyn am gefnogaeth ar eu cyfer yn cynnwys prosiectau sy'n darparu cyfleoedd i grwpiau sy'n amal wedi eu tangynrychioli yn cynnwys: Doniau Cudd - sy'n darparu sesiynau cerdd i oedolion sydd ag anabledau dysgu. Camau Cerdd sy'n darparu profiadau cerddorol i deuluoedd ifanc yn cynnwys mamau sydd ar gyfnod mamoaeth.</p> <p>Cyngherddau cymunedol rhad ac am ddim mewn ardaloedd gwledig o'r Sir. Ein cynllun Atgofion ar Gân mewn partneriaeth gyda Adran Celfyddydau Cymunedol Cyngor Gwynedd sy'n anelu at daclo unigrwydd ymhlith bobl hŷn Gwynedd.</p> <p>Mae'r sefydliadau eraill sy'n elwa o'r gronfa hefyd yn darparu ar gyfer sawl un o'r grwpiau a nodir. Er bod cwmnïau yn ymdrechu i fwyafu incwm lle bo'n bosibl o werthiant tocynnau / ffioedd cofrestru ag ati, mae'n hanfodol os am ddarparu yn eang a cheisio cyrraedd pawb bod rhai gweithgareddau yn cael eu sybsideiddio. Un o effeithiau posibl toriadau yw y bydd costau cymryd rhan yn y celfyddydau yn cynyddu gyda'r peryg o fod allan o gyrraedd rhai o'r trigolion mwyaf bregus sy'n elwa gymaint o'r ddarpariaeth. Sgil effaith posibl hynny wedyn yw dirywiad mewn lles.</p>	
<p>Heb nodi pa sefydliad – “Classified”</p>	<p>Having just read it, think you need to consult with local businesses first. Most proposals would lead to people (source funding) avoiding Pwllheli and local areas. Cutting down on services should be a no go. Stopping free parking at Christmas: that hasn't been thought through has it.</p>	
<p>Môr Wyn Guest House, Abermaw</p>	<p>Dim Sylwad</p>	

First Light, Abersoch	Dim Sylwad	
Ysgol Bro Hedd Wyn, Trawsfynydd	Dim Sylwad	
Cwmni Fran Wen	Dim Sylwad	
Cimera C.B.C	Dim Sylwad	

Appendix D: Arthog Community Council correspondence

ARTHOG

CYNGOR
CYMUNED

COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

Clerc/Clerk - ANGELA THOMAS
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Ffon/Phone 07831 697611
Email: cyngorarthogcouncil@gmail.com/angelathomas000@gmail.com

14TH January 2019

Dilwyn Williams
Chief Executive
Gwynedd Council
Council Offices
Shirehall Street
Caernarfon
LL55 1SH

Dear Sir

COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED 5.5% RISE IN COUNCIL TAX AND OTHER MEASURES PROPOSED TO INCREASE REVENUE

Reference to Gwynedd Council increase in 2019 rates and cut in general services

Arthog Community Council, while understanding that Government funding has been cut to the local authority, feel honour bound on behalf of the residents within the Community Council area, to voice major concerns at proposals yet again to increase council rates to local residents.

Gwynedd Council quote that their funding has been cut repeatedly from the national government for over a decade which has put severe strain on the authority's finances with regards to future services. It has to be pointed out, that this exact same problem is being endured by local residents who repeatedly see their annual council tax rise for less and less service, but often well above national inflation.

Gwynedd has one of the lowest overall incomes per person in the UK, said to be in the bottom ten of the national UK league table. Yet, persistently, Gwynedd Council seem to think that ordinary people struggling to make ends meet on these low and often static wages, can repeatedly find more money for this declining service. This is not the case and we, as councillors, are finding local people telling us they are suffering extreme hardship as a result of this continual annual rate rise. These are often people who are in the divide line of working full-time, but not being in a position to claim benefits. Old age pensioners are also often in the same position with a negligible increase in their yearly income not proportionable to the council rate increases. Clearly, Gwynedd Council must acknowledge that pushing the problem on to the residents of Gwynedd is not a solution, in either short or long term. It might be the easy solution from the Council's viewpoint, but it is not acceptable, nor practical, to the Gwynedd residents who have to fund this and see a continual decline in their living standards.

The UK inflation rate at the time of writing falls somewhere between 2.4% and 3%, yet Gwynedd Council are quoting a possible Council Rates increase of 5.5%. With low wages and high inflation, it is clear to see that Gwynedd families will fall yet further behind financially as a result of this out of proportion increase.

Arthog Community Council sympathise with Gwynedd Council's predicament, but at the same time it is clear that the cash cow that is the public are now bled dry and alternative funding must be found, whatever that may be, to make up the shortfall of council funds. We, Arthog Community Council, would be grateful of an explanation from Gwynedd Council as to how said council expects the low earning public of Gwynedd to keep funding these extra fees?

We would also like to raise the issue of Gwynedd Council looking to charge for the repair or replacement of waste bins. It has come to our attention that the green waste bins provided, and the brown garden waste bins, have been fitted with type of wheel axle which, over time, especially in coastal communities where salt air is evident, rusts, rots and breaks down. This then requires the resident to contact the council to initiate a replacement axle. Would it not have been more financially prudent to have fitted axles that don't rot (stainless steel) to avoid this unnecessary expense in the first place? It seems whomever initiated these receptacles did not think the problem through sufficiently, thus incurring additional cost that could be put to better use.

What's more, a majority of damage to bins is caused by the bin collectors themselves who have repeatedly smashed the cantilever access lids on the recycling bins, smashed bin lids on the large waste bins, and snapped the handles off the small brown food bins used for waste food collection. It also brings in to question whether the bins are actually fit for purpose? This suggests to us that Gwynedd Council are not actually in tune with the reality of the actual situation and need to do some research before trying to apply costs to residents who probably have not damaged the bin themselves in the first place. In the majority of cases, the only contact a resident has with their bins is when filling them and taking them to the roadside pick-up point, hardly heavy-duty abuse. It's obvious, at least it is to our councillors, that the greater likelihood of damage is when the bins are being man-handled by the refuse collectors themselves and vehicle hydraulics. Our local residents often complain to us that their bins are literally thrown on the floor and often scattered loosely and are often left encroaching in to the road after the refuse collectors have been. Working people cannot be expected to be home after bin pick-up to retrieve their bins, so some common sense by both Gwynedd Council and the refuse collectors on this point is needed.

Another issue with bins is that in many areas high winds will blow even full bins over. Many residents put a weight on the bin lid to keep the bins in place. The refuse collectors do not put the weights back and the empty bins then blow off down the street. Alternatively, you would expect the refuse collectors to apply common sense and lay the bins on the floor to avoid them blowing away. It needs to be pointed out here, that residents have done what is expected of them and applied common sense to keep their bins in situ, yet the council representatives do not, and it is they that cause many of the issues associated with broken and lost bins. It appears to many residents, and rightly so, that Gwynedd Council are somewhat detached from the reality of this situation regards bin damage and this needs to be addressed.

Again, Arthog Community Council would be grateful to hear Gwynedd Councils response to the above issues regards bin and refuse collection and as to how it aims to alleviate these issues instead of simply assuming the general public are to blame.

It also has to be said that when major businesses suffer hardship, jobs are lost. It is a hard fact of life, but maybe Gwynedd Council needs to look closer to home when it comes to raising rates etc and see if cuts to office premises and even staff might be more appropriate to generate new funds.

We hope that Gwynedd Council will take these constructive comments in the spirit that they are intended. Gwynedd Council asked for comment and Arthog Community Council has replied.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Thomas', written in a cursive style.

ANGELA THOMAS - CLERK
For and on behalf of Arthog Community Council

Cc: Dafydd Edwards
Liz Saville-Roberts

