



Moray Citizens' Panel

Budget Consultation - 2009

Please use this survey form to give your views on the proposed budget savings summarised in the enclosed consultation document. Your views will help the Council to make decisions on how to schedule the required cuts over the coming 4-5 year period.

Your use of Council services

Q1 For each of the services provided by Moray Council, please indicate how important you feel services are for you and your local community. Please circle ONE option for each service

	More important	←—————→			Less important
Community Services					
Community care and social work <i>Including support to older people, people with disability, people with health or care needs</i>	1	2	3	4	
Children and families services <i>Including child protection, adoption/ fostering, residential care</i>	1	2	3	4	
Housing support and homelessness services <i>Including lets of Council housing, property repairs, homeless services, housing grants</i>	1	2	3	4	
Educational Services					
Schools and nurseries <i>Including learning support and childcare</i>	1	2	3	4	
Community learning <i>Including adult learning & literacy, financial support</i>	1	2	3	4	
Sports and leisure <i>Including sports/ leisure facilities and programmes</i>	1	2	3	4	
Libraries and museums	1	2	3	4	
Environmental Services					
Roads and transport <i>Including road design and maintenance, transport and car parking</i>	1	2	3	4	
Waste and recycling <i>Including waste collection, recycling centres, fly tipping and litter</i>	1	2	3	4	
Parks and open spaces <i>Including open spaces, outdoor access, ranger service</i>	1	2	3	4	
Planning and development <i>Including planning permission, building regulations</i>	1	2	3	4	
Environmental health <i>Including enforcement of regulations, pest control</i>	1	2	3	4	
Economic Development <i>Including lottery and other community funds advice</i>	1	2	3	4	
Other Services					
Registration of births/ deaths/ marriages	1	2	3	4	
Council estates management	1	2	3	4	
Council Tax collection & benefits service	1	2	3	4	
Financial & IT support to Council services	1	2	3	4	
Road, fire and home safety projects	1	2	3	4	

Your views on budget proposals

A significant reduction in public funding is expected across Scotland over the next few years to deal with the unprecedented level of current UK debt. As a result all local authorities will be required to make substantial savings in their budgets.

Council Officers and Councillors in Moray have been undertaking a major review of all Council budgets over the past four months to identified potential savings. The enclosed consultation document sets out specific cuts to be made over the next 4 years.

These cuts will need to be made to take account of the expected cut in government funding. However the Council would like to hear your views on issues affecting how cuts should be timed over a 4 year period.

Please use this section of the questionnaire to raise any substantial reasons for some specific cuts to be delayed until later in the 4 year period. These might include cases where you think making proposed cuts earlier in the period will jeopardise other services, or where you think a longer period of time is required to plan and prepare for required cuts.

Q2a Issues relating to Community Services.

Proposed savings here include...replacing young people's residential care with specialist fostering; reviewing learning disability and older people services; reducing the Council's contribution to a range of support, advice and counselling services; reducing administrative and management costs.

Q2b Issues relating to Educational Services.

Proposed savings here include...reducing the Childcare Service budget; reducing schools' budgets in relation to management, class sizes, teachers professional development and Additional Support services; ceasing provision of free bread and milk with school meals; reducing Additional Support reducing community learning, libraries, leisure and arts budgets.

Issues relating to Environmental Services

Q2c Proposed savings here include...reducing waste management advertising and monitoring budgets; reducing budgets for roads maintenance; restructuring Speyside Way and Ranger Services; reducing grounds maintenance budgets; increasing car parking charges; restructuring planning and development sections; reducing Tobacco Control services; increasing charges or work volume for Pest Control; increasing HMO licensing charges.

Issues relating to Other Services

Q2d Proposed savings here include...reduce budgets for detection of fraudulent benefit claims; savings through the creation of a joint revenues and benefits service with other Councils; reducing spending on road safety and fire and home safety projects; cease grant to Moray Youth Justice, Victim Support and violence reduction; cease production of antisocial behaviour statistics.

The timing of savings

Q3 Thinking about the proposed budget savings for each service, and any issues you have mentioned at Q2a to Q2d, please give your views on how cuts should be timed over the 4 year period. For each service please indicate if you think that, overall, cuts should be made earlier or later in the period to 2014. Please circle ONE option for each service

	EARLIER 2010 ←————→ LATER 2014					
Community Services						
Community care and social work	1	2	3	4	5	6
Children and families services	1	2	3	4	5	6
Housing support and homelessness services	1	2	3	4	5	6
Educational Services						
Schools and nurseries	1	2	3	4	5	6
Community learning	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sports and leisure	1	2	3	4	5	6
Libraries and museums	1	2	3	4	5	6
Environmental Services						
Roads and transport	1	2	3	4	5	6
Waste and recycling	1	2	3	4	5	6
Parks and open spaces	1	2	3	4	5	6
Planning and development	1	2	3	4	5	6
Environmental health	1	2	3	4	5	6
Economic development	1	2	3	4	5	6
Other Services						
Registration of births/ deaths/ marriages	1	2	3	4	5	6
Council estates management	1	2	3	4	5	6
Council Tax collection & benefits service	1	2	3	4	5	6
Financial & IT support to Council services	1	2	3	4	5	6
Road, fire and home safety projects	1	2	3	4	5	6

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

Please return your completed questionnaire using the reply PRE PAID envelope provided to:
Craigforth, 47 Stirling Business Centre, Wellgreen, Stirling, FK8 2DZ

ANY QUERIES?

Freephone **0800 027 2245** or Email **office@craigforth.co.uk**

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