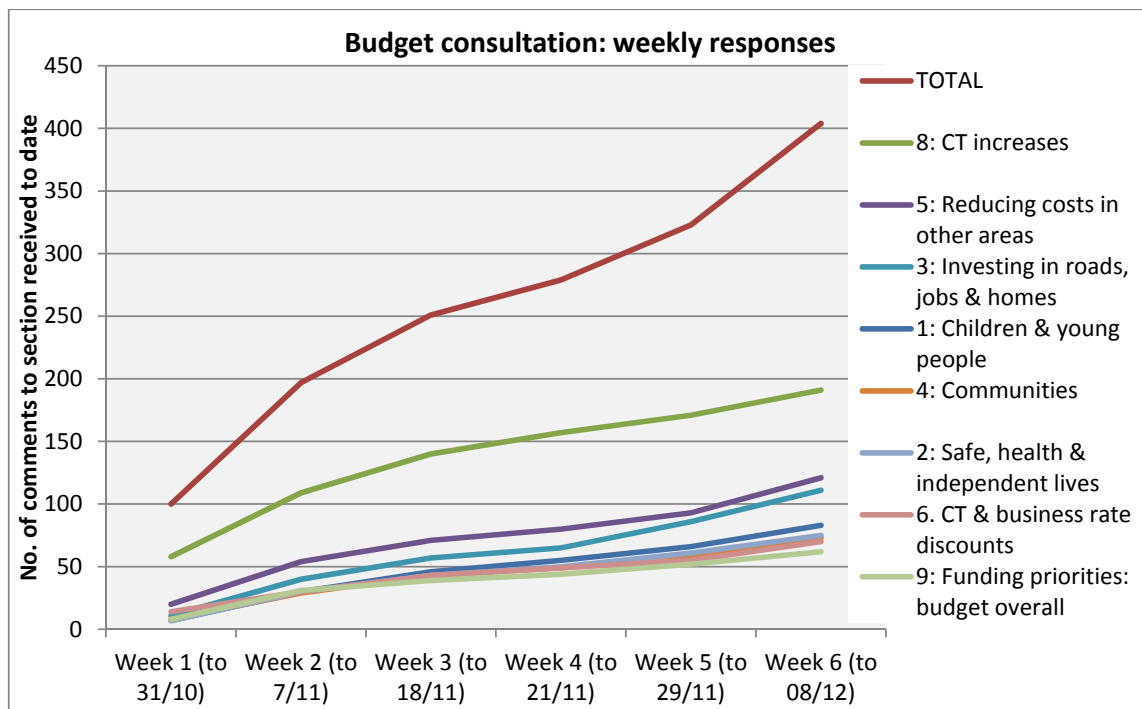


## Budget 2014/15 Consultation

### Position as at week 7 of 8 (week ending 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.2013)

#### Background

- The Budget 2014/15 consultation went live on Thursday 24th October 2013 and closes on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. This report considers the responses received **by the 15th December**.
- Online responses can be submitted to individual section(s) of the proposals on the council website, or to the whole consultation at once. The latter collects some demographic information about respondents.
- The full survey form is available to print on the website, but paper copies are also being supplied on request; so far three individuals have been sent hard copies (including one large print version) and forty copies were printed for the Courtyard (they requested 200).
- **By the 16th, a total of 523 individual responses had been received**
  - 367 comments to the different sections on the website.
  - 150 responses to the full consultation form online (i.e. comments about one or more sections of the budget consultation proposal from the same person)
  - 6 hard copies posted to the council.
- Since end of November, the most comments week have been received about **section 5: reducing costs in other areas** (85 comments). Many of these mention funding to libraries and Borderlines film festival. The second highest amount of comments since end of November were from **section 3: investing in roads, jobs and homes** (53 comments). Many of these mention the Citizens' Advice Bureau. The highest number of comments overall is still for **section 8: Council Tax increases** (212 comments). See chart and table below.



<b>Theme</b>	<b>Total responses up to 15th Dec</b>	<b>Responses since 29th Nov</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>200</b>
8: CT increases	212	41
5: Reducing costs in other areas	178	85
3: Investing in roads, jobs & homes	139	53
1: Children & young people	102	36
4: Communities	95	36
2: Safe, health & independent lives	93	32
6. CT & business rate discounts	83	28
9: Funding priorities: budget overall	78	26