

**Budget 20/21 and corporate
priorities (2020 -2024)**

Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny
committee

13th January 2020

Corporate plan

Herefordshire Council *Our ambition for Herefordshire*

 "Respecting the past, shaping our future - we will help strengthen and encourage vibrant communities, create a thriving local economy and protect and enhance our environment".

 <p>Environment Protect our environment and keep Herefordshire a great place to live</p>	 <p>Community Build communities to ensure everyone lives well and safely together</p>	 <p>Economy Support an economy which builds on the county's strengths and resources</p>
--	---	---

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce waste and increase reuse, repair and recycling ➤ Improve and extend active travel options throughout the county ➤ Contribute to tackling the climate emergency by investing in low carbon projects to further reduce our carbon footprint and reduce running costs ➤ Ensure the best use of the county's natural resources ➤ Protect the county's biodiversity, value nature and uphold environmental standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure all children are healthy, safe and inspired to achieve ➤ Ensure that children in care, and moving on from care, are well supported and make good life choices ➤ Build our own sustainable and affordable houses and bring empty properties back into use ➤ Protect and improve the lives of vulnerable people ➤ Use technology to assist with daily living and keep people at home ➤ Support communities to help each other through a network of community hubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop environmentally sound infrastructure that attracts investment ➤ Use council land to create economic opportunities and bring higher paid jobs to the county ➤ Invest in education and the skills needed by employers ➤ Enhance digital connectivity for communities and business ➤ Protect and promote our heritage, culture and natural beauty to increase tourism ➤ Invest public money locally wherever possible
--	---	---

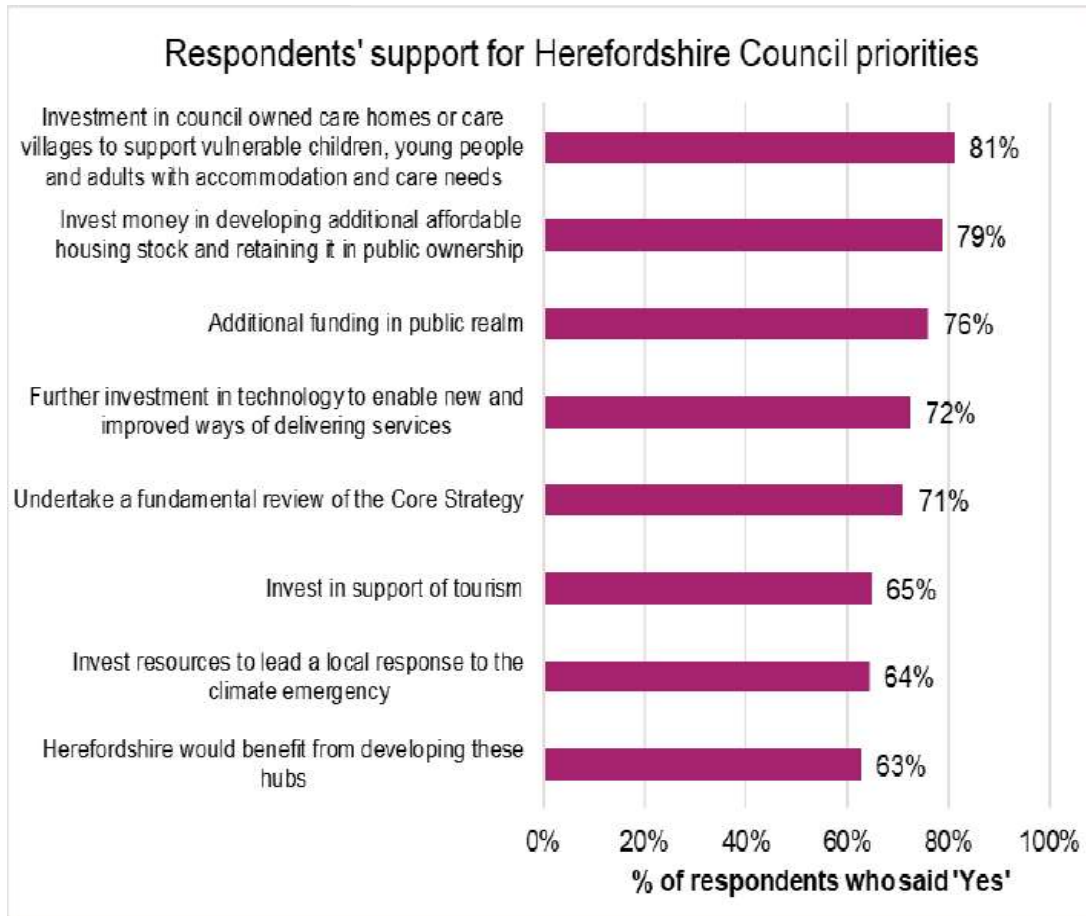
Our principles

Partnership | We collaborate to maximise our strengths and resources
 Sustainability | We use resources wisely so Herefordshire is preserved for future generations
 Integrity | We make decisions based on evidence and work with respect, openness and accountability
 Democracy | We strengthen local democracy, decision making and service delivery and involve more young people
 Communication | We listen to and learn from our communities and help people connect through culture, creativity and care

 hfdscouncil www.herefordshire.gov.uk

- Updated “1 page plan” developed to set out the ambitions of the council and the principle ways of working
- Key ambitions remain as stated in November
- Changes reflect conclusion of consultation

Feedback from consultation on proposals - priorities



There was majority support for all of the areas identified for additional investment, with as many as four out of five agreeing with additional investment in council-owned care homes or villages (81%) and publicly-owned affordable housing (79%).

Feedback from consultation on proposals - budget

- 4% council tax increase; 51.5% was about right or too little
- A small majority (53%) disagreed with the allocation of Council Tax as set out in the budget till receipt
- Comments that expressed an opinion about the allocation of spend were mostly saying that not enough was allocated to particular services, rather than too much. Services mentioned most frequently were related to the environment and place.

Net Revenue Budget 2020/21 – following provisional settlement

	£k
Council Tax assumed 3.9%	109,780
Business rates	36,726
Revenue Support Grant	635
Rural services delivery grant	5,101
Adult social care grant	4,875
Total net budget	157,117

The Base Net Budget requirement

Directorate	Base at November scrutiny £k	Legal services £k	PWLB interest £k	Base Budget £k
Adults and Communities	56,282			56,282
Social care pool	2,054			2,054
Children and families	30,699			30,699
Economy and Place	28,955			28,955
Corporate Services	15,803	700		16,303
Total Directorate	133,793	700		134,493
Central	22,306		318	22,624
Total Net Budget	156,099	700	318	157,117

Adults & Wellbeing – no change from November

	19/20 revised base £m	Savings £m	Contract inflation £m	Demographic pressures £m	Super hubs £m	Total £m
Proposed revenue budget	54.0	(0.6)	1.7	1.0	0.2	56.3

Capital Investment Proposal	Current Capital Programme £m	Total 20/21 £m	Total 21/22 £m	Total 22/23 £m	Redirected funding £m	Capital receipt funding £m	Funded by ROI £m	Corporate Funded PB £m	Total Request £m
Technology Enabled Communities	-	0.3	1.2	-	1.500	-	-	-	1.5
Super Hubs	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	2.0	2.0
Care Home and Extra Care Development	0.9	-	-	13.1	-	6.11	7.0	-	13.1
Bringing empty properties back into use	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.3	-	0.8	-	-	0.8
Total	1.7	2.5	1.5	13.4	1.500	6.9	7.0	2.0	17.4

Potential additional investment

Investigation of different models of delivering council housing, undertaking a detailed analysis of the options available, including the establishment of a wholly owned housing company, to enable the delivery and management of new homes to better meet the needs of residents. Following this a business case will be developed for consideration and further investment.

This could lead to investing up to £100m in housing in the four years from 2022/23, it is anticipated that the income streams generated would cover the revenue costs of providing the housing including any borrowing costs.

2020/21 Assumptions

- 3.9% increase in Council Tax (1.9% general, 2% Adults Social Care) Band D = £1,573.77 increase of £1.14 per week;
- Improved better care fund (ibcf) £6.6m (£5.4m Adults and £1.2m new schemes);
- Public Health grant of £9.2m, ring fence to continue;
- Provisional settlement shared, consultation open until 17 January, final settlement will follow
- Work continues on calculating the impact of the rise in the national living wage from April, assumptions are currently that this can be managed however it is a budget risk