

21 NOVEMBER 2007

Milton Keynes Council Your money, Your choice: Budget Consultation 2008/09

In order to develop our future plans we need your views to find out what issues are important to you, what most needs improving and what you think we need to concentrate our resources on. This information is particularly important as it will help us make decisions about our budget for the coming financial year 2008/09.

The Council is committed to listening and responding to the views of residents and we want to provide you with the opportunity to be involved in decision-making.

Your answers and the views you express individually are absolutely confidential.

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by ticking the boxes that match your opinion.

Alternatively, you can complete the questionnaire online at:
www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/budget-consultation.

Please return your completed questionnaire to the FREEPOST address below no later than **12TH NOVEMBER 2007**:

Budget 2008,
FREEPOST ANG7122,
Milton Keynes Council,
Civic Offices,
1 Saxon Gate East, MK9 3JB

1. Priorities

Q1) Looking at the main services the council provides, please indicate for each one whether you think spending should be increased, stay the same or be reduced. Please tick one for each.

I think we should be spending...

| | <i>more</i> | <i>the same</i> | <i>less</i> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Abandoned vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adult education | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arts and entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Set standards for the design & construction of buildings to ensure health & safety of people in or about those buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bus services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Care and support for older people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Care and support for people with mental health problems, learning & physical disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Crime prevention and community safety | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Council Tax and Housing Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Council Tax collection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Early years and childcare | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Elections | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Helping create new jobs and businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Housing needs/homelessness | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maintenance of roads and footpaths | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Museums and heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Parks and open spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pest control & noise nuisance | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reducing traffic congestion | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Refuse collection, disposal and recycling | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regeneration of older areas | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Registrars (births, deaths & marriages) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schools | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sheltered housing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sports facilities and leisure centres | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Street cleaning and litter removal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Support for schools | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Support for vulnerable children | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taxi licensing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trading standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Youth services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| None of the above | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Spending Levels

2) The council's current Administration has made a pledge to keep Council Tax rises to no more than the rate of inflation. However, they would still like to know how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements: Please tick one box for each

A) It is important for the council to maintain current levels of service even if this means increasing Council Tax?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

B) It is important for the council to improve current levels of service even if this means increasing Council Tax

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

C) It is important not to increase Council Tax even if this means a reduction in the levels of some services

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

D) Are there any other issues we should take into account when considering next year's budget and Council Tax?

3. About You

We ask these questions only to help us analyse the survey results.
Your responses are confidential.

Q3) What is your age? Please tick one only.

- under 24
- 25-44
- 45-59
- 60-74
- 75 years and over

Q4) Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female

Q5) Which of the following best describes your ethnic background? Please tick one only.

- White (British)
- White (Irish)
- Mixed (White & Black Caribbean)
- Mixed (White & Black African)
- Mixed (White & Asian)
- Asian (Indian)
- Asian (Pakistani)
- Asian (Bangladeshi)
- Black (Caribbean)
- Black (African)
- Chinese
- Prefer not to say
- Other

If Other, please specify

Q6) Do you consider yourself to have a disability? Please tick one only.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q7) What is your postcode?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

**If you have experienced any problems with this questionnaire please contact
Robina Nawaz telephone 01908 252696 or email [budget@milton-
keynes.gov.uk](mailto:budget@milton-keynes.gov.uk)**