

## **Parish Funding Consultation Results Summary**

### **About the Consultation**

The parish funding consultation was held from 1 June 2013 to 16 August 2013.

Milton Keynes Council sought feedback on the distribution of parish funding within 2014/15.

The proposal was to base the distribution of funding in 2014/15 in the same way as the current year's process of allocating the grant. This approach means parish funding would be distributed in a way which allocates the overall precept loss evenly between each parish, based on an equal percentage loss of income.

In addition, to ensure an efficient parish precepting reporting process between the parishes and Milton Keynes Council, the Council also sought views on two alternative annual precept reporting templates.

The consultation was publicised through the following:

- Email correspondence to all parish clerks.
- Consultation published on Council website.
- A Briefing at June 2013 Parish Forum.
- Consultation published in 'Members Weekly' publication.

Responses are detailed below:

### **Q1. Do you have any comments on the proposed parish grant distribution for 2014/15?**

**Twenty one** responses to this question were received. **Nineteen** respondents supported the current grant distribution methodology proposed in the consultation.

One of these respondents, although agreeing with the proposed methodology, raised a number of other issues including:

- Milton Keynes Council should make a two or three year commitment to top-up the Government grant in full for each parish council.
- Any assessment of any losses to each parish council should be based on the precept for 2013-14.
- The Council Tax non collection provision calculation should be applied to the Council Tax Base before adjustments are made to the Tax Base as a result of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The **two** remaining respondents raised issues around understanding the financial impact of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The first response was from a parish council who confirmed that as a result of this consultation they now understood how the funding works, the second response was from a member of the public who informed they were unsure of the funding arrangements and would like further information.

**Q2. Which parish precept pro-forma would you like to be used for 2014/15?**

Of the **twenty one** respondents **nineteen** expressed an opinion on the precept proforma. These were as follows,

<b>Option</b>	<b>responses</b>	<b>percentage</b>
Option 1	0	0%
Option 2	16	84%
No Preference	3	16%

**Q3. Do you have any comments on either parish precept pro-forma proposal?**

**Six** comments were received. **Four** reiterated their choice of pro-forma and the remaining **two** requested that the form was as simple as possible and that any future changes would be communicated clearly and transparently.