

City of Lincoln Council's Budget Proposals for 2024/25 Consultation

Welcome to the results summary for City of Lincoln Council's Budget Proposals consultation for 2024/25.

The topics that respondents were asked their views on were as follows:

- Vision 2025
- Budget Allocation
- Delivering Savings
- Council Tax

The maximum number of respondents to each question was **286**.

About you

Please select which statement best describes you (select all that apply).

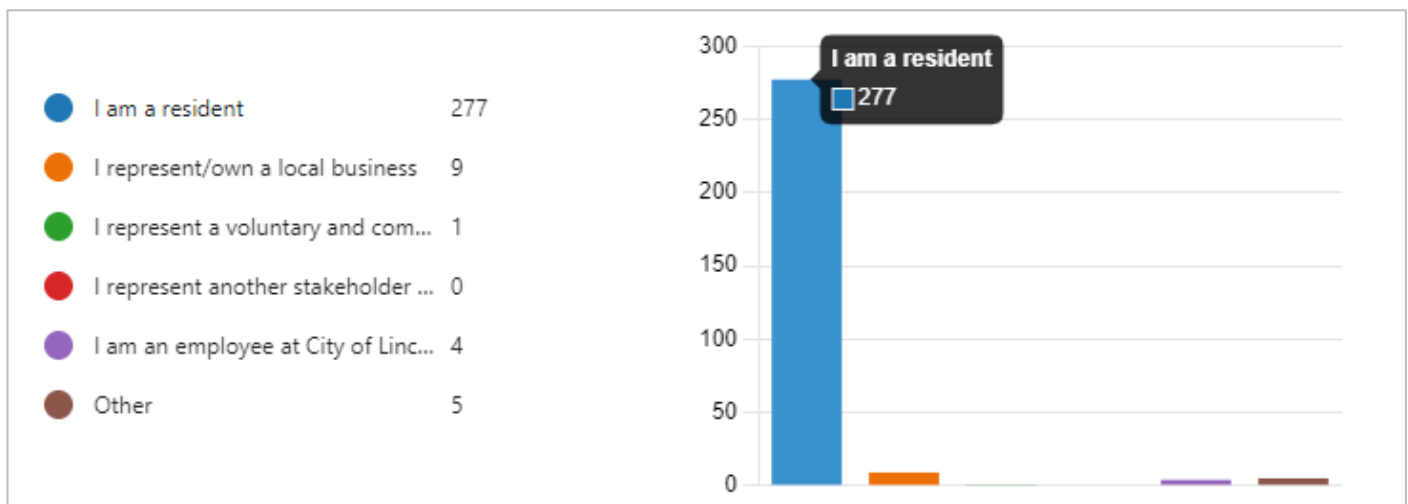


Figure 1

Figure 1 shows the role(s) of respondents when completing the consultation. It is important to note that respondents were able to select more than one option for this question, so the percentages are based on the total number of responses received. The majority who responded were residents with a figure of 96.9%, a 9.0% increase from the 2023/24 consultation.

Vision 2025

To what extent do you agree or disagree with our Vision and Priorities:

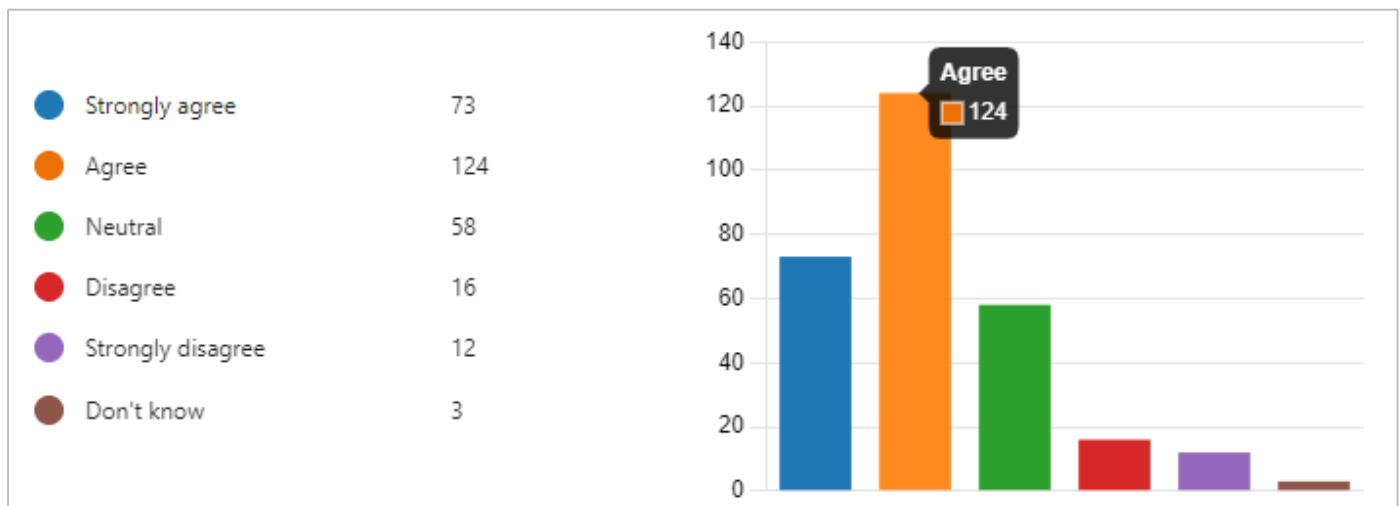


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows to what extent respondents agree or disagree with the council's vision and priorities. The majority of respondents agree or strongly agree, with a figure of 68.9%.

Budget Allocation

On a scale of 1-5, (1 being highest and 5 being lowest), how would you rank the importance of the following services:

Service provided	Priority rank
Provision of affordable housing	1 st
Supporting our most vulnerable residents	2 nd
Keeping our city clean and tidy	2 nd
Preventing homelessness	3 rd
Maintaining parks and green spaces	4 th
Supporting community safety	5 th
Providing and supporting community centres and leisure facilities	6 th
Maintaining and improving recycling	7 th
Helping with Council Tax for low-income households	8 th
Providing support through cost-of-living initiatives	9 th
Enhancing our City Centre	10 th
Tackling Climate Change	11 th
Supporting small businesses	12 th
Providing grants and financial support to voluntary/community groups	13 th
Providing a cultural and events programme	14 th

Figure 3

As you can see in Figure 3 the rankings show that "Provision of affordable housing" is the top priority according to our responders, with "Supporting our most vulnerable residents" and "Keeping our city clean and tidy" coming second.

Delivering Savings

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the council doing the following activities to generate savings:

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know



The majority of respondents **agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **strongly agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **neither agree nor disagree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **strongly agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **neither agree nor disagree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **strongly agree** that the above activity will generate savings.



The majority of respondents **neither agree nor disagree** that the above activity will generate savings.

Are there any additional approaches you feel would be beneficial?

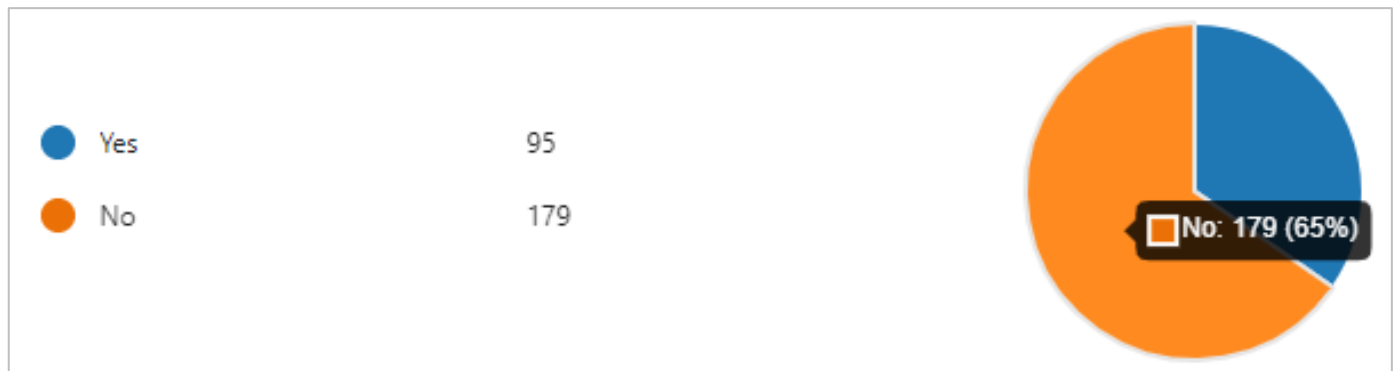


Figure 4

We asked respondents to state whether they felt there were any additional approaches, which were not mentioned. Those who selected "yes", left comments as to what these were. Those answers have been grouped together into categories below:

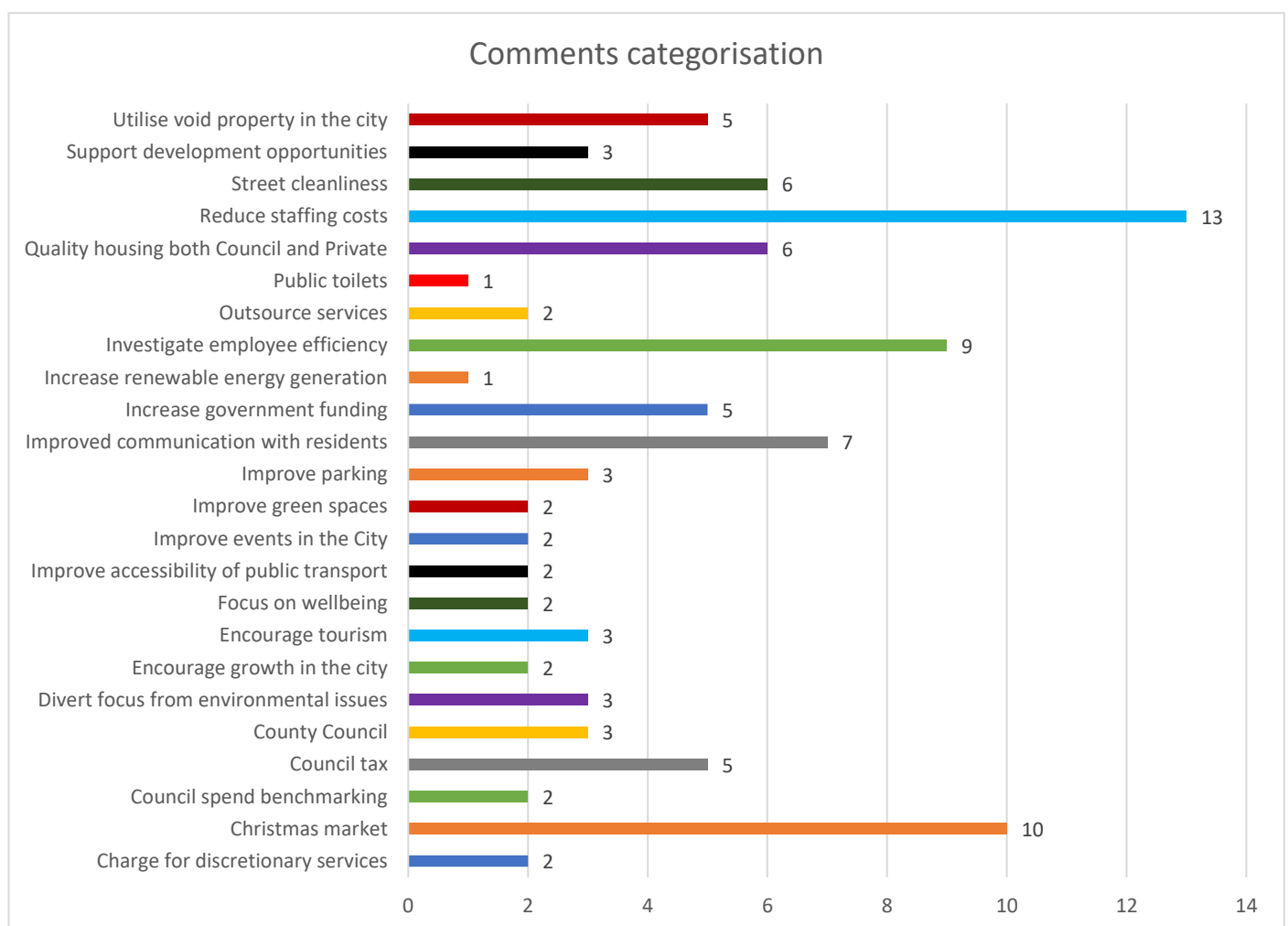


Figure 5

Figure 5 is a categorisation of all comments received in relation to additional approaches. We collected 93 responses in total, with the top three suggestions being: reduce staffing costs, Christmas market and investigate employee efficiency. These approach suggestions made up 35.5% overall.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement: "The City of Lincoln Council provides value for money".

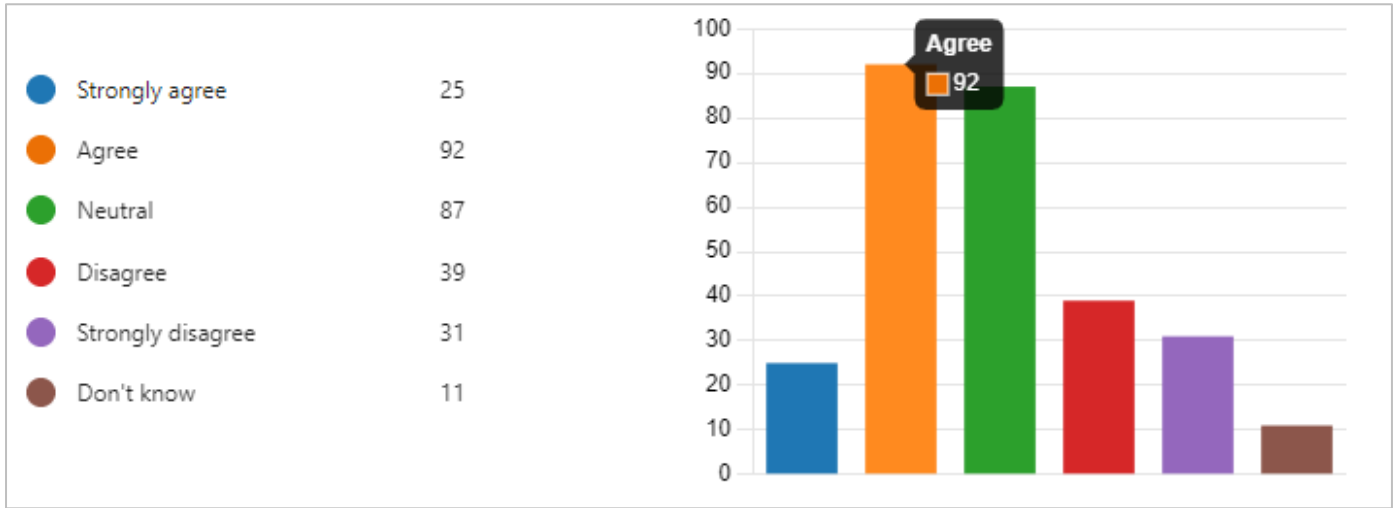


Figure 6

Figure 6 shows whether or not respondents agree that the council offers value for money. The majority of respondents agreed, with a figure of 32.3%. However, 30.5% remained neutral regarding the council providing value for money.

Council Tax

Based on the financial pressures the Council is facing, and the need for us to continue to develop plans for growth, what level of council tax increase would you support for 2024/25?

Figure 7 shows what level of council tax increase respondents would support for 2024/2025.

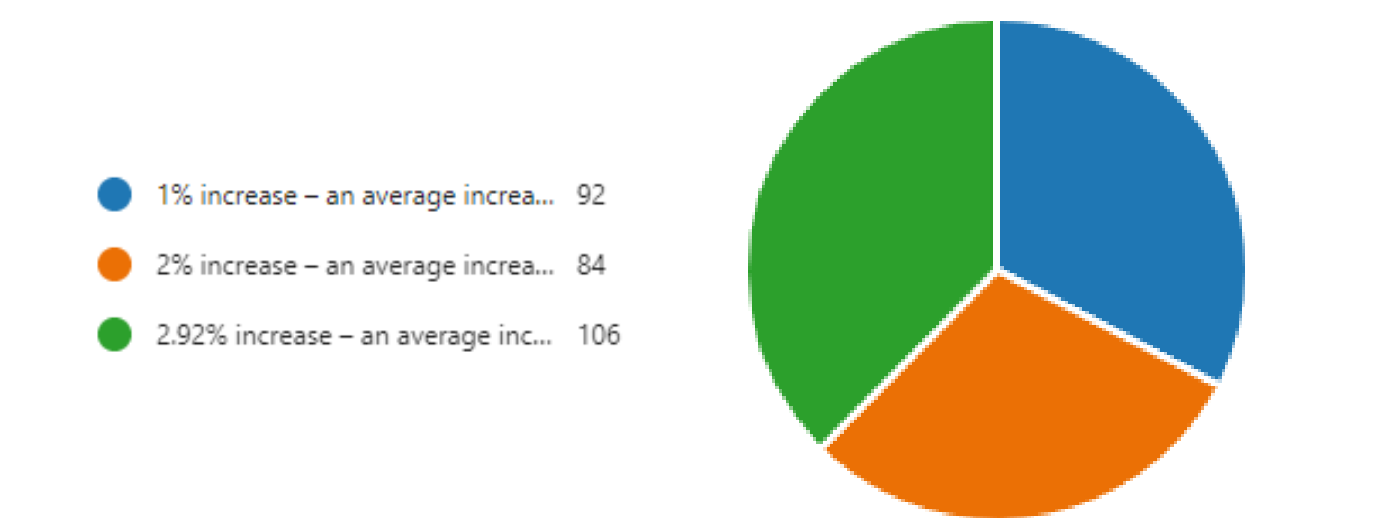


Figure 7

Although the responses have shown an almost even split between all three options, the most frequently selected was a 2.92% increase at 37.6% of responses.

Do you think councils should have the ability to determine council tax increases, without the need for a referendum, based on their local circumstances?



Figure 8

Figure 8 shows respondent's views on whether councils should have the ability to determine council tax increases without the need for a referendum. 60.2% of respondents felt the council should not have the ability to determine council tax increases without a referendum.