

**Budget consultation results**

The consultation ran for six weeks from Thursday 5 November to Thursday 17 December 2015.

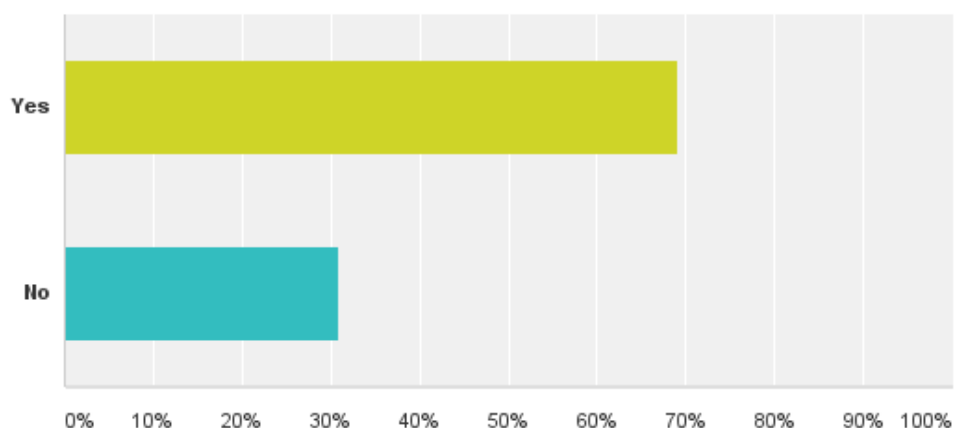
The Council received **266 responses** in total. Five questions were asked.

**Q1.** Do you agree with the direction of this budget strategy, which is aimed at saving £24m over the next three years?

**Results:** 242 people answered this question, 24 skipped

**69%** (167) of respondents answered **yes**

**31%** (75) of respondents answered **no**

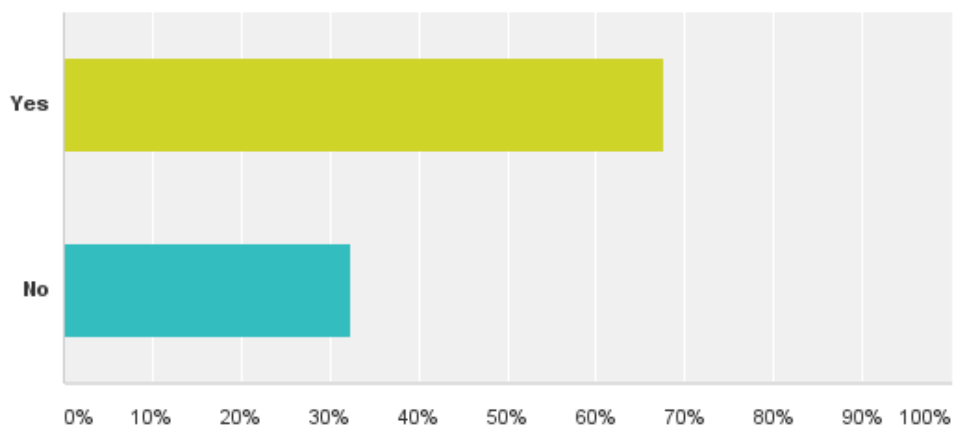


**Q2.** Do you agree to a reduction in the number of black bin bags to three per household in order to protect weekly rubbish collections and save £1m over the next three years?(The amount of orange recycling bags collected will not be restricted)

**Results:** 254 people answered this question, 12 skipped

**68%** (172) of respondents answered **yes**

**32%** (82) of respondents answered **no**



**Q3.** Please pick your top three priority services.

**Results:** 261 people answered this question, 5 skipped

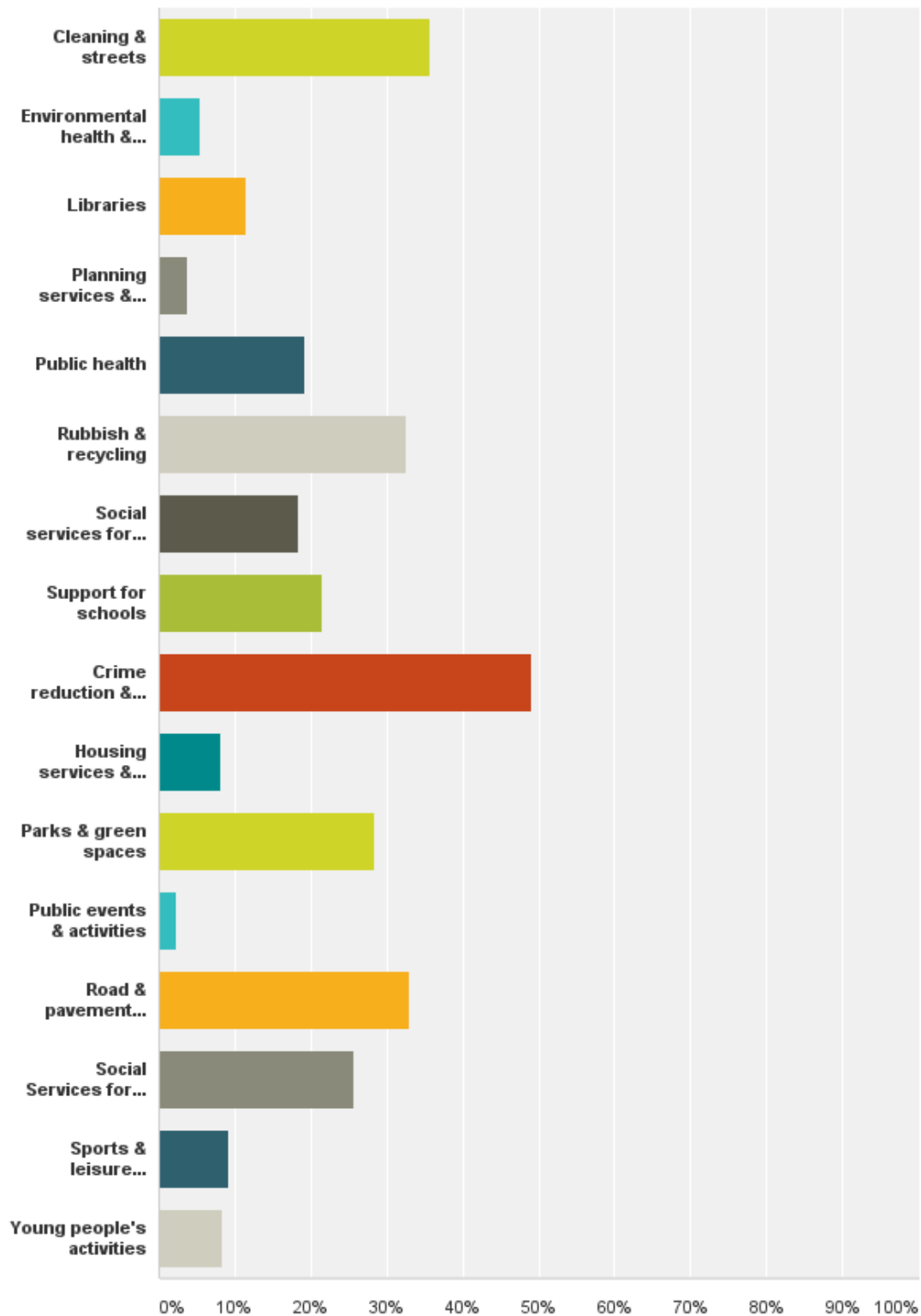
The top three priority areas were:

1. Crime reduction and public safety – **49%** (129)
2. Cleaning and streets – **36%** (93)
3. Road and pavement repairs – **33%** (86)  
Rubbish and recycling – **33%** (85)

These were followed closely by:

Parks and green spaces – 28% (74)

Social services for adults – 26% (67)

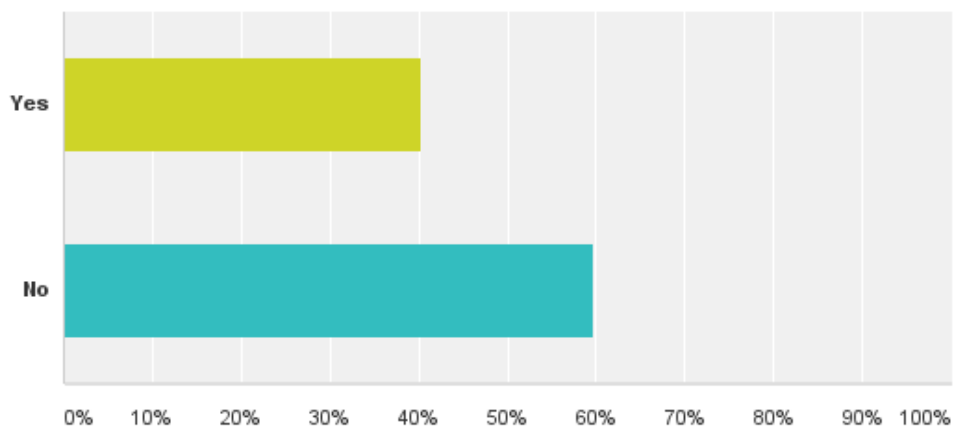


**Q4.** These proposals are based on council tax increases of not more than two per cent. Would you be willing to pay higher increases than two per cent in council tax to protect more services from cuts?

**Results:** 258 people answered this question, 8 skipped

**40%** (104) of respondents answered **yes**

**60%** (154) of respondents answered **no**



**Q5.** Do you have any other general comments on the budget strategy as a whole?

A total of 138 comments were received.

Further analysis of the comments will take place in due course.