Monmouthshire County Council Budget Engagement 2022-2023

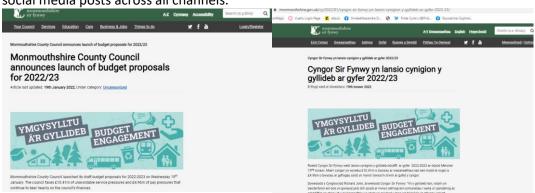
Report of engagement activities

Compiled after consultation closed 16/2/22

21ST December 2021 - Monmouthshire County Council welcomes news of increased funding for the forthcoming financial year to support service pressures. Press release issued to all local news outlets, uploaded to Monmouthshire.gov.uk's front page and social media posts across all channels.

19th January 2022 – Monmouthshire Council announced its proposed budget for 2022/2023 Announcement of beginning of consultation period.

Press release issued to all local news outlets, uploaded to Monmouthshire.gov.uk's front page and social media posts across all channels.



A cross-section of the published articles:

18/1/22 <u>Your Council Leader column</u> focussed on the budget 19/1/22

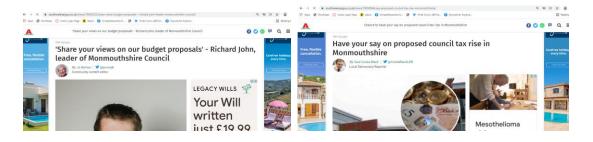
The South Wales Argus

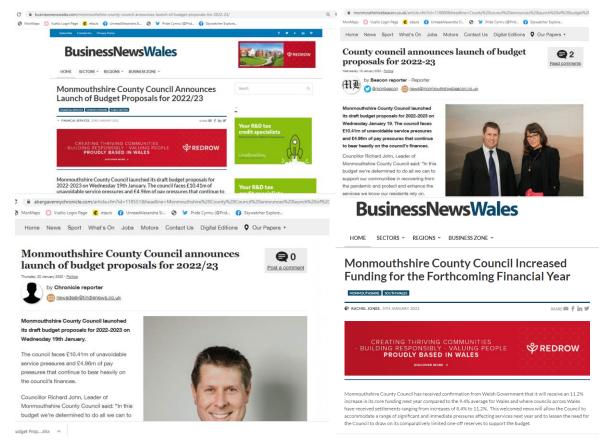
Business Wales

Monmouthshire Beacon

Abergavenny Chronicle

Business Wales second article





PUBLIC CONSULTATION

19th January 2022-16th February 2022

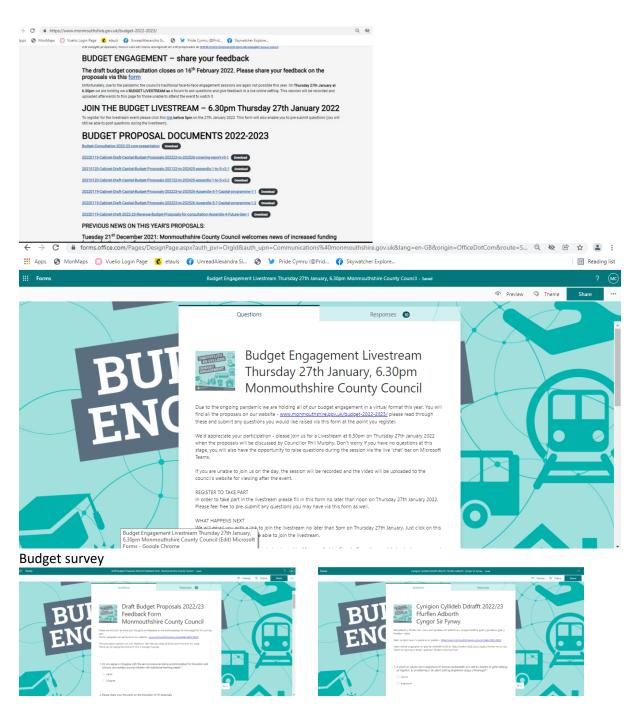
*All material bilingual

Landing page on MCC's website: monmouthshire.gov.uk/budget-2022-2023

Hosting all news releases, full budget proposals and supporting documents, links to register for a countywide livestream, survey to capture feedback on proposals and video giving an overview of the proposals.

All subscribers (c.15k people) of the MyMonmouthshire digital newsletter were sent information and links to all the consultation material, including the survey, and a reminder to register for the Budget Livestream



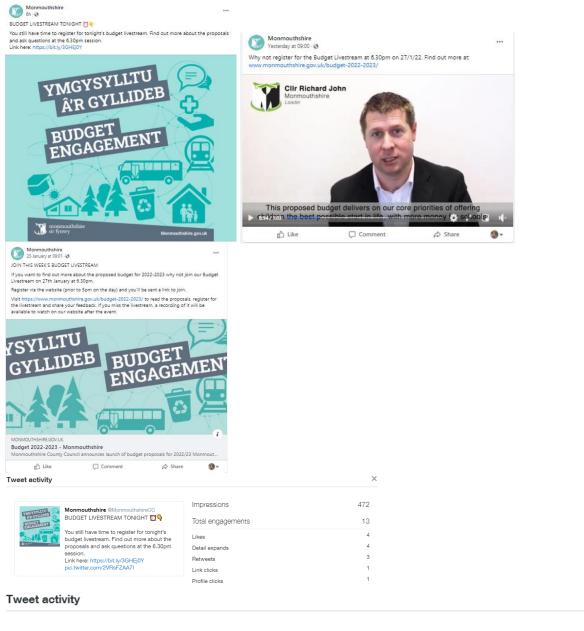


Wednesday 26th **January 11am** – **MyMates Teams session.** The budget video was shared with the group, and then Cllr Phil Murphy, cabinet member for Resources, gave a call out for questions. There was a discussion about the importance of leisure centres. 10 people attended this event. About MyMates: My Mates is exclusively for people with a disability. MM has been set up to help individuals make sustainable friendships & close, personal relationships.

Wednesday 26th January 5.30pm – Engage To Change Teams session. The budget slide presentation was talked through and shared by Cllr Phil Murphy, cabinet member for Resources. He then gave a call out for questions. This group was particularly interested in the way Children and Young People's services are funded, and also asked for information (which was provided) about Climate Emergency plans to reduce carbon and what the differences are between Capital Budgets and Revenue Budgets (what is capital, what is revenue spend). Really good two-way discussion lasting just under an hour and a half.

Thursday 27th January 6.30pm – Countywide livestream

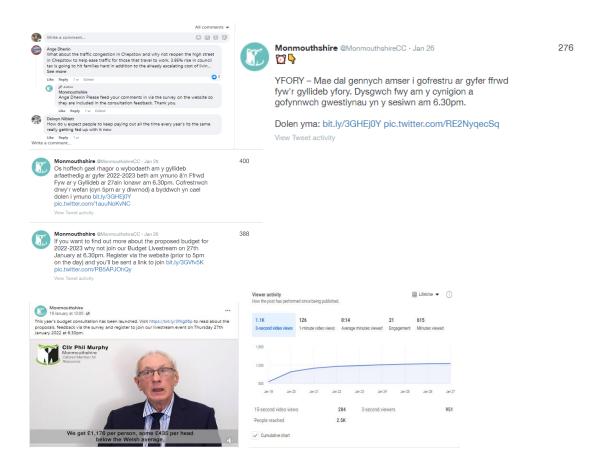
Questions were both pre-submitted and raised during the event. All were answered by Cllr Phil Murphy and Peter Davies during the livestream.



Monmouthshire @MonmouthshireCC TOMORROW – You still have time to register for tomorrow's BUDGET LIVESTREAM. Find out more about the proposals and ask questions at the 6.30pm session.
Info here: https://bit.ly/3GHEj0Y_pic.twitter.com/S1kAan0ws9

Impressions	1,019
Media views	273
Total engagements	15
Media engagements	7
Link clicks	3
Detail expands	3
Replies	1
Likee	1

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BUDGET FEEDBACK SURVEY

During the consultation 51 people had completed the survey. This figure was lower than expected given the amount of promotion we have given to the survey.

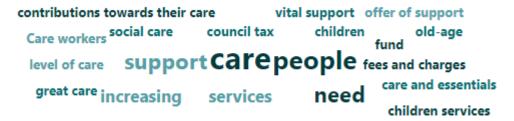
Question 1 – Do you agree or disagree with the service pressures being accommodated for Education and Schools, notably around children with additional learning needs? **62.7% agreed.**



Question 3 – Do you agree or disagree with the proposals for Social Care and Health, both in terms of the service pressures being accommodated in Children's and Adult Services, and the proposed increase in fees and charges? **50.9% agreed.**

Question 4 – key phrases:

7 respondents (44%) answered care for this question.



Question 5. Do you agree or disagree with the services pressures being accommodated for Enterprise, and that significantly relate to service pressures being accommodated with Recycling & Waste, and Transport? **62.7% disagreed.**

Question 6 – key phrases:



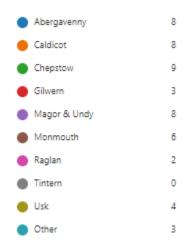
Question 7: We are looking to make one-off use of limited reserves and capital receipts in order to support the budget this year and to allow service pressures to be accommodated and to less the burden on council tax payers. Do you agree or disagree with this approach? **92.1% agreed.**

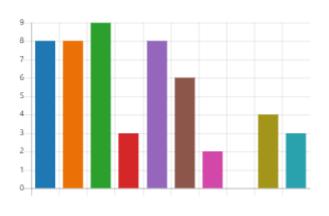
Question 8: We propose a 3.95% increase in Council Tax as a result of the significant financial challenges faced. Accepting that the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will provide support to those on low income and benefits, and 25% discount to single people. Do you agree or disagree? **82.3% disagreed.**

Question 9: key phrases:



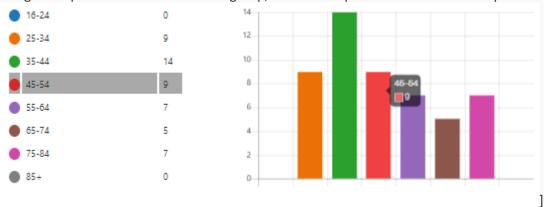
Question 10: Where do you live – please state your nearest town or village



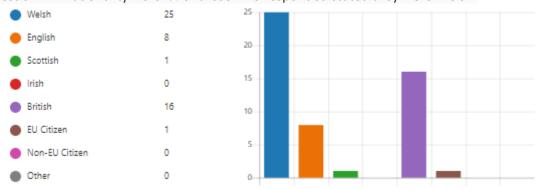


Question 11: What age group do you fall within?

The largest response was from the 35-44 group, that made up 27.4% of those that responded.

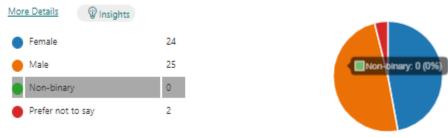


Question 12: Nationality. 49.01% of those who responded stated they were Welsh.



Question 13: What gender do you identify as?

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Question 14: Disability is defined by the Equality Act 2010 as: A physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-

to-day activities. The disability could be physical, sensory or mental and must be expected to last at least 12 months. Do you consider yourself to have a disability as defined by the Equality Act? **7 of the 51 responders replied 'yes' to this question.**

Question 15: We would like to know your views on the effects that the proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

10 respondents (40%) answered Welsh language for this question.



Question 16: Please also explain how you believe the proposals could be improved so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?

10 respondents (42%) answered Welsh for this question.

