



**North East
Derbyshire
District Council**

**DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN SURVEY
CONSULTATION**

July - August 2019

Report - Extract

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1 Introduction and Methodology

Background and Introduction

The Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019 has come to the end of its lifespan and so a new Plan must be developed.

The new draft Council Plan outlines our priorities for the District over the next four years, 2019 – 2023. The Plan is split into four main themes: Our Residents, Our Environment, Our services and Our Economy.

Each theme has a number of priorities the Council will focus on, to deliver the vision for the District – that North East Derbyshire is clean and attractive, a place where people are proud to live and work, a place where people will prosper and a place where people will feel safe, happy and healthy.

Before the Plan is considered for adoption, a formal consultation took place, commencing on 22nd July 2019 and running until 23rd August 2019. The consultation consisted of a short questionnaire which was available online or in paper versions (large print, braille, alternative language versions etc. were available on request).

The consultation was widely publicised to encourage all of our residents and organisations in the District to have their say. The following methods of publicising the consultation were used:

- The summer edition of The NEWS (circulated to all 45,000 homes within the District)
- Press release to local media
- Council websites and social media accounts
- Ask Derbyshire website
- Rykneld Homes website and social media
- Plasma screens in receptions at the Mill Lane Office and leisure centres
- Employee extranet site
- Posters in receptions in Mill Lane office, leisure centres, Rykneld Homes, within the offices at Mill Lane and on Parish and Town Council noticeboards. Paper copies were also available through these organisations
- Strategic Alliance Management Team
- Senior officers (workshop and individual contributions)
- Service Managers (Email and individual contributions)
- Members (Email and individual contributions)
- Parish and Town Councils (event and individual contributions)
- The North East Derbyshire Citizens' Panel (Mailed/emailed)
- Trade Union representatives
- Communications with Rykneld Homes
- Communications with partner organisations and stakeholders (Mailing, email and individual contributions).

Once published, reports, and questionnaires are available to view and download at the Council's consultation website www.askderbyshire.gov.uk.

Methodology

The consultation was open between 22nd July and 23rd August 2019. The survey was available to complete on-line, as well as via a paper questionnaire.

The questionnaire comprised of four agree/disagree questions after each of the sets of commitments that the Council intend to make in order to achieve the four aims..

At the end of the consultation period a total of 219 replies had been received.

In the Executive Summary section of this report and the Data Tables in the appendix, the base for each question is "valid responses" or all those providing an answer. All those who did not complete the question are excluded from the calculations. The base size does, therefore, vary from question to question, depending on the extent of non-response.

Where percentages do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding or multiple answers.

Profile of Respondents

The information in this section compares the profile of respondents to this survey with the District as a whole at the time of the 2011 Population Census. This helps indicate how representative the findings are and should be taken into consideration alongside the results.

	Respondents to Survey (CP May 2019)	Population Figures (2011 Census)
Respondent characteristic	%	%
Gender		
Male	47	49
Female	49	51
Prefer not to say	3	-
Prefer to self-describe	1	-
Age Group		
		(age % as a proportion of 2011 population aged 16+)
16 – 24 years	3	12
25 – 64 years	44	63
65 years and over	50	25
Prefer not to say	3	-
Ethnicity		
White British or Irish	95	97
Ethnic Minority (including white, other)	1	3
Prefer not to say	4	-
Disability		
Yes, limited a lot	9	11
Yes, limited a little	17	11
No	71	78
Prefer not to say	4	-
Sexuality		
Heterosexual	89	-
Gay	-	-
Lesbian	-	-
Bisexual	1	-
Prefer not to say	11	-

A series of 'demographic' questions were also asked to enable results to be analysed by key groups and to assess the level of engagement with the survey from different members of the community. The results of these questions showed that respondents were over representative of the age group 65 years and over, and are under representative of the younger age groups compared to the age profile of those aged 16+ in the District at the time of the 2011 population census.

2 Executive Summary

**For Aim One: Our Residents
Enhancing our residents' quality of life**

We are committed to:
 Providing a range of leisure facilities for our communities
 Engaging better with our communities
 Improving our housing
 Protecting the most vulnerable within our communities
 Helping communities address local issues and concerns

Q1 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our residents’ quality of life”?

The vast majority of respondents (85%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our residents’ quality of life”. Very few (5%) disagreed.

Aim One		
<i>Base: 210</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	70
Agree	52	110
Neither agree nor disagree	9	19
Disagree	3	7
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (2) or not answering (7)

**For Aim Two: Our Environment
Protecting and Promoting the character of our District**

We are committed to:

Protecting the character of our District by; undertaking a review of the Local Plan and the proposed sites within the Green Belt

Working with our communities to encourage the delivery of Neighbourhood Plans
Enhancing planning enforcement activity to address environmental crime.

Tackling climate change by; developing and delivering a climate change and carbon reduction strategy

Continuously reviewing our operations and facilities to meet our carbon reduction pledge

Working with residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint

Embedding a culture of 'green thinking' amongst staff, residents and businesses

Ensuring a clean, green environment by; enhancing litter enforcement

Implementing litter picks and Love Where You live initiative

Adopting a preventative approach to tackling environmental crime

Tackling fly tipping

Enhancing the natural environment by; enhancing biodiversity

Supporting new habitats and wildlife corridors

Carefully managing our open spaces to promote our vital plants and pollinators

Working with/inspiring our schools and community groups to protect and support our native wildlife.

Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”?

79% agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”. A small proportion (10%) disagreed.

Aim Two		
<i>Base: 215</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	72
Agree	46	99
Neither agree nor disagree	10	22
Disagree	7	16
Strongly disagree	3	6

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (2) or not answering (2)

For Aim Three: Our Services

Delivering high quality cost-effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff.

We are committed to:

Transforming how our Council works by; working with staff to redesign services, encourage innovation, involvement and ownership

Freezing our part of the Council Tax for 2020/21 and improve value for money

Undertake a line-by-line budget review to ensure that the Council spends every penny wisely.

Creating a safe District in which to live and work by; tackling anti-social behaviour within our communities

Developing a car parking enforcement strategy, reviewing parking outside schools as a priority

Working with partners to lead a review of the District's Community Safety

Partnership arrangements, including services to tackle domestic abuse

Reviewing enforcement and maximising the use of tools and powers

Being a listening Council by; ensuring consultations are fair, open and accessible and that the Council engages with residents

Reviewing the Council's petition scheme and provide other ways for residents to become involved in the work of the Council

Providing high quality street scene by; ensuring timely and efficient collection of waste and recycling

Promoting recycling

Ensuring effective street cleansing

Providing an effective and user-friendly planning service and ensuring effective planning enforcement.

Q3 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff"?

The majority of respondents (78%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of "Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff". A small proportion (7%) disagreed.

Aim Three		
<i>Base: 215</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	36	77
Agree	42	90
Neither agree nor disagree	15	33
Disagree	5	11
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating "don't know" (2) or not answering (2)

**For Aim four: Our Economy
Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs**

We are committed to:

- Supporting businesses to maximise their potential
- Creating a business friendly district
- Ensure a supply of high quality business premises
- Support businesses with grant applications and advice.
- Attracting and retaining skilled jobs within the District
- Creating university and higher education links
- Facilitating job fairs and developing apprenticeships
- Developing and promoting a visitor economy across the District by; developing a tourism strategy
- Promoting heritage sites
- Encouraging day-trippers and overnight stays
- Implementing a revised District Growth strategy by; focussing on innovation and technology
- Maximise the benefits of current developments
- Developing a commercial investment strategy
- Town centre regeneration by supporting the One Public Estate agenda and working with partners for maximum benefit
- Proactively seeking out funding opportunities to improve our town centres and high streets.

Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”?

The majority of respondents (78%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”. Very few (5%) disagreed.

Aim Four		
<i>Base: 210</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	29	60
Agree	49	102
Neither agree nor disagree	18	17
Disagree	4	8
Strongly disagree	1	3

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (6) or not answering (3)

Appendix A Data Tables

Q1 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our resident’ quality of life”?

<i>Base: 210</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	70
Agree	52	110
Neither	9	19
Disagree	3	7
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (7).

Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”?

<i>Base: 215</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	72
Agree	46	99
Neither	10	22
Disagree	7	16
Strongly disagree	3	6

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (2).

Q3 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff”?

<i>Base: 215</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	36	77
Agree	42	90
Neither	15	33
Disagree	5	11
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (2).

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Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”?

<i>Base: 210</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	29	60
Agree	49	102
Neither	18	17
Disagree	4	8
Strongly disagree	1	3

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (6) or not answering (3).