

Feedback Report on the 2014/15 budget proposal discussions and engagement with the public



February 2014

Contents

1. Background
2. The proposals – four pronged approach
3. Engagement methods and communication
4. Response rate and respondents
5. Top line findings from the survey
6. Top line findings from the workshops
7. Key findings in graphs, charts and tables
8. Overview
9. Next steps
10. Appendices - Appendix A & B are attached as one separate document
 - Appendix A. % response for all the proposals by approach
 - Appendix B. % response for all proposals in order or support
 - Appendix C. Workshop analysis report
 - Appendix D. Suggestions in response to Question 4 from
survey (**How could we work together with the communities of Powys to reduce any negative impacts caused by these proposals**)

1. Background

The continued national spending squeeze and resulting cuts in funding for public services and local government have had a huge impact on the Council's annual budgets and our ability to deliver services. Powys has received the lowest annual settlement from the Welsh Government for five years in succession with a 4.5% cut for 2014/15.

Together with inflation, demographic changes – an increasingly elderly population but fewer young people to support the economy – and increasing service pressures, the council faces a funding shortfall of £20m in 2014/15 and £40m over the next three years. Powys is the largest rural area in Wales and this adds further pressure as services are more costly to provide.

Other authorities in Wales are in a similar situation. For example, Cardiff Council has to find £100m savings over the next three years while Wrexham must save £45m over the next five years.

The council is required to set a budget and its council tax levy by 5 March 2015. To help inform the budget setting process the proposals that were put forward by senior managers were shared with the public at a series of public engagement events during January 2014. Participants at the events were also asked to complete a survey and the survey was also promoted widely and the public and staff were encouraged to complete the survey online.

All the proposals were “put on the table” - even savings of £1,000 - so a transparent discussion could take place. The proposals set out savings in the region of £16m and during the engagement exercise participants were asked to reflect how these proposals might impact different groups. Participants were also asked to discuss how the council might seek to mitigate, or reduce the impact of, the proposals.

The council asked how acceptable or unacceptable each of the draft proposals would be in case there was some limited scope to look for alternative options if opposition was high.

Partnership Working

Powys teaching Health Board also took the opportunity to outline their current financial situation. A combined approach was agreed and all the workshops and drop-in sessions had both council and health board officers in attendance to give a holistic view of Powys public finances.

2. The proposals – four pronged approach

56 proposals were put forward for consideration - saving around £16m. The gap would be made up through a combination of council reserves and an increase in council tax.

Four clear categories emerged as the proposals were scrutinised.

The four-pronged approach split the proposals into the following areas:

- 1. Transforming Services (doing things differently)**
- 2. Increasing charges for existing services**
- 3. Introducing new fees and charges for services**
- 4. Reducing some services**

Transforming - 28 proposals looked at reviewing services like libraries, leisure centres and day care provision for older people to change how these operate and provide the best options with the decreasing budgets.

Increase charges for existing services - Seven proposals looked at raising more income for services eg car parking and learning disability respite care.

Introduce new fees and charges - Six proposals were listed including post-16 transport, laboratory work and the collection and disposal of clinical waste (currently delivered by the council but the responsibility of the Powys teaching Health Board).

Reducing services - 15 proposals where the current level of service or the service itself would be reduced or end were put forward.

3. Engagement methods and communication

The following methods were considered to be the most viable in the timeframe and to ensure a good cross section of views were captured.

- A survey (paper and online)
- Workshops
- Drop-in sessions

These methods were designed to ensure a mix of opportunities for members of the public and those representing organisations affected by the proposals to give their views. It was felt that organisations such as Town and Community Councils, schools, staff and third sector organisations may wish to have a face-to-face dialogue with the directors and senior managers involved in managing the key services where proposals would save money. Those that did not wish to have this dialogue could still contribute their views but via an online survey link which was promoted via the media and the council's own channels.

The workshops were organised for a specific purpose - to allow for a fuller discussion around who might be impacted by the proposals and what mitigation could be offered either by the council or other organisations to reduce this impact. Representatives from the Council's Citizens Panel, Town and Community Councils, disability and equality groups and third sector organisations were invited to these to share their expertise and views around mitigation and impact. The feedback received from these would help to form the start of more detailed Equality Impact Assessments (EqIA) on key proposals which were deemed to impact on a vulnerable group in the county.

The Equality Act 2010 and the subsequent specific regulations for Wales introduced under the **Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties)(Wales) Regulations 2011** **Equality Impact Assessment** require the authority to undertake assessments when making changes to the way services are delivered. Those proposals which are deemed to have a relevance to the legislation will therefore require an EqIA to accompany proposals put to cabinet.

Six venues were chosen to hold both the workshops and the drop in sessions. The workshops ran from 2pm-4pm and the drop-in sessions ran from 4.30pm to 7.30pm at the following locations:

- Machynlleth
- Ystradgynlais
- Newtown
- Brecon
- Welshpool
- Llandrindod Wells

The survey was available online for residents and staff to complete and paper copies were provided at each of the drop-in events for those wishing to complete the survey by hand.

A community-led drop-in session was also held Knighton on Monday 20 January from 11am – 3pm.

Email correspondence was also received from some groups, including Machynlleth Town Council and Powys People's First as well as individuals. The comments within this correspondence resonated with those received via other methods.

Promotion and communication

Press releases were issued to the local and regional media advertising the drop-in sessions and letters sent out to workshop participants. The engagement events were widely promoted in print and online media during January, totalling 19 discrete articles.

In addition the events were widely promoted through the council's own channels including social media (Facebook and Twitter) and emails were sent to all members, staff and schools promoting the drop-in sessions and online survey.

The events also featured as a main 'carousel' story on the council's website www.powys.gov.uk

The public re-tweeted and shared the information via Facebook and Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations helped to promote the dates to their members in the third sector.

The information and surveys were also displayed at PAVO's Winter Warmer events held in the county during the same week. One of the drop-in events in Brecon was a shared event with the Council, the Health Board and PAVO allowing residents and interested third sector organisations to come to one place for a variety of reasons.

4. Response rate and respondents

385 people attended either a workshop or a drop in session to talk face to face with directors, managers and members about the budget proposals. Some took a paper survey away with them, some said they would complete it on line in the comfort on their own home and others filled the survey in and handed it in at the venue.

In total 1754 residents completed the survey. Those who responded 'self-selected' to do so, and thus while the respondents were not randomly sampled in market research terms, the response rate equates to over 1% of the population and could be classed as broadly representative of residents' views.

When considering the demographics the respondents were analysed via age.

The following chart shows the difference between the Powys population and the respondents to the budget discussions.

	Our population	Percentage	Budget respondents
Age Group	Numbers	%	%
Under 45	39,700	35.9%	35%
45 – 64	39,100	35.4%	43%
65+	31,800	28.8%	20%
Total	110,600	100%	98%

There was a good response from those aged under 45 years of age and this matched the actual population. The 45 – 64 age group was over represented in the budget events and the over 65 age group was under represented.

This may be due to a preference on the part of older residents to complete paper surveys rather than online surveys. This is an area for learning and consideration with regard to this age group.

The workshops held were predominantly attended by older residents and comparing their views from the workshops versus the overall respondents from the survey shows that on the whole there is resonance with the views given around proposals that people are the least comfortable with.

More details are given in the following charts and commentary.

5. Top line findings from the survey

The proposals which had received the **MOST** support from the public in the survey are listed in the table below. *(Note: numbers show the % of those who answered Yes or No to the question. Those that had no opinion are removed).*

Proposal	Saving	Percentage support	Base (no of people who gave a view on that proposal)
Review of expenditure with third parties across service areas.	£938,820	96%	1,188
Transform the council's fleet service to reduce cost.	£1,300,340	96%	1,187
Review and reorganisation of the Council's Property portfolio.	£108,000	96%	1,279
Increase recovery of court costs.	£30,000	92%	1,157
Regeneration fees and charges.	£35,000	90%	1,051
Landowners take responsibility for safeguarding closed landfill sites.	£20,000	89%	1,154
Collection of waste – continue to transform the service.	£500,000.	87%	1,324

Proposals which have received **LEAST** support from the public in the survey are listed in the table below. *(Note: numbers show the % of those who answered Yes or No to the question. Those that had no opinion are removed).*

Proposal	Saving	Percentage support	Base (no of people who gave a view on that proposal)
Increase the cost of attendance for residents accessing day care from £6 per day to £35 per day to cover the full cost.	£10,000	7%	1,180
Close older persons day centres.	£250,000	17%	1,247

Removal of funding for Meals on Wheels.	£80,250	21%	1,105
Introduce Charging for Post 16 Transport.	£350,000	35%	1,140
Additional Learning Needs to be restructured & delivered through mainstream schools.	£350,000	36%	1,290
Reduce community grants by 5%.	£15,000	36%	1,091
Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients.	£380,000	38%	1,024

6. Top line findings from the workshops

Those attending the workshops first heard a presentation from the Council and the Health Board. One table was allocated for the Health agenda and three for participants wishing to engage with the Council's budget discussion. The three tables replicated the four pronged approach publicised and used for the questionnaire but the two income generation proposals were merged so participants could reflect on a similar number of proposals to the other two tables. Thus participants were asked to sit at one of three tables and contribute their views via two exercises.

The three tables were:

- 'Transforming Services' (doing things differently) with 28 proposals listed for consideration.
- 'Income Generation' which combined the proposals for increasing charges for existing services and introducing new fees and charges. These proposals totalled 13.
- 'Reducing some of our services' - this listed 15 proposals.

The first exercise asked people to work in pairs and select the three proposals they felt most comfortable with and why. They were then asked to do the same with those proposals they were least comfortable with.

Across the six workshops the following key observations were made.

The proposals which attracted most support were:

- Review of fleet/vehicle operations
- Reducing staff and management
- Automated telephone system
- Review and reorganisation of the Council's property portfolio
- Waste collection
- Car park fees
- Increase recovery of court costs
- Pre-planning advice

- Removal of funding in relation to school councils
- Removal of financial support for theatre tours in schools

The least preferred budget proposals overall were:

- The transfer of school budgets
- Reduction of transport subsidy to bus companies in Powys
- Closure of day centres for older people
- Post-16 transport
- Day Service charges (£6 to £35)
- Seek funding from the Health Board for continuing health care support
- Increase charge for learning disability respite
- Removal of funding for 'Meals on wheels'
- Reduction of funding for Citizens Advice bureau
- Home care support (limit to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients).
- Stop providing services to social care clients with 'moderate' needs.

Participants were then asked to consider who would be most impacted by the proposals and what mitigation ideas they may have to reduce this impact.

Some groups fed in a range of mitigation ideas whilst others found this difficult to do and were keen to express dissatisfaction with the proposal as opposed to having ideas on how we could reduce any impact.

Comparison findings from the survey and workshops

It is clear that for a number of budget proposals the same considerations and views were expressed by individuals who completed the questionnaire and those who attended the workshops.

The chart below gives details of how and which proposals were the least acceptable and where the views from the survey and the workshops match.

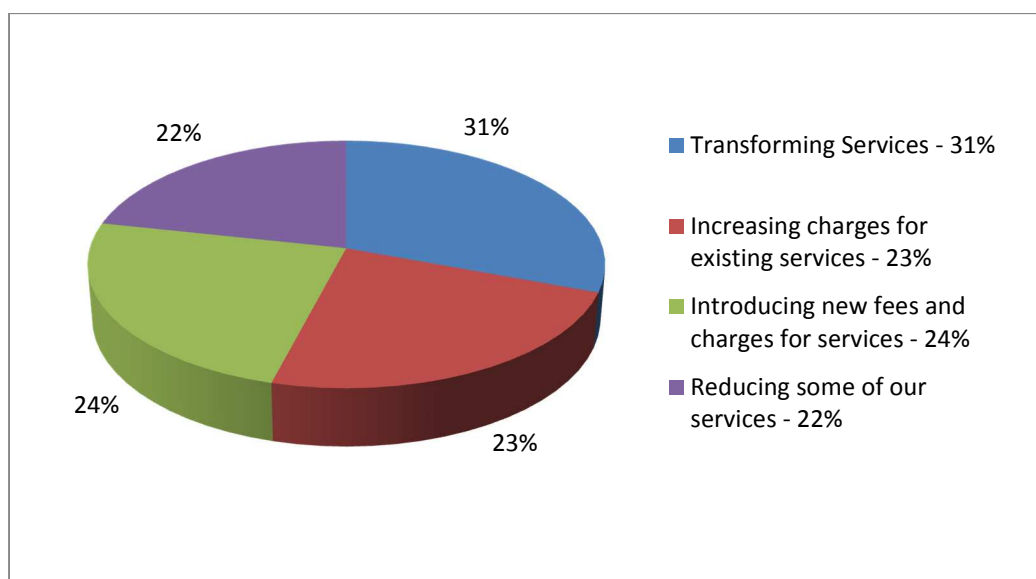
Survey (least acceptable first)	Workshop Views
Increase the cost of attendance for residents accessing day care from £6 per day to £35 per day to cover the full cost. (only 7% support)	Increase the cost of attendance for residents accessing day care from £6 per day to £35 per day to cover the full cost.
Close older persons day centres.(17% support)	Close older persons day centres.
Removal of funding for Meals on Wheels. (21% support)	Removal of funding for Meals on Wheels.
Introduce charging for Post 16 Transport. (35% support)	Introduce charging for Post 16 Transport.
Additional Learning Needs to be restructured & delivered through mainstream schools. (36%)	<i>Note: Additional Learning Needs came out in some workshops as an area of concern but not consistently.</i>

Reduce community grants by 5%. (36%)	
Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients. (38%)	Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients.
Increase charge for learning disability respite (41%)	Increase charge for learning disability respite.
Library Service review (41%)	<i>Note: Library Service review came out in some workshops as an area of concern but not consistently.</i>
Stop providing services to social care clients with 'moderate' needs. (42%)	Stop providing services to social care clients with 'moderate' needs.
The transfer of school budgets (43% support the proposal)	The transfer of school budgets
	Reduction of transport subsidy to bus companies in Powys
	Seek funding from the Health Board for continuing health care support
	Reduction of funding for Citizens Advice bureau

A more detailed analysis of the workshops is attached as Appendix C.

7. Key findings in graphs, charts and tables from the survey.

After choosing to give a view around supporting a proposal or not, respondents were asked: **Q2. In terms of the four approaches described previously, please mark on the scale whether you support or oppose these general approaches.** (Percentages on the pie chart below reflect the ranking preferences of respondents).



They were then asked: **Q3. How would the proposals impact on you and/or people you know? (Please specify which proposals you are referring to)**

There were clear areas of concern in this regard. In some instances people specified which proposal they were referring to and who was likely to be impacted, while others made reference to groupings of people e.g. protect provision for the elderly/young/ people with disabilities.

The areas which generated the most concern were:

- The elderly, in terms of changes to day care provision, meals on wheels and to a lesser extent the review of transport;
- Young people, in terms of reductions in funding for schools, the review of transport and the introduction of charging for Post-16 education travel;
- Children with Additional Learning Needs, in terms of the proposals to alter provision. (Comments received regarding this will be submitted to the Schools Service for consideration as part of their consultation on the changes which started on 3/2/14.)
- People with disabilities, in terms of the review of Learning Disability provision, closure of the Ystradgynlais respite house, and the reductions in care provision, the review of public transport and leisure centres.

Other more specific areas which generated comment were:

- The reductions in staff and management;
- The review of libraries;
- The review of leisure centres, particularly in terms of effect on the future health of the population;
- The withdrawal of funding for tourist information centres and possible impacts on the local economy;
- Reductions in funding for the arts, including school-based provision;
- The reduction in funding for the CAB

Other comments

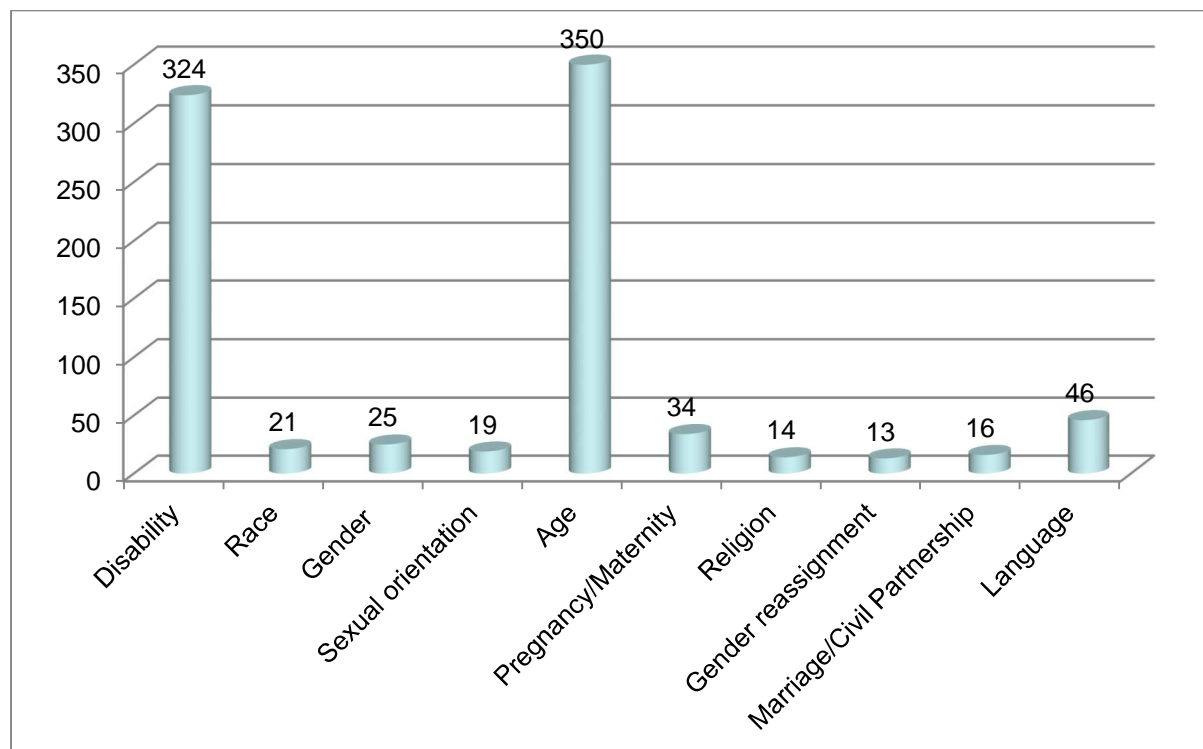
Many people made reference to the engagement work not providing people with enough time to respond and how the process should have taken place earlier in the financial year.

(Information from the survey will be made available to managers completing Equality Impact Assessments for their services)

Two more questions were asked of respondents. These were: **Q4. How could we work together with the communities of Powys to reduce any negative impacts caused by these proposals?** (Please specify which proposals you are referring to) Much of the response to this question was further protest against the savings. However, there were a number of proposals which are attached as **Appendix D**.

(Again, this information will be circulated amongst service managers).

Q5. In respect of your answer to the previous two questions do you think the reasons are linked to any of the following..... ‘protected characteristics’. Their comments referred to (impacted upon) and they answered:



8. Overview

Participants at the workshops and residents who completed the survey were in harmony overall with their views around a number of the proposals.

In particular and as shown in this report there is opposition to proposals around services that impact on what people perceive as vulnerable people in our communities. From increasing charges for those attending day care centres to restricting home care support which impacts on our older residents, to reducing school budgets and changing the way we support pupils with additional learning needs which impact on the younger generation and their families there are objections and calls to find savings in alternative ways.

There is though acceptance and support for a number of proposals where people feel the council can make savings without putting services at risk.

9. Next steps

The Cabinet will meet on Tuesday 18 February to receive the findings of this report. The report will be provided to Directors and Heads of Service to assist with service planning and feedback will be made available to the public via the website.

10. Appendices

- **Appendix A. % response for all the proposals by approach**
- **Appendix B % response for all proposals in order of support**
- **Appendix C Workshop analysis report**
- **Appendix D Suggestions in response to Question 9** (How could we work together with the communities of Powys to reduce any negative impacts caused by these proposals?)

Appendix C: Workshop analysis report

Transforming Services Budget Proposals.

The budget proposals that workshop participants felt were most acceptable were in order of the most preferred first:

- Review of fleet/vehicle operations
- Reducing staff and management
- Automated telephone system
- Review and reorganisation of the Council's property portfolio
- Waste collection

All the above proposals had support from several pairings or groups. Some proposals that had support, but only from one or two pairs or groups of participants were:

- Review of expenditure with third parties across service areas
- School modernisation
- School budgets
- Leisure Centre review
- Commission grave digging services
- Landowners take responsibility for safeguarding closed landfill sites
- School Additional Learning Needs service
- Reducing the cost of managing workshops
- Introduction of a dewatering system to reduce weight of waste going to landfill
- Cease cash transactions in council venues

There were a mix of reasons given for acceptance of these proposals but a number were around them not impacting directly on the public, that it made good business sense to review contracts and services and that it no longer should matter if it is the council or another organisation delivering the service as long as the service continues to exist.

The table below provides details of those that participants were least comfortable with, who would be affected by the proposal if and when it was implemented and what mitigation ideas they had, if any.

Note: A number of participants found it difficult to suggest mitigation ideas as they felt that the proposal/s should not be considered in the first instance. Key ideas are listed here but all have been logged for consideration by managers as appropriate.

Proposal	Impact on whom?	Mitigation Ideas or reason
Transfer of school budgets	Teachers, governors, pupils, SEN, Welsh language pupils, admin staff.	i)Centralise bursar services at a secondary school to provide admin support for cluster of primary schools in area. Concern that smaller schools don't have the expertise to handle budget issues.

Reduce transport subsidy to bus companies in Powys	Young people, commuters, non-drivers, elderly people, disabled people.	i) Long term bus passes to be on offer for passengers. ii) Greater co-operation between bus companies. iii) Sponsorship of buses by local companies. iv) Agreements with supermarket buses to pick up passengers who may not wish to go to supermarket but could be dropped off on route. v) Seek funding from European grants around rurality of Powys and students on vocational courses.
Close day centres for older people to save £250,000	Clients, (elderly people and their families) centre staff and their families including domiciliary care workers, catering staff etc, carers,	<p>No real mitigation ideas put forward other than possible luncheon clubs instead.</p> <p>Most groups felt strongly that a service should exist and that any alternative provision must be robust and take account of the clients' needs and dislike of change. Concerns expressed for clients with learning disabilities who access the service and carers of clients who may not get a break/respite if closure agreed or alternative provision unacceptable to the client.</p> <p>Welshpool Town Council was interested in considering how and what they could offer instead.</p>

Other budget proposals which some but not all participants were uncomfortable with at the workshops were:

- Review of mental health provision
- Review of learning disability provision
- School Additional learning needs
- Review of Leisure & Sports centres
- Review of Library service
- Removal of funding for the Book runner library service for schools
- Automated telephone service
- Transport for swimming lessons
- School modernisation

Some mitigation ideas were put forward for some of these proposals. All have been logged and will be fed back into services as appropriate. e.g. One group thought that primary schools that were not too far apart could synchronise their swimming lessons and share the transport costs. (Glantwymyn and Llanbryn-mair)

Income Generation Budget Proposals

The budget proposals that workshop participants felt were most acceptable in terms of raising income were in order of the most preferred first:

- Car park fees
- Increase recovery of court costs
- Pre-planning advice

All the above proposals had support from several pairings or groups. Some proposals that had support, but only from one or two pairs or groups of participants were:

- Regeneration fees
- Highways, transport & recycling fees and charges
- Seek funding from the Health Board for continuing health care support
- Post 16 transport

Reasons given around acceptance were that charges were reasonable and some cases would generate large amounts of money which would help meet the deficit.

The table below provides details of those proposals that participants were least comfortable with, who would be affected by it and what mitigation ideas they had, if any.

Proposal	Impact on whom?	Mitigation Ideas or reason
Post 16 transport	Young people in further education – in particular those who may want to study vocational courses not stay on to do A levels.	i) Offer more course on-line, e-learning, more appropriate course in schools, flexible timetables and courses in schools. ii) 'Flat rate' for all attending post-16 education within Powys (whatever the distance) i.e. annual fee for a 'bus pass' iii) Look at contracts for more effective transport routes and possible better public bus services. iv) Students pay the full fee to travel to provision outside the county. (unless the course is not available in Powys)
Day Service charges (£6 to £35)	Vulnerable and elderly people	Raise fee by a reasonable amount instead. Far too much. Will prohibit people from attending. Knock on effect to carers as it is respite for family members.
Seek funding from the Health Board for continuing health care support	Health Board and those receiving care.	No mitigation. Comment: Moving debt from one organisation to another is not useful. Health Board already have a deficit.

Increase charge for learning disability respite	Individuals and the knock-on effect to individuals and families and other organisations.	No mitigation ideas. Comment: Long term knock on effect and massive cost to the council as extra strain on carers. For such a small saving of £7k there should surely be scope to save costs elsewhere.
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Other income generation budget proposals which some but not all participants were uncomfortable with at the workshops were:

- Clinical waste collection
- Skip/trade waste charge
- Car park charges

Some of the reasons given by groups around the above proposals were around moving a problem elsewhere i.e. for clinical waste that is moving the responsibility to the Health Board which has a similar deficit problem, for skip/trade waste charges people may choose to fly tip and the council will pick up the clean up costs anyway.

At a couple of workshops participants were unhappy with the prospect of increased car park charges as they felt this damaged small shops and businesses. Mitigation ideas for all proposals have been logged and will be considered as appropriate.

Reducing some services budget proposals

The two budget proposals that overall workshop participants across the county felt were most acceptable in terms of reducing some of our services were:

- Removal of funding in relation to school councils
- Removal of financial support for theatre tours in schools

Some proposals that had support, but only from one or two pairs or groups of participants were:

- Stop providing subsidised pest control services
- Removal of central budget to fund supply cover in schools
- Withdraw funding from some Tourist Information Centres (TICs)
- Cease cleaning only visits
- Reduce the music development fund
- Respite care closure in Ystradgynlais
- Review of school meals service

Reasons given around acceptance for some of these were that schools should be in control of their own budgets, a review of school meals could result in a considerable saving and that some TICs have already prepared budget wise for this. All comments have been logged and will be considered appropriately.

The table below provides details of the main proposals that participants were least comfortable with, who they felt would be impacted by it and what mitigation ideas they had, if any.

Proposal	Impact on whom?	Mitigation Ideas
Removal of funding for 'Meals on wheels'	Vulnerable people Staff employed in service Families Elderly Council's own budget – health care staff would have to be there for more time, resulting in higher costs in the long run.	i) Volunteers to provide the service instead. e.g. via the Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre. ii) Unemployed people to support the service. iii) Neighbours to help people. iv) pay people/volunteers to deliver meal and prescriptions. v) schools to cook and provide a meal vi) Red Cross or a.n.other third sector organisation to offer the service instead with some council funding given. <i>Additional comment: People who deliver meals can pick up on other problems/needs so it has value. Major opposition to this. A step the council should not take. People are guaranteed a hot meal – on other days perhaps they don't get a hot meal.</i>
Reduction of funding for Citizens Advice bureau	All people, older people, more vulnerable residents such as: the unemployed, disabled people, people on low wages, people who require care, people who have a mental disability and are now expected to access support through the web.	Good information on web available if you have access and wish to access in this way. Good information in local libraries or other venues. Solicitor advice available voluntarily for some groups. Support from other budgets? (But therefore no real saving to the Council) <i>Additional comment: CAB's have historically accessed other grants on the back of the council one and thus they may no longer be financially viable.</i>
Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients.	Vulnerable people, Older people, Disabled, Elderly Council's budget – not that many packages over £510 – but it's those who need the service that get it. Could lead to more costs elsewhere e.g. care / residential homes	Extenuating circumstances contingency fund? Exceptional cases. Service must be protected – but cap of £510 acceptable. <i>Additional comment: some participants queried if the £510 cost was for a week or a month or a day?</i>

Stop providing services to social care clients with 'moderate' needs.	Vulnerable people Their families	Community groups to provide support for moderate needs. <i>Additional comment: Preventing escalation to critical or substantial need is crucial and service should stay. Would moderate needs develop into acute needs in the long run if the service is not provided to those in moderate need now?</i>
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Alternative ideas put forward at the workshops to make savings.

Some people put forward alternative proposals to generate income. These included:

- Bus passes – charge a nominal fee of £10 to generate income via free bus passes.
- Charge for the use of public toilets to keep them open.
- Land disposal. Make land assets available for purchase.
- Charge holiday makers for: a) Internet use in Libraries b) Museum entrance fees
- Have fewer councillors – halve and save half a million or reduce salary and benefits.
- Second homes – treble council tax.
- Housing tenants currently receive a letter 2/3 times a year re: their rent which is on colour letter headed paper. If tenants have an email address these could be sent on-line instead and save printing and postage costs. Plus is there scope to pay rent online?
- Have regular meetings with the council instead of the Red Kite magazine to inform us what is happening.
- Use leasing schemes for things like properties and fleet. Sell off all your property and fleet and lease it back so you save money.
- Work closely with the third sector to ensure service continues and people are up-skilled to deliver them.
- Recreation. Save money by leasing public green space to local communities to manage (lease at peppercorn)
- Car sharing schemes, for members and staff
- Use local craftsmen and local services for maintenance work in schools, council buildings etc. This could prove much more cost effective than large contracts with large companies. The service could also be more reactive, and therefore save money in the long run, by fixing problems before they become a big job.
- Stop providing free breakfast at school
- Make cut in CEO's salary
- Put photo voltaics on all public buildings and the money raised can cover public services. Do not let "private" companies take these benefits.
- Removal of the county council. North Mont. to join Wrexham, Dyfi Valley to join Ceredigion / Meirionnydd, Ystradgynlais area to join NPT etc
- Redundancy agreements - £2.6m spent on gagging orders. This needs to stop.
- Wind Energy Public Inquiry. Don't spend an unnecessary £2.8m on solicitors in Welshpool and possibly a further £7m of developers' costs
- Get people on community service to help out in environment – collecting litter etc.
- Toilets – Develop scheme to encourage businesses to offer the use of their toilets.
- Waste management – recycling bins in each part of the town, particularly for green/food waste. Same as in rural areas. Go back to bring arrangements (allowing community groups to receive money for managing facilities).
- Invest in small scale renewable community owned renewable energy generation. Hydro, solar, wind. Work with others to start developing local energy grid.
- Property issues – work with other partners to create 1 stop shops.

- Transport – Utilise local expertise and consult more effectively – town and community councils. Consider impact.
- Relationships with community councils. Desire to do more but there is a lack of quality information i.e. electricity, running costs (Welshpool toilets)
- Need to build capacity and confidence in order to take on services. Budget support and sustainable support.
- Development of tele-health and tele-conferencing.

Questions raised at the workshops

At some workshops people raised questions and some are listed here to give a flavour of these. Answers to all questions will be sought and posted on the council's website by the end of February 2014.

- 1) 16+ transport re- education and youth jobs. How will young people and others who don't drive get to attend education or jobs if there is no transport?
- 2) Can you give an example of what you consider "moderate needs" versus "substantial or critical" are? More importantly how do you propose preventing an unmet "moderate need" from becoming "substantial or critical"?
- 3) Why is it no longer possible to recycle hard plastics at Ystradgynlais CA site? They have to go to landfill now.
- 4) School modernisation. Schools that close often have outside buildings that need to be secured prior to being sold. This costs money. How will closing a small school reduce this cost?
- 5) Increasing the cost from £6 to £35 for Day Service users is a big increase. Would people accessing this service get help to pay this increase? Would they be eligible for benefit support if they had little or no transferrable income?
- 6) Funds for schools re- school councils. Do we check how this money is spent currently?
- 7) Will there be any funding to cover Brecknock Access Group's handling of planning applications?
- 8) If school budgets are devolved what is the education service for?
- 9) Would not support paying more council tax (other delegate said would pay more if it saved some services).
- 10) If someone is on low income and they cannot afford to pay a private pest control company, what happens then?
- 11) Lease car costs – how expensive is this?
- 12) Is there scope for selling off more property?
- 13) Is Housing Stock Transfer still on the cards?
- 14) How will schools fund the various provisions themselves? Will there be an increase in their budget to cover them?
- 15) Why has PCC reneged on agreement not to charge business rates on toilets if they are taken over by Town Councils?
- 16) Why do councillors get free meals at their meetings including cream cakes?
- 17) Will Westminster support the people financially from all the job losses?

Appendix D: Suggestions in response to Question 4

In question 4, we asked respondents “How could we work together with the communities of Powys to reduce any negative impacts caused by these proposals?”

Many of the responses were essentially protesting against the proposals. However those proposals received are grouped in below. We have not included duplicate suggestions.

Support voluntary sector and town/community councils

- It is no good devolving services without supporting organisations such as PAVO and main voluntary organisations to support provision.
- Extensive consultation, and looking at taking on volunteers to train in roles that could be done by volunteers.
- Meaningful meetings in the various town and community council areas (perhaps the secondary schools' catchment or planning areas). These should include open meetings, meetings with the town and community councils and voluntary bodies, etc, to discuss possibilities.
- Many services can be delivered by Local Councils much cheaper, in this way services can be kept but they must be permanently funded.
- More volunteers to work in community (subject to police checks) given suitable training this can include retired teachers, nurses, police, social care, gap year students, graduates, (perhaps given recognition for community work some sort of certificate they can use their CV and paid expenses only plus national insurance contribution) cascaded training;
- Cease all funding in the third sector. Provide any required services in-house
- Town council can run the toilets but not this year as the precept has been set.
- Each town can develop its own identity more freely (Hay on Wye for books, Machynlleth for Eco tourism, etc). Please allow them more freedom.
- Define local areas (action zones) in which people can organise themselves to cover services. Convene and appoint coordinators who will take over the voluntary organisations and secede from the authority. Make clear that if there is no self-help then we will have differential services or no services in parts of the county.
- Development funding for community group collaboration extended
- If you were to decide to reorganise the services in Machynlleth for example, this should be done following local consultation on the basis of a review of all the present services and investment that the council has in the town. Then there should be a re-organisation of the public services in the area (the whole of Bro Ddyfi) in a logical way using local organisations and associations to undertake various duties, perhaps with the help of volunteers. This could entail bringing several bodies, initiatives, organisations and associations together to create a “community company”.

Finance

- In England, business rates from wind farms are being retained by local authorities. Calculated at £10,000 per installed MW, Powys could receive an annual income of £18 million + with all the wind farms in the planning system.
- The council could run 'fund, fundraising workshops or How to access grants' for communities.
- Cut the number of councillors and their financial rewards in order to eliminate some cuts and to show residents we are all in the same boat!
- I support an increase in Council Tax.
- Payment of rates - why do you not offer the facility to make "1 off" payments direct. I will not use direct debit but would use on line banking to make a monthly payment. This would save, other councils have this facility

- If Powys County Council came to interested bodies early enough then some consensus could be reached based upon the needs of the population not the views of the politicians. Suggest that discussions start NOW for agreements on the services required for 2015-2016 rather than provide us a fait accompli as this year.
- Allowing council tax to be paid over 11 or 12 months instead of 10 may help with monthly budgets.
- You've got amounts of money sitting in local banks due to closure of small groups like 'Local Community Fora' - nobody has accessed these funds!

Schools

- Facilitate federation within the school modernisation programme.
- Use schools 24/7.
- Free school meals are dated and a untrue reflection on funding needed. Students eligible often don't claim for various reasons. Bids should be allowed from the schools instead.
- I feel that English & Welsh should be taught in our schools and other languages should be taught as second languages. We shouldn't have to fund European languages as first languages in our schools.
- Savings could be made if across the board school holidays are reduced to max 5 weeks a year with no more than 2 weeks in Summer. Saving on heating costs could be made if the remaining 3weeks holidays could be taken during Christmas, February and Easter. If schools are used in warmer weather little heating would be needed compared to current position.
- School councils are in my opinion a waste of time and money.
- Lessen the amount of classroom assistants in schools.
- Support for children through Powys' own on-line teaching tutorials where 'model' classes in GCSE and college subjects are streamed on-line to view again by pupils to support curriculum.

Libraries

- If a library were to close a mobile one would need to take its place.
- Liaise with local colleges/further education providers to have shared library/IT facilities, in post 16 education centres.
- Charge for library books?
- Train volunteers to man libraries.
- I suggest libraries charge a £2 fee to all computer users who are not Powys residents.
- We are regular users of the library and I think a voluntary annual membership charge would be well accepted.

Car Parking

- Engage in discussion with town centre business communities and look at smart ways of managing car parking.
- If you cut Public Transport you will force more in to Cars. And increasing Car park charges will be wrong.

Transport

- Official lift share organisations to help with transport changes and for lifts to libraries.
- I believe that street lighting should be turned off at midnight and back on for six am.
- Post 16 Education travel charges If charges are brought in then make them minimal and also review tenders realistically.

Communications

- Have more open workshops, roadshows across the county detailing implications of service reductions/changes.
- Talk to people face-to-face more often to seek solutions, rather than simply presenting a list of 'options' which this set of proposals comes across as.

- How much would you save by getting rid of that newsletter that gets delivered around Powys (and Herefordshire for some reason) by the postmen?
- Myself and 99% of the people I talk to would strongly support being able to opt for forms and literature produced by Powys to be in either English or Welsh.
- Better use of existing IT - video conferencing, Skype etc.;
- Publish a full easy read report so people can see exactly what is spent where.
- Ask for ideas from all - open a forum on internet for ideas.
- Not specifically this question, but I am surprised to note that a reduction in bi-lingual signage is not something being considered.

Operations

- The council could save money by avoiding waste, such as using leaf blowers to remove leaves on windy days when they will be blown straight back on to the path again (I have witnessed this). Also, save money on fuel by not using leaf blowers at all but hand rakes.
- Call on farmers to remove road kill from roads for us.
- Set up neighbourhood groups to cut communal grass areas.
- Get offenders out on streets to help out.
- I am currently a members of a small group of volunteers who help maintain footpaths. We are under-used. We know there is a lot we could do if we were allowed.
- Trade and other waste collection can be consolidated in suitable areas and sites. E.g. Collections in Aberangell are made by Gwynedd and Powys trucks. Cross border or border area collections can be rationalised.
- Would communities consider consolidating their waste so that less time/labour is used during collection.
- Powys CC needs to review how many & to what standard it maintains small, rural roads. Many places are served by more than 1 narrow lanes, and some of these lanes may add convenience but could be allowed to deteriorate to being tracks without many if any people being disadvantaged.
- I would also like to think that if any services have to be taken over by private contractors, (e.g. grass cutting, street cleaning, recycling) local businesses within the local community should be considered above others.
- Refuse collection - why pay overtime for bank holidays when you could easily absorb into another day.
- Please stop cutting roadside grass so much - even in December when it is not growing at all.
- Can you get Potters to take over more of the recycling sites?

Staff

- Reduce the number of officers etc in the County Council
- I feel that there's a huge amount of management that could be cut but fear that as usually happens it will be the staff that actually serve us each day that will be cut, then we're will we be?

- If staff were charged car parking fees the same as everyone else who uses a motor to go to work it would go a long way to paying for the rest of us not to pay higher charges.
- Everyone over retirement age to be made to retire. Do not allow people who have left authority to be reemployed elsewhere.
- If those making the decisions are to command the respect of those who will bear the brunt of the cuts then we need to look at the very high salaries paid to some of those in top management positions. To argue that these salaries are justified by comparing with vastly inflated salaries in business and banking is completely false..
- Stop employing consultants.
- On a personal basis, I would be prepared to accept the suggestion of a 1% across the board pay cut for all council employees, and councillors
- As Powys employee sickness levels have a huge impact on the council. Staff who abuse the system to be rewarded in ways such as less work or even a new post. Staff who continue to work are less thought of.
- Everyone must budget including PCC. We do not need or cannot afford 22 authorities. Local gov. must reform itself. More intensive checking of councillors and council employees in relation to claims for expenses etc which have proved to be fictitious at all levels of government.
- Why have a subsidised canteen? Buffet lunches.
- By having a single person (role) to act as a community's liaison for council services.
- Stop final salary pensions provide only State minimum redundancy payments.
- Increase staffing on lower grades providing jobs for locals so that more money will be spent in the local community as well, and less staff at the top with their salaries revised to lower levels. That will make the community feel that the Council is for them and not separate from them.
- I think a 4 day week for staff would be much better than giving out redundancy notices.

Social Care

- Stop the re tendering of the supported living services. Re tender the services as the individual service contracts end, not in the proposed clustering. Look at each service contracts/hours and costs individually this will allow big savings, low costs to do and limited impact on users.
- Providers of social care, training etc could be encouraged to develop co-operatives to avoid duplication of services and ensure best practice.
- Maybe incorporate the meals on wheels with the school meals?
- Enlist people who can work but can't find a job to volunteer to assist elderly people (buddy systems) to take people to appointments/take them food shopping, ensure they're ok.
- Meals on wheels volunteers - could go into homes and cook Wiltshire meals for people would only take 10 minutes in microwave - individuals pay for own meal, but volunteers give 10 minutes cheer & make sure meal is cooked & eaten.
- Meals on wheels used to be delivered by WRVS, why can this not be done again. Perhaps a local caterer could be asked to tender for cooking meals.

Leisure

- Promote and improve leisure facilities so they are used more frequently thus generating more income. The marketing of Leisure Services is very poor at the moment.
- We need to look more at those who don't work and get help, we could get them involved in volunteer work e.g. they could care for our rugby fields.
- Sports facilities could be run by local groups but this is reliant on the willingness, time and effort from local people.
- Offer discounts to regular users of clubs that book regularly at leisure centres.

- Regarding maintenance of sporting facilities the main issue is the purchase and safe storage of expensive equipment. A sharing and access agreement would allow club members to take over the maintenance of their facilities but cannot do it in a piecemeal fashion.
- Gain CRB checks for local contractors to carry out local work at leisure facilities.
- Fundraising events for rugby/cricket pitches.

Museums

- Close all the museums, how much would that save?
- A small charge should be made to enter museums

Process

- Effective and comprehensive Equality Impact assessments should be carried out BEFORE service change.
- Coordinate with Powys health Board e.g. re continuing care and not assume that costs can be transferred.

Misc.

- Combine services such as toilets/TIC include a retail outlet for services etc. to finance.
- Provide tourist information points at council's own premises by council staff such as council offices/leisure centres etc
- Support of local energy generation schemes. This will help benefit previously established Powys businesses as well as encouraging new growth.
- It seems a non-brainer to me that wind farm levy coming to communities can be used to provide services.
- Stick to legal responsibilities why do you own a caravan park
- Central government in Wales is obsessed with farming interests and spends millions each year defending / supporting what amounts to 0.5% of the economy. Lobby WAG and Westminster / Europe so that the money spent on CAP can be diverted to the rest of the economy (99.5%).
- PCC should retain management and upkeep of buildings, inc. business rates with communities contributing to day to day costs
- Cut out expensive civil ceremonies - exchange trips - banquets and pomp and circumstance.
- Could save a bit by not issuing free bus passes or swimming to elderly who can afford to pay, e.g. not on benefits.
- PCC own lots of property land and woodland but it is not being utilised to its potential. Has an assessment been made on its suitability for renewables? Use the timber in biomass boilers to heat the swimming pools and claim the RHI, an income and creating/saving jobs.
- Maybe, tourist information centres could be incorporated into existing businesses such as local Post Offices
- We must look at other Authorities and the measures they are taking. Is it working for them? How would it work here?

Code	Budget Proposal	Yes	Percentage Yes	No	Percentage No	Base
21	Review of expenditure with third parties across service areas. Review of Contracts and other areas of spend to ensure that goods and services are purchased for the optimum cost. This will save £938,820.]	1141	96	47	4	1188
28	Fleet/Vehicle Operations. Transform the councils Fleet service to reduce cost. This will save £1,300,340.]	1137	96	50	4	1187
13	Review and reorganisation of the Council's Property portfolio. Better use of the property we own to reduce the buildings required and associated running costs. This will save £108,000.]	1223	96	56	4	1279
33	Increase recovery of court costs. Recover court costs in full when taking non-payers to court. This will raise £30,000.]	1068	92	89	8	1157
32	Regeneration Fees and Charges. Review all discretionary fees and charges to ensure that full costs are being recovered. This will be a full review to ensure the Council is charging for all appropriate services at an appropriate cost recovery price. This will raise £35,000.]	941	90	110	10	1051
22	Landowners take responsibility for safeguarding closed landfill sites. Recent case law has shown that the Council does not have a responsibility to manage closed landfills on site it does not own. Thus this initiative will return the responsibility for these sites to their owner. The savings will be made as the Council will not have to pay to remove leachate from a number of key sites, as this is the landowner's responsibility. This will save £20,000.]	1028	89	126	11	1154
2	Collection of Waste. Continue to transform the collection of Waste to make it more efficient. This will save £500,000.	1149	87	175	13	1324
24	Reduce cost of Managing the Workshops. Revise the management associated with the provision of workshop units by not renewing an external contract and providing this service through the Council's own staffing. This will save £10,000	948	87	147	13	1095

	Provide Community Safety training and services to other bodies.					
	Introduce charging for training that we can provide and co-ordinate					
39	services with partner agencies to share the cost. This will raise £10,500.]	924	86	151	14	1075
	Comission Grave Digging Services. No change to the service to the public.					
12	This will save £8,000.]	1001	86	169	14	1170
	Review Grounds Maintenance provision across the Council . Review the frequency of grass cutting etc, and develop more cost effective corporate					
6	work patterns and procedures. This will save £127,500.]	1130	86	191	14	1321
	Laboratory Work. Sell laboratory work to private clients, for example we have just won the work for the calibration of weights for a Hereford					
36	manufacturer. This will raise £1,000.]	910	86	154	14	1064
	Reallocation of responsibility for the collection and disposal of clinical waste from householders. Transfer the operation for the collection and disposal of clinical waste to Powys teaching Health Board or continue Council collection and recharge the health board.This would raise					
40	£60,000.]	931	85	166	15	1097
	Use of Council properties for Homeless. Use Council properties to house homeless clients rather than utilising provision outside of the Council. This					
16	will save £13,000	1025	85	186	15	1211
	Introduction of dewatering system. Removal of water from leaves and debris collected along the roads to reduce the weight cost of waste going					
27	into landfill. This will save £13,490.]	975	85	177	15	1152
	Cease cash transactions. Cash transactions transferred to Post Offices					
19	and local All Pay providers. This will save £100,000.]	986	81	230	19	1216
	Provide advice and training on food and health and safety legislation.					
	Deliver and charge for professional training to Powys businesses to help them comply with the legislative requirements around food safety, health and safety etc. Charges for advice will be made once the demand level reaches beyond that of a straightforward enquiry – based on per					
41	hour published rates. This will raise £4,000.]	874	80	217	20	1091

	Pre - Planning Advice and Planning Performance Agreements. Introduce pre-planning advice fees and charges for businesses. This will be in the form of “full team” discussion with developers (including Traffic Management, Environmental Health, Conservation etc) as well as the subsequent preparation of written advice on the proposals. Planning Performance Agreements will result in grant aid from Welsh Government as long a pre-determined targets are achieved by the					
37	planning service. This will raise £45,000	844	80	210	20	1054
	Seek funding from Health Board. Seek Health Authority Funding to support Continuing Health Care Decisions and end of life care and other					
30	services. This will raise £220,000.]	898	79	233	21	1131
	1 Reduce staff and management. Saving of £6,488,829	969	77	289	23	1258
	Removal of funding in relation to School Councils. Schools will fund this					
47	provision themselves. This will save £31,200.]	712	67	351	33	1063
	Establish sports associations to maintain pitches. Local sports associations					
5	established to maintain manage local sports pitches. £18,000.]	823	66	422	34	1245
	Review of Learning Disability Provision. Review and Re-assessment of					
	clients with Learning Disability to ensure that provision is appropriate for					
	the client. Including the review of Out of County Placements. This will save					
15	£375,000.]	749	65	402	35	1151
	Review of Mental Health Residential Placements. Review of residential					
	placements to ensure that provision is appropriate for the client. This will					
14	save £60,000.]	752	65	405	35	1157
	Highways, transport and recycling fees and charges. Increase fees and					
	charges for things like on-street licences, skips, scaffolding, trade waste					
34	for example. This will raise £70,000.]	733	65	396	35	1129
	Transfer sports pavilions to communities. Communities/sports					
	organisations will be responsible for sports pavilions. This will save					
4	£20,000. (2015/16).]	715	57	534	43	1249

43	Stop providing subsidised pest control services. The council currently provides pest control services for insect and animal eradication (fleas, mice, rats, cockroaches, wasps etc) at a subsidised price. This will no longer happen, providing local business opportunities. This will save £25,000.]	632	57	474	43	1106
25	Removal of Funding for transport to support swimming lessons in primary schools. This will mean that schools will need to source funding for this themselves. Many schools already do this. This will save £65,000.]	661	55	549	45	1210
46	Remove financial support for theatre tours in schools. Schools will fund this provision themselves. This will save £20,000.]	607	55	505	45	1112
50	[Review of the School Meals Service. Review of the service delivered to reduce cost. This will save £292,000.]	595	55	496	45	1091
3	Devolve sports facilities to community. Communities will be responsible for maintenance of rugby/cricket pitches. This will save £40,000.	694	54	581	46	1275
7	Review of Youth Service property and services. Review of the number of properties delivering youth services and develop improved working with partner agencies. This will save £38,000.]	661	54	557	46	1218
42	Withdraw funding from some Community Tourist Information Centres. We will change the way we fund TICs by adopting a more strategic approach which will result in some cuts to existing providers but allow for a TIC presence in the North, Mid and South of the county. This will save £12,500	570	53	496	47	1066
29	Car Parking charges. Increase car parking charges in all our pay and display car parks. A ticket for motorcars that currently costs 50p for up to 1 hour will cost 70p as from April 2014. Tickets for up to 2 hours and up to 4 hours will increase from £1.00 and £2.00 to £1.40 and £2.80 respectively. Charges for over 4 hours will go up from £2.50 to £3.50. This will raise £178,000.]	637	52	582	48	1219
20	Automated telephone system. Calls will be handled by automated call system. THis will save £133,200.]	635	52	593	48	1228

Transformation of Passenger Transport services across the Council. The funding the council receives from Welsh Government has reduced therefore the amount of subsidy given to bus companies to provide passenger transport in the county will be reduced. A review of all passenger transport across the Authority, including home to school and social care transport will be carried out to reduce costs. This may mean					
17 the reduction of some public service routes. This will save £2,000,000	590	49	602	51	1192
School Modernisation. Small schools to be federated or closed as part of					
10 modernisation process. This will save £156,000	640	49	655	51	1295
Reduction of funding for Citizens Advice Bureau. The council will cut the funding from the social care budget which goes towards Citizens Advice Bureau. The council will still support the CAB from other budgets. This					
56 will save £130,000.]	530	49	547	51	1077
[Removal of funding for the central library service for schools. The ‘Bookrunner’ service would cease. Schools would no longer have access to a central schools library service. Schools would be able to access the general library service and many already access material via the internet.					
26 This will save £65,000.]	577	49	610	51	1187
ICT requirements to be delegated to Schools. Schools will fund this					
49 provision themselves. This will save £150,000.]	506	48	549	52	1055
Removal of central budget to fund supply cover in schools. Schools will					
48 fund this provision themselves. This will save £163,000.]	513	48	560	52	1073
Cease Cleaning only visits. Visits to Clients for cleaning only will cease.					
53 This will save £3,750.]	496	48	543	52	1039
Leisure review. A review of Leisure provision within Sports and Leisure Centres will be undertaken to ensure that services are viable. This will include consideration of transferring some facilities to community					
23 groups / schools or closure. This will save £1,000,000. (2015/16)]	535	46	623	54	1158

<p>Close the short stay respite house in Ystradgynlais for clients with learning disabilities. Respite care would be offered in Brecon instead.</p>	476	46	556	54	1032
<p>54 This will raise £76,500</p>					
<p>Reduce the Music Development Fund. This will mean the withdrawal of the fund which supports music development. This will save £40,000</p>	500	45	600	55	1100
<p>45</p>					
<p>Schools Budgets. Transfer of responsibility to schools of insurance, severance pay and central services. Review of the schools funding formula particularly in relation to Bilingual provision, Special Educational Needs funding and property related allowances. This will save £1,110,000.]</p>	520	44	666	56	1186
<p>11</p>					
<p>Stop providing services to social care clients with Moderate needs. The council will only provide social care services to people whose needs have been assessed as Substantial or Critical. Clients with Moderate needs would be given support to access other council services or services from the independent sector. This will save £100,000.]</p>	443	42	614	58	1057
<p>52</p>					
<p>Library service review. A review of Library provision with some Libraries being managed by local communities or closed. This will save £350,000. (2015/16)]</p>	531	41	752	59	1283
<p>8</p>					
<p>Increase charges for Learning Disability Respite. Ensure that clients receiving service are financially assessed and charged where appropriate. This will raise £7,000.]</p>	452	41	661	59	1113
<p>31</p>					
<p>Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients. Home care services will be capped at this amount. Service users who require larger packages than this will either have the option of paying for additional provision themselves or moving into nursing or residential care. This will save £380,000.]</p>	388	38	636	62	1024
<p>55</p>					
<p>Reduce community grants by 5%. This will mean less financial support for community groups. This will save £15,000.]</p>	391	36	700	64	1091
<p>44</p>					

9	Schools Additional Learning Needs service. Additional Learning Needs to be restructured and delivered through mainstream schools rather than specialist units. This will save £350,000.]	459	36	831	64	1290
38	Introduce Charging for Post 16 Transport. Students accessing Post 16 Education at either school or college will be charged if using transport provided by the Authority. This will raise £350,000	403	35	737	65	1140
51	Removal of funding for Meals on Wheels. This will stop the Meals on Wheels Service as it is currently provided. Customers unable to prepare a meal will receive support from the council's home care staff. Other customers will be directed to independent sector provision. This will save £80,250.]	231	21	874	79	1105
18	Close older persons day centres. Centres to be closed with service delivered using other council/community facilities. This will save £250,000.]	212	17	1035	83	1247
35	Day Services charges for older people. Increase the cost of attendance for residents accessing day care from £6 per day to £35 per day to cover the full cost. This will raise £10,000.]	80	7	1100	93	1180

Budget proposal - Survey findings

Code		Percentage		Percentage		Base
		Yes	Yes	No	No	
TRANSFORMING SERVICES						
1	Reduce staff and management. Saving of £6,488,829	969	77	289	23	1258
2	Collection of Waste. Continue to transform the collection of Waste to make it more efficient. This will save £500,000.	1149	87	175	13	1324
3	Devolve sports facilities to community. Communities will be responsible for maintenance of rugby/cricket pitches. This will save £40,000.	694	54	581	46	1275
4	Transfer sports pavilions to communities. Communities/sports organisations will be responsible for sports pavilions. This will save £20,000. (2015/16).]	715	57	534	43	1249
5	Establish sports associations to maintain pitches. Local sports associations established to maintain manage local sports pitches. £18,000.]	823	66	422	34	1245
6	Review Grounds Maintenance provision across the Council . Review the frequency of grass cutting etc, and develop more cost effective corporate work patterns and procedures. This will save £127,500.]	1130	86	191	14	1321
7	Review of Youth Service property and services. Review of the number of properties delivering youth services and develop improved working with partner agencies. This will save £38,000.]	661	54	557	46	1218
8	Library service review. A review of Library provision with some Libraries being managed by local communities or closed. This will save £350,000. (2015/16)]	531	41	752	59	1283
9	Schools Additional Learning Needs service. Additional Learning Needs to be restructured and delivered through mainstream schools rather than specialist units. This will save £350,000.]	459	36	831	64	1290
10	School Modernisation. Small schools to be federated or closed as part of modernisation process. This will save £156,000	640	49	655	51	1295
11	Schools Budgets. Transfer of responsibility to schools of insurance, severance pay and central services. Review of the schools funding formula particularly in relation to Bilingual provision, Special Educational Needs funding and property related allowances. This will save £1,110,000.]	520	44	666	56	1186
12	Comission Grave Digging Services. No change to the service to the public. This will save £8,000.]	1001	86	169	14	1170

13	Review and reorganisation of the Council's Property portfolio. Better use of the property we own to reduce the buildings required and associated running costs. This will save £108,000.]	1223	96	56	4	1279
14	Review of Mental Health Residential Placements. Review of residential placements to ensure that provision is appropriate for the client. This will save £60,000.]	752	65	405	35	1157
15	Review of Learning Disability Provision. Review and Re-assessment of clients with Learning Disability to ensure that provision is appropriate for the client. Including the review of Out of County Placements. This will save £375,000.]	749	65	402	35	1151
16	Use of Council properties for Homeless. Use Council properties to house homeless clients rather than utilising provision outside of the Council. This will save £13,000	1025	85	186	15	1211
17	Transformation of Passenger Transport services across the Council. The funding the council receives from Welsh Government has reduced therefore the amount of subsidy given to bus companies to provide passenger transport in the county will be reduced. A review of all passenger transport across the Authority, including home to school and social care transport will be carried out to reduce costs. This may mean the reduction of some public service routes. This will save £2,000,000	590	49	602	51	1192
18	Close older persons day centres. Centres to be closed with service delivered using other council/community facilities. This will save £250,000.]	212	17	1035	83	1247
19	Cease cash transactions. Cash transactions transferred to Post Offices and local All Pay providers. This will save £100,000.]	986	81	230	19	1216
20	Automated telephone system. Calls will be handled by automated call system. This will save £133,200.]	635	52	593	48	1228
21	Review of expenditure with third parties across service areas. Review of Contracts and other areas of spend to ensure that goods and services are purchased for the optimum cost. This will save £938,820.]	1141	96	47	4	1188
22	Landowners take responsibility for safeguarding closed landfill sites. Recent case law has shown that the Council does not have a responsibility to manage closed landfills on site it does not own. Thus this initiative will return the responsibility for these sites to their owner. The savings will be made as the Council will not have to pay to remove leachate from a number of key sites, as this is the landowner's responsibility. This will save £20,000.]	1028	89	126	11	1154

23	Leisure review. A review of Leisure provision within Sports and Leisure Centres will be undertaken to ensure that services are viable. This will include consideration of transferring some facilities to community groups / schools or closure. This will save £1,000,000. (2015/16)]	535	46	623	54	1158
24	Reduce cost of Managing the Workshops. Revise the management associated with the provision of workshop units by not renewing an external contract and providing this service through the Council's own staffing. This will save £10,000	948	87	147	13	1095
25	Removal of Funding for transport to support swimming lessons in primary schools. This will mean that schools will need to source funding for this themselves. Many schools already do this. This will save £65,000.]	661	55	549	45	1210
26	[Removal of funding for the central library service for schools. The 'Bookrunner' service would cease. Schools would no longer have access to a central schools library service. Schools would be able to access the general library service and many already access material via the internet. This will save £65,000.]	577	49	610	51	1187
27	Introduction of dewatering system. Removal of water from leaves and debris collected along the roads to reduce the weight cost of waste going into landfill. This will save £13,490.]	975	85	177	15	1152
28	Fleet/Vehicle Operations. Transform the councils Fleet service to reduce cost. This will save £1,300,340.]	1137	96	50	4	1187

INCREASING CHARGES FOR EXISTING SERVICES

29	Car Parking charges. Increase car parking charges in all our pay and display car parks. A ticket for motorcars that currently costs 50p for up to 1 hour will cost 70p as from April 2014. Tickets for up to 2 hours and up to 4 hours will increase from £1.00 and £2.00 to £1.40 and £2.80 respectively. Charges for over 4 hours will go up from £2.50 to £3.50. This will raise £178,000.]	637	52	582	48	1219
30	Seek funding from Health Board. Seek Health Authority Funding to support Continuing Health Care Decisions and end of life care and other services. This will raise £220,000.]	898	79	233	21	1131
31	Increase charges for Learning Disability Respite. Ensure that clients receiving service are financially assessed and charged where appropriate. This will raise £7,000.]	452	41	661	59	1113
32	Regeneration Fees and Charges. Review all discretionary fees and charges to ensure that full costs are being recovered. This will be a full review to ensure the Council is charging for all appropriate services at an appropriate cost recovery price. This will raise £35,000.]	941	90	110	10	1051

33	Increase recovery of court costs. Recover court costs in full when taking non-payers to court. This will raise £30,000.]	1068	92	89	8	1157
34	Highways, transport and recycling fees and charges. Increase fees and charges for things like on-street licences, skips, scaffolding, trade waste for example. This will raise £70,000.]	733	65	396	35	1129
35	Day Services charges for older people. Increase the cost of attendance for residents accessing day care from £6 per day to £35 per day to cover the full cost. This will raise £10,000.]	80	7	1100	93	1180

INTRODUCING NEW FEES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICES

36	Laboratory Work. Sell laboratory work to private clients, for example we have just won the work for the calibration of weights for a Hereford manufacturer. This will raise £1,000.]	910	86	154	14	1064
37	Pre - Planning Advice and Planning Performance Agreements. Introduce pre-planning advice fees and charges for businesses. This will be in the form of “full team” discussion with developers (including Traffic Management, Environmental Health, Conservation etc) as well as the subsequent preparation of written advice on the proposals. Planning Performance Agreements will result in grant aid from Welsh Government as long a pre-determined targets are achieved by the planning service. This will raise £45,000	844	80	210	20	1054
38	Introduce Charging for Post 16 Transport. Students accessing Post 16 Education at either school or college will be charged if using transport provided by the Authority. This will raise £350,000	403	35	737	65	1140
39	Provide Community Safety training and services to other bodies. Introduce charging for training that we can provide and co-ordinate services with partner agencies to share the cost. This will raise £10,500.]	924	86	151	14	1075
40	Reallocation of responsibility for the collection and disposal of clinical waste from householders. Transfer the operation for the collection and disposal of clinical waste to Powys teaching Health Board or continue Council collection and recharge the health board.This would raise £60,000.]	931	85	166	15	1097
41	Provide advice and training on food and health and safety legislation. Deliver and charge for professional training to Powys businesses to help them comply with the legislative requirements around food safety, health and safety etc. Charges for advice will be made once the demand level reaches beyond that of a straightforward enquiry – based on per hour published rates. This will raise £4,000.]	874	80	217	20	1091

REDUCING SOME OF OUR SERVICES

42	Withdraw funding from some Community Tourist Information Centres. We will change the way we fund TICs by adopting a more strategic approach which will result in some cuts to existing providers but allow for a TIC presence in the North, Mid and South of the county. This will save £12,500	570	53	496	47	1066
43	Stop providing subsidised pest control services. The council currently provides pest control services for insect and animal eradication (fleas, mice, rats, cockroaches, wasps etc) at a subsidised price. This will no longer happen, providing local business opportunities. This will save £25,000.]	632	57	474	43	1106
44	Reduce community grants by 5%. This will mean less financial support for community groups. This will save £15,000.]	391	36	700	64	1091
45	Reduce the Music Development Fund. This will mean the withdrawal of the fund which supports music development. This will save £40,000	500	45	600	55	1100
46	Remove financial support for theatre tours in schools. Schools will fund this provision themselves. This will save £20,000.]	607	55	505	45	1112
47	Removal of funding in relation to School Councils. Schools will fund this provision themselves. This will save £31,200.]	712	67	351	33	1063
48	Removal of central budget to fund supply cover in schools. Schools will fund this provision themselves. This will save £163,000.]	513	48	560	52	1073
49	ICT requirements to be delegated to Schools. Schools will fund this provision themselves. This will save £150,000.]	506	48	549	52	1055
50	[Review of the School Meals Service. Review of the service delivered to reduce cost. This will save £292,000.]	595	55	496	45	1091
51	Removal of funding for Meals on Wheels. This will stop the Meals on Wheels Service as it is currently provided. Customers unable to prepare a meal will receive support from the council's home care staff. Other customers will be directed to independent sector provision. This will save £80,250.]	231	21	874	79	1105
52	Stop providing services to social care clients with Moderate needs. The council will only provide social care services to people whose needs have been assessed as Substantial or Critical. Clients with Moderate needs would be given support to access other council services or services from the independent sector. This will save £100,000.]	443	42	614	58	1057
53	Cease Cleaning only visits. Visits to Clients for cleaning only will cease. This will save £3,750.]	496	48	543	52	1039

54	Close the short stay respite house in Ystradgynlais for clients with learning disabilities. Respite care would be offered in Brecon instead. This will raise £76,500	476	46	556	54	1032
55	Home care support will be limited to packages costing no more than £510 for existing social care clients. Home care services will be capped at this amount. Service users who require larger packages than this will either have the option of paying for additional provision themselves or moving into nursing or residential care. This will save £380,000.]	388	38	636	62	1024
56	Reduction of funding for Citizens Advice Bureau. The council will cut the funding from the social care budget which goes towards Citizens Advice Bureau. The council will still support the CAB from other budgets. This will save £130,000.]	530	49	547	51	1077