

		SAVING - ADD to Surplus	COST - DEDUCT from Surplus	Local Democracy Week (where comparable)	Response no 1
<p>The Budget Consultation pack has detailed explanations of the current budget surplus of £108,000 for the continuation of current services. Each of the options below is explained in further detail in the pack for your consideration. Once you have made your choice please enter any savings as positive numbers, and any costs as negative numbers, in the yellow column. Once complete please submit to budget@rossendalebc.gov.uk by 29th January 2010. Responses will be reported to Cabinet on 17th February 2010.</p>					
1 Overall Savings, Resources Options and potential costs					
	a Staff pay rise currently assumes 1% - reduce this to ½ %	35		35	35
	b Staff pay rise - reduce assumptions by further ½% to zero	35			
Choose any combination or nothing	c Savings during staff turnover occurrences	40		40	40
	d Reduce general contingency - up to £90k potential saving	?			30
	e Charging for delivery and replacement cost of wheelie bins	5		0	
	f Reduce income expectations due to current economic climate		?		
2 Leisure Services Investment Proposals					
Choose one option or nothing - this assumes £2.5 m of capital & borrowing is available	a Cost £3.0m (so net £0.5m to be funded from C Tax)		-35	(35)	
	b Cost £3.5m (so net £1.0m to be funded from C Tax)		-70		(70)
	c Cost £4.0m (so net £1.5m to be funded from C Tax)		-105		
3 More Investment in Pride in Rossendale (examples...)					
Choose any option(s) or nothing	a Community street furniture - bins, benches and notice boards		-15		
	b Celebrating Rossendale - Mela and Fireworks display		-15		
	c Community DIY - giving funding direct to community groups		-15		
	d Other Pride in Rossendale.....		?		
4 Waste - operational improvements required to the accessing of narrow streets					
Must choose one option	a Residents take their own bins to collective pick-up points		Nil	0	
	b New team with a van to handle longer distance collection points		-55		(55)
	c 2 full new collection crews to take all bins to collection points		-105		
5 Increase in Council Tax rates - 3% is currently built into the budget for 2010/11					
Choose any option or nothing to leave at 3% increase	a Reduce the Council Tax increase to 2%, saving 5p per week on a Band D (average) property		-55		(55)
	b Reduce the Council Tax increase to 1%, saving 10p per week on a Band D (average) property		-110	(110)	
	c Reduce the Council Tax increase to 0%, saving 15p per week on a Band D (average) property - ie. remain at 2009/10 levels		-164		
	d Other suggestions (Council Tax cannot increase by more than 3% in total)		?		
6 Other initiatives, issues and options - You suggest					
State any other option(s) or nothing	a	?	?		
	b	?	?		
	c	?	?		
	d	?	?		
Subtotal - the financial impacts of your choices above			Sub-total	(70)	(75)
Current Budget SURPLUS assuming a 3% Council Tax rise and current service levels				108	108
This total must be at least zero so that the budget balances. If it remains as a positive surplus, this will give scope for you to make a further Council Tax reduction in 2010/11. This total cannot be negative.			Total	38	33

Comments received

"You have made it interactive and fun as well as allowing people to believe they are influencing decisions. I hope many more take advantage to make your efforts to engage worth while and that they give it quite a bit more thought than I did." - Customer

"I was disappointed to see that improving the poor quality private housing stock is not a council priority and I would like to try and get it higher on the members radar as an important issue. The Rossendale House Condition survey 2009 found 36.2% of properties in Rossendale 'non-decent'. There is the equivalent of 1 full time officer working on dealing with complaints about the standards of private rented accommodation of which there are over 3,600 properties and as we promote the service we are becoming overwhelmed with requests for service to assist tenants. Officers in Environmental Health are willing, able and are keen to improve property standards but are becoming frustrated as we're unable to do as much as we want to and we truly feel more resources for private sector housing would be invaluable. I fully support 'Pride in Rossendale' and its making a positive difference to the look of the valley however I feel the Council are still not getting inside enough front doors and improving the

"SPEND THE MONEY GRITTING SIDE ROADS AND PLACE GRITTING BINS ON THEM
LETS GET ONE THING RIGHT BEFORE YOU MAKE A MESS AGAIN OF ANY OTHER PROJECT" - Customer