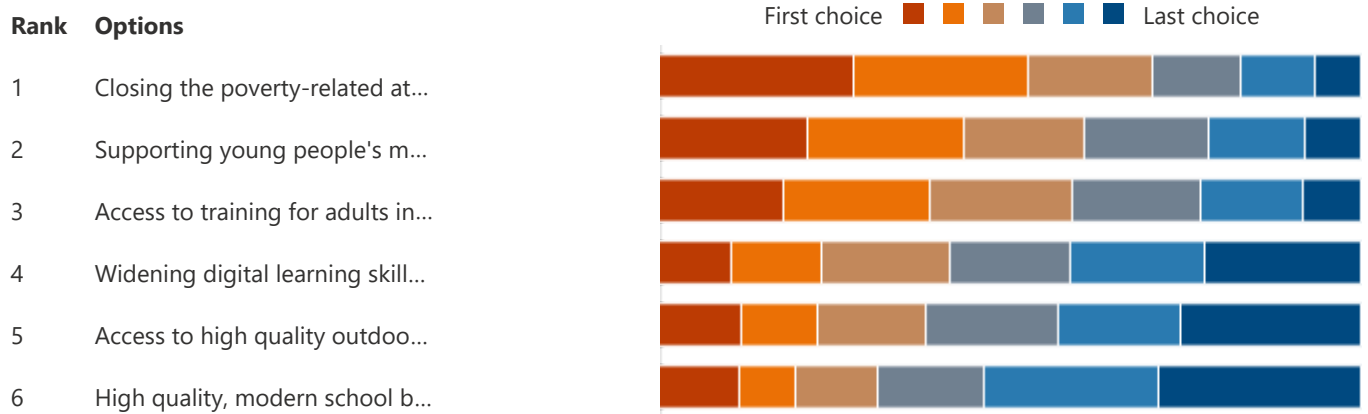


2. As one of our biggest services, we spend around a third of Council resources on Education. There are a number of legal requirements such as pupil/teacher ratios which impact on the flexibility of how the budget can be spent.

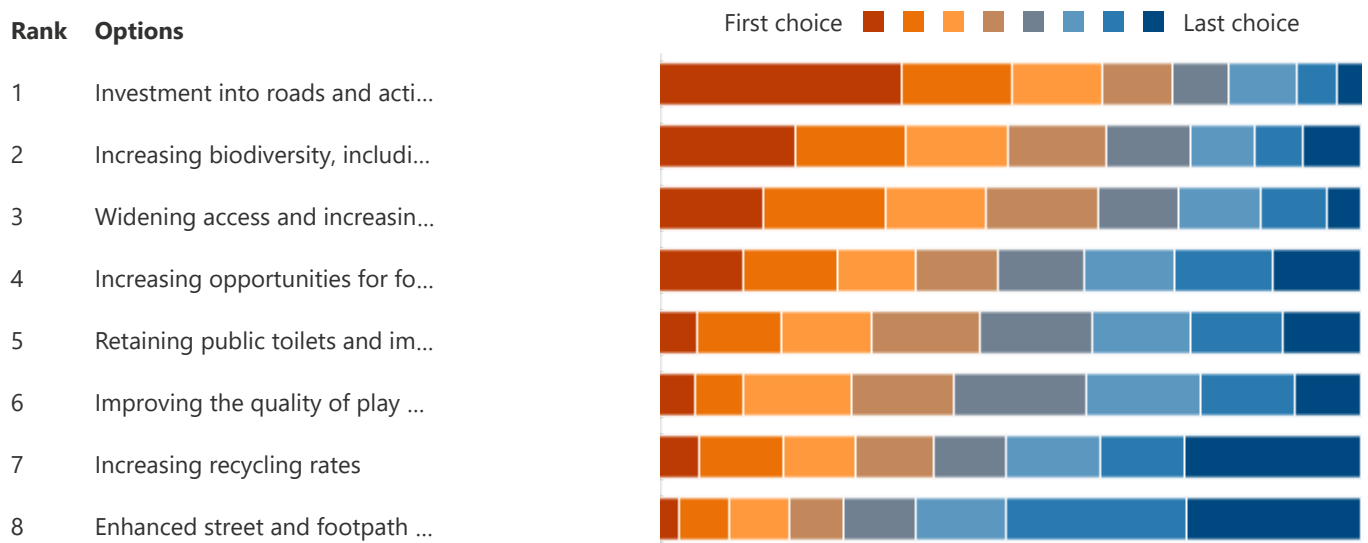
However you can help us prioritise the following education and skills areas, and associated budget allocations, by ranking in order of your priority - highest priority at the top.



3. Our Infrastructure and Environment section also receives a significant annual budget (around £44m/year of our revenue budget) to deliver a huge range of services including roads, property and asset management and maintenance, waste services, grass cutting, public transport and flood protection.

A significant proportion of our capital budget is also connected to this area (almost £80m over three years).

Have your say on which of the following areas within this service you think we should prioritise by ranking them in order of your priority - highest at the top.



4. An annual programme of works is developed each year to address priority road repairs and is based on our regular inspections of routes and other critical information/guidance. This has to be balanced with reactive repairs and short term fixes.

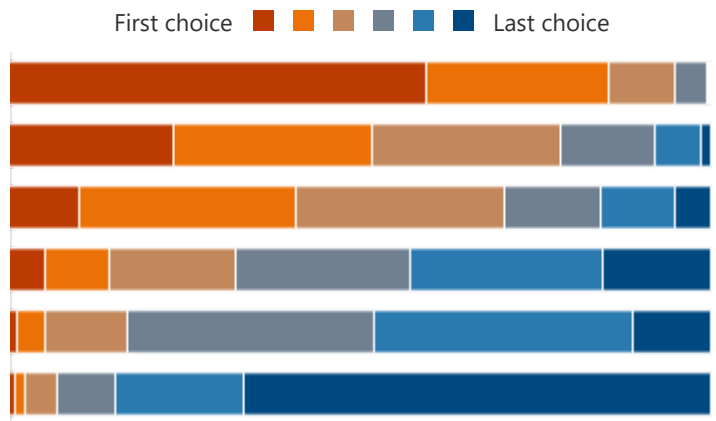
Due to the complexities involved in developing the programme it is not possible for the Council to open this up to public prioritisation. We do try to ensure that all localities benefit from the works.

There are a range of elements to our roads service however and we would like you to provide your feedback on how you would prioritise these different areas of the service. This will help us to review the current prioritisation of these different elements of the service and allocate available budget accordingly.

Please rank the following in order of your priority - highest priority at the top.

Rank Options

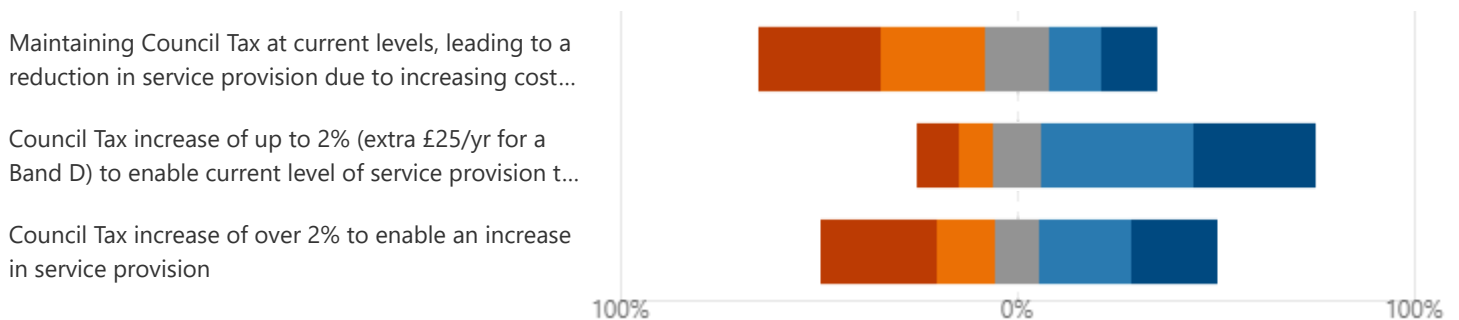
- 1 Proactive and longer lasting r...
- 2 Drain/gully clearance to help r...
- 3 Reactive and quick temporary ...
- 4 White line renewal to enhance...
- 5 Road signage maintenance/cl...
- 6 Verge grass cutting for aesthe...



5. Council Tax provides around 20% of all Council funding. For every 0.5% increase in Council Tax around £300,000 a year extra is available for the Council to spend.

How likely or otherwise would you be to support the following actions:

Very unlikely (dark red) Somewhat unlikely (orange) Neither likely nor unlikely (grey) Somewhat likely (blue) Very likely (dark blue)



6. Would you be supportive of an increase in Council Tax if the money this raised was ringfenced for a specific purpose/project?

● Yes	153
● No	191
● Maybe, depending on the pur...	421



7. In light of your previous answer, what purpose/projects would you wish any Council Tax increase to support

518

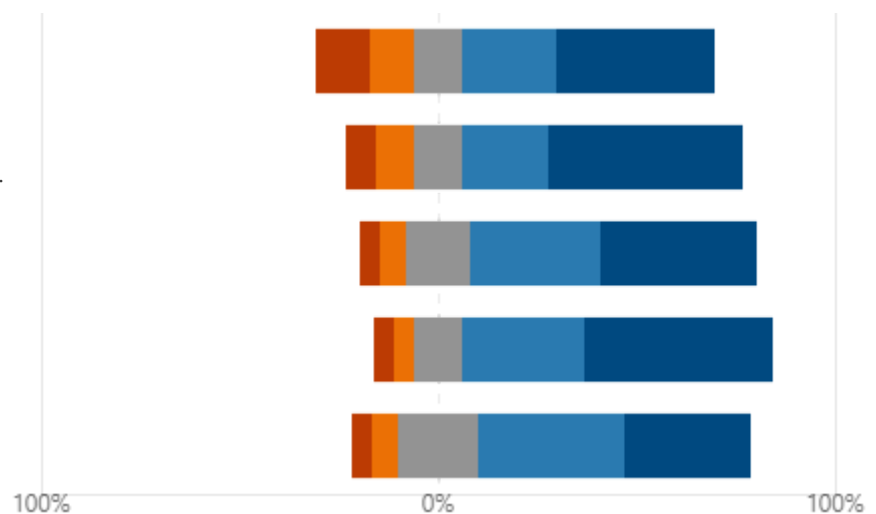
Responses

8. The Council declared a 'Climate Emergency' in September last year and published a Climate Change Route Map in June this year aimed at setting the Scottish Borders on a path to net zero emissions by 2045.

Reflecting on the need to take action to tackle climate change, how likely or otherwise would you be to support the following measures:

■ Very unlikely
 ■ Somewhat unlikely
 ■ Neither likely nor unlikely
 ■ Somewhat likely
 ■ Very likely

- Investment in public transport/walking/cycling, including relevant infrastructure, with the aim of...
- Increasing biodiversity by less intensive grass maintenance, allowing natural growth/creating more...
- Rationalisation of Council services into fewer, but better and more energy efficient buildings. This could...
- Taking further steps to increase household recycling rates and reduce carbon emissions throughout our...
- Prioritising further investment into addressing the impacts of climate change, such as flood protection



9. At the heart of what the Council is aiming to achieve is improving the wellbeing, in its widest possible sense, of everyone living in the Scottish Borders. What could the Council do to help increase your wellbeing and that of your family?

622

Responses

10. As part of the drive towards net zero emissions there is a national target of recycling 70% of household waste by 2025.

We have already achieved a huge reduction in the amount of household waste sent to landfill and no longer send any waste to landfill in the Scottish Borders. There has been an associated increase in the recycling rate and in the year to December 2020 over 56% of household waste was recycled.

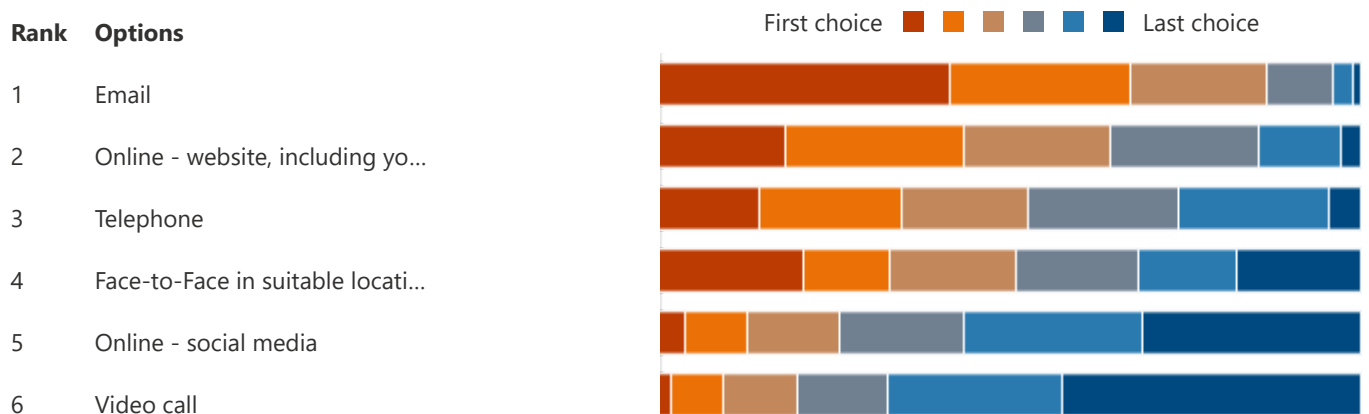
We're obviously keen to maximise the recycling rate, so how could the Council help you to reduce your waste and increase the amount recycled in your household?

643

Responses

11. The Covid-19 pandemic has transformed the way in which customers have interacted with the Council.

To help us to further develop and enhance our customer services and prioritise investment please rank the following range of current and potential means of communicating/dealing with the Council in your order of preference - highest at the top.



12. The Council is continuing to develop new digital ways for customers to deal with us. What Council services would you like to be available online 24/7 to help you do more at a time that suits you?

434

Responses

13. The Council is committed to increasing the opportunities for people and communities to have a say in how we invest and support jointly agreed priorities within their community. What would be your top priority for improving the community in which you live?

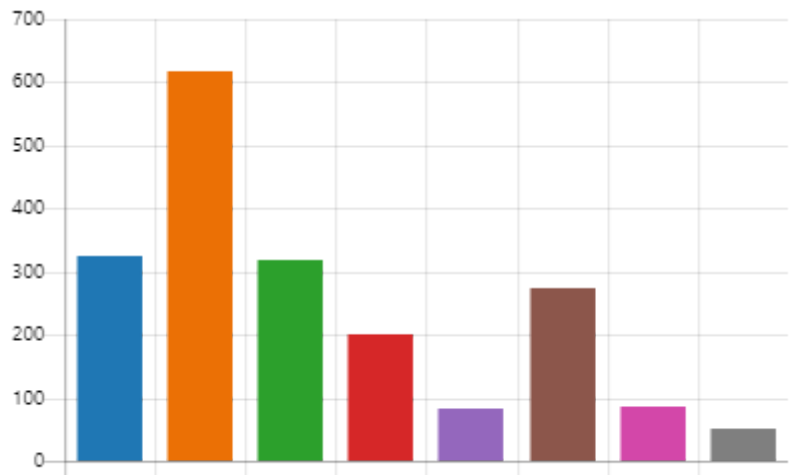
598

Responses

14. We want to involve local people and communities more in local decision-making, from helping to determine the shape of our frontline services to setting local priorities in your area and deciding how budgets can be spent.

How would you like to discuss this with us? Please select all that apply

● At town hall style events/meet...	323
● Surveys and consultations suc...	616
● Online polls via social media o...	319
● Online workshops	200
● Through your local Area Partn...	84
● Through your local Communit...	274
● Through another community ...	87
● Other	50



15. We also have a People's Panel that we discuss ideas with that help shape our decisions and policies – would you be interested in being part of this Panel?

● Yes	212
● No	553



17. Do you have suggestions on things the Council could do differently, or potential savings we could make?

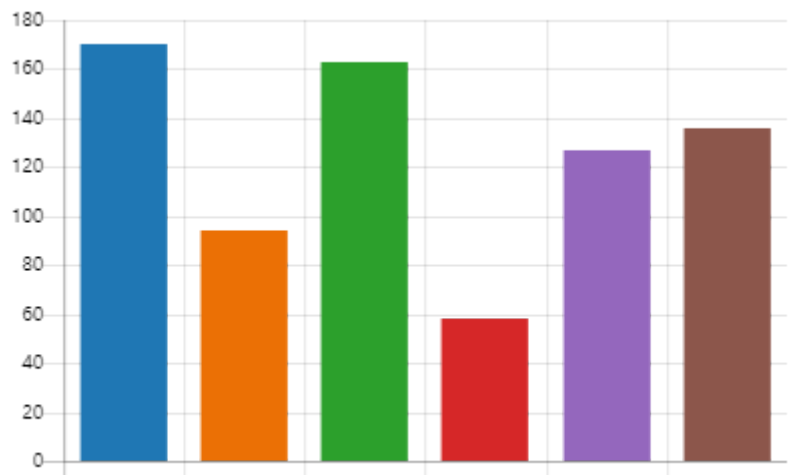
411

Responses






18. Locality

If unsure please select other and put in your postcode

● Berwickshire	170
● Cheviot	94
● Eildon	163
● Teviot & Liddesdale	58
● Tweeddale	127
● Other	136



19. Your age group

	under 18	7
	18-34	90
	35-50	223
	51-65	296
	65+	142

