Budget Consultation 2015/16

Your views matter – have your say...

Cheltenham Borough Council wants to hear your views on how you think the Cabinet should shape the final budget proposals for 2015/16.

Please complete this form either by hand or on your computer and return it to the Council at the address shown at the end by 26 January 2015.

Budget Consultation Financial Services Cheltenham Borough Council Municipal Offices Promenade Cheltenham GL50 1PP

Or email: <u>moneymatters@cheltenham.gov.uk</u>

1. Do you think the council is right to keep council tax at its present level in 2015/16?

Please tick:		
YES[]	NO []	UNSURE []

2. If your answer to question 1 is NO, do you think the tax level should be:

HIGHER [] LOWER []

- 3. Do you think the council is broadly right to make the savings listed in the draft budget papers?
- YES[] NO[] UNSURE[]

If NO, please let us know what concerns you have, what other savings you would like us to make. Make your comments in the space below.

4. What borough council services would you most like to see improved?

5. Are there any services you would like us to cut back or stop providing? Make your comments in the space below.

6. Do you support the idea of the council, where it is feasible, running services jointly with neighbouring councils to save money?

YES[] NO[] UNSURE[]

7. There have been a number of complaints about the condition of the bus station. Do you believe the bus station should be:

Left as it is [] Improved on its present site, with a modern shelter replacing the old waiting room [] Moved to another site [] Some other solution (please comment in the space below)

8. Have you any other comments on this budget or on the services the borough council provides?

9. What do you believe the council's three top priorities for capital investment should be, from the projects listed below (Write 1, 2 and 3 in order of importance in the boxes provided)

Monuments and public spaces	Rating
Create a new public square with landscaping and other improvements	
to the street scene at Boots Corner (£2,000,000)	
Restore Neptune's Fountain to its former glory (£600,000)	
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Provide a permanent electricity supply to Imperial Gardens to avoid	
events organisers having to use noisy generators (£180,000)	
Invest in the Pittville Park play area to provide a higher standard of	
play equipment, create a major family attraction and potentially attract	
more visitors to the town (£300,000)	
Recreation and leisure	
Create a new Sports and Play Hub at the Prince of Wales Stadium	
providing facilities for competitive field sports and athletics	
(£1,843,000)	
Improve facilities for community sport and new gym facilities at leisure-	
at-cheltenham (£433,000)	
Improve the Town Hall, creating a new foyer, providing better seating	
and a lift to the balcony, creating a new café/bar, and building a winter	
gardens style conservatory on the back as a restaurant and event	
venue (£2,400,000)	
Investing to cut costs	
Relocate the council HQ from the Municipal Offices to another office	
building, cutting the council's ongoing accommodation costs and	
allowing a redevelopment of the Municipal Offices for (e.g.) hotel, retail	
or leisure provision (£2,500,000)	
Clean energy	
Large scale solar farm to generate clean electricity and generate	
income for the council (£8,000,000)	
Small scale renewable energy initiatives including solar panels on top	
of council-owned buildings (£1,000,000)	
Parking	
Improvements to existing car parking provision (£3,700,000)	
Crematorium	
Invest in the Crematorium to replace the cremators and potentially	
improve the facilities for bereaved families (£1,000,000)	

Thank you for taking the time to give us your views on the proposed 2015/16 budget. Your views will be taken into account by councillors when they decide on the final budget.

To find out more, visit the council's website at www.cheltenham.gov.uk/budget