



PART B:	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL
REPORT TO:	POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE:	14 NOVEMBER 2019
REPORT OF THE:	CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (s151) ANTON HODGE
TITLE OF REPORT:	RYEDALE'S FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2020-24
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report contains updates to the contents of the Financial Strategy and the proposed consultation with members of the public on next year's budget.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council is asked to note the content of Appendix 1 of this report which form the basis of the Council's Financial Strategy. The details in this document have been updated since being presented in October to Full Council
- 2.2 Members are also asked to consider and approve the proposed consultation with the public, as set out in Appendix 2.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure proper process is in place to develop the Financial Strategy for the period 2020-24

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 When presented to Council, the Financial Strategy and budget proposals for 2020-21 will contain a full risk and impact assessment highlighting all relevant mitigating controls.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Financial Strategy is a key strategy document that affects all service delivery. It links to the Corporate Plan and all other strategic plans as well as providing the means for attaining the Council's objectives and priorities.

5.2 The Policy and Resources Committee is the Committee designated to make recommendations to the Council relating to the budget and levels of Council Tax. Consequently, recommendations from this Committee will inform the Council and subsequently the Council Tax resolution.

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

Introduction

- 6.1 Appendix 1 sets out the content of RDC's Financial Strategy 2020-24, as agreed by Council on 10 October 2019.
- 6.2 This is being updated and will continue to be so until we are in a position to make final decisions for the budget early in the new year.
- 6.3 The approach also contains a new Commercial Strategy and, as part of that, to inform the 2020-21 budget we will look at all non-statutory services and investigate potential for full cost recovery or increasing user contribution to their cost. This will form part of the Council's Fees and Charges policy.
- 6.4 This involves looking at the costs and any income of these services and show:
- a) what would be required to break-even in 2020-21 and how much money that would save?
 - b) if a break-even in 2020-21 is not possible, but could happen within a number of years, how long would that be and what are the financial implications of that?
 - c) If a break-even is not possible (e.g. because of some statutory implications), what is the minimum spend required and how long would that take and what are the financial implications?
 - d) Is any investment required in the service to achieve the above?
- 6.5 The budget process begins in earnest in August although preparatory work within the Finance Team began in July. The need for public consultation (consultation with ratepayers is a statutory requirement) and the lead in time for Policy & Resources mean that to enable full engagement with Policy & Resources members, Senior Management Board, Service and Budget Managers, the process needs to begin as soon as final accounts work is complete. That said, budget managers will consider their future budget requirements as part of service planning and in reality budgeting should be an ongoing process informed by in-year budget management and horizon scanning.
- 6.6 The annual process is the opportunity for Budget Managers to refine and collate detailed proposals for consideration by senior management and members and ultimately for inclusion in the Council's budget for the coming year.
- 6.7 The table below sets out the timetable that will ensure we meet targets and undergo due process in setting a budget

Annual Budget proposed timetable

Who?	When?	What?
Finance	By end of July	Preparatory work – key messages re approach and process ; pay budgets rolled forward based on approved establishment and budgets updated for inflation where appropriate (pay/contracts/utilities) Communications plan agreed with SMB and key messages/timetable circulated to budget managers
Management Teams/Budget Managers (with support from Finance in high risk areas)	July - September	Detailed budget requirements including savings, commitments, growth, strategic programmes.
P&R	26 September	Formal sign-off of the Financial Strategy for submission to Council in October
O&S	3 October	Consideration of proposals from P&R
Council	10 October	Formal consideration and approval of the Strategy
Members Briefing	7 November	Present key issues to P&R and seek steer on proposals which are supported, those which require more detail and those which are rejected.
P&R	14 November	Consider draft budget data and any proposals (including regarding public consultation) at this stage and follow up of issues from Members' Briefing.
Public Consultation	9 December – 14 January	
Policy & Resources	6 February	Budget and Council Tax proposals agreed for submission to Council
Council	20 February	Formal budget and council tax setting

Investment Requirement and Potential Budget Pressures

- 6.7 As set out in the report to P&R Committee on 25 July 2019 and noted to P&R and Council in September and October, a number of appointments have been made to increase capacity in areas of pressure. Building this capacity will be essential for the transformation of the council and achieving the objectives of the financial strategy and therefore will require an amount of invest to save.
- 6.8 Although some of these appointments have been made within existing budgets, further costs will be proposed as part of the 2020-21 and beyond budget process. Some investment will be required in strengthening:
- Corporate governance support – including finance, procurement, legal and democratic services (including Scrutiny function)
 - ICT – technology, people and kit
- 6.9 Additional costs will be incurred on the Local Plan and further cost risks may arise from
- Brexit
 - Regulatory issues such as environmental health and waste
- 6.8 Work is ongoing to estimate costs arising from these issues.

Public Consultation

- 6.8 Appendix 2 sets out a proposed public consultation on the budget which will inform the decisions members will take in setting the budget. Members are asked to comment on this. It is suggested that the consultation runs from Monday 9th December 2019 until Monday 14 January 2020.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
Financial implications are explained throughout this report
 - b) Legal
There are no legal implications regarding this report.
 - c) Other
None to report, although in any report to Committee and Council, it will be noted that any proposals which may impact on Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Climate Change, Environmental, Crime & Disorder will be assessed as part of the budget process.

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Background Papers:

Report to P&R 24 September 2019

Report to Full Council 10 October 2019

APPENDIX 1

RYEDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2020-24

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council's Financial Strategy provides the financial framework to deliver the Council Plan.
- 1.2 It aims to provide financial sustainability, resilience and capacity for the Council in pursuing its objectives and secure the resources necessary to deliver the Corporate Plan, whilst managing the funding cuts we are facing.
- 1.3 The Financial Strategy sets out the overall approach in which detailed proposals and actions will be developed and considered when agreeing the annual budgets over a four-year period. It also notes that work will be undertaken in time for 2020-21 to ensure the Council can set a balanced budget which reflects its priorities, but that a more detailed and fundamental review will take place in time for 2021-22.
- 1.4 This approach reflects the one-year funding settlement from central government – and announced on 4 September 2019 – in place of the originally-expected Local Government Spending Review.
- 1.5 The Strategy covers four years, from 2020 to 2024.
- 1.6 Members will be kept informed of work undertaken, including a detailed briefing in September on how the Council spends its money. This will assist both the development of a budget for 2020-21 and especially the work required for the more fundamental review.
- 1.7 As this strategy is being written, the impacts on public sector finances of the UK's exit from the European Union are still not clear.
- 1.8 Against this backdrop of uncertainty the key drivers for the financial strategy remain unchanged as the pressure on Local Government finance continues.
- 1.9 The Strategy has an emphasis on financial self-sufficiency - aiming to secure the resources necessary to deliver the Corporate Plan, whilst managing the funding cuts we are facing – ultimately over the long term achieving a self-sustaining financial model which sees the Council free from reliance on central government funding by raising income locally through Council Tax and Business Rates as well as through charging appropriately for services, maximising investments and commercial activity.

2. Objectives

2.1 The Financial Strategy contains the following objectives:

1. Budgets are Prudent and Sustainable in the Long Term. The Council will aim to maintain a balanced budget by ensuring that in-year expenditure is matched by income from Council Tax, Business Rates, fees and charges and grants from government and other bodies. Funding from reserves will be used to cover one-off investments or temporary initiatives subject to a detailed business case being approved by Members.
2. Financial plans recognise corporate Priorities and Objectives.
3. Significant risks are identified, and mitigation factors identified.
4. The Capital Programme is planned over a 4 year period with no further borrowing planned.
5. Constraints on capital and revenue resources, including the uncertainties around future government funding, are recognised and taken into account.
6. Council Tax increases will be kept within the Government's expected upper level of increase, and the broad anticipated increase for future years will be set out within the Financial Plans, recognising that these increases may be subject to change.
7. Prudent levels of general balances, reserves and contingencies are maintained in the context of an assessment of the risks facing the Council;
8. Value for Money and achievement of improved efficiency and service delivery underpin the Financial Strategy.
9. The Financial Strategy supports the achievement of Excellence in Financial Management and use of resources.
10. The Council will seek to maximise income through a Commercial Strategy.

3. Financial Assumptions as at date of publication

Economic Assumptions

Interest Rates

- 3.1 The bank base rate was increased by 0.25% to 0.5% in November 2017 and then raised again to 0.75% in August 2018. In the latest forecasts received from Link (the Council's treasury management advisors) rates are expected to remain at 0.75% through to September 2020 when a rise to 1.00% is predicted. However these assumptions are based upon a reasonable Brexit outcome, but should this not materialise by 31 October then a cut in Bank Rate could swiftly follow.
- 3.2 Given the on-going economic uncertainty as a result of Brexit, there is a risk that interest rates could reduce and it is therefore important that the general fund is not over reliant on Treasury returns. Until there is more certainty it is proposed that a cap of £200k be placed on budgeted income.

Investment Income	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Average rate %	1.1%	1.25%	1.5%	1.75%
Interest £000's	200	200	200	200

- 3.3 Rates will be kept under review and forecasts updated as necessary.

Pay and Price Inflation

- 3.4 Provision for the public sector pay award and changes to the NJC pay scale has been included within the MTFs based on the 2 year offer agreed in 2018. For 2020-21 onwards 2.65% is assumed.
- 3.5 As at June 2019 CPI inflation was running at 2%. However, it remains to be seen how the UK's exit from the European Union will impact on the outlook for the economy and inflation. Current forecasts suggest CPI to remain at around 2% for the next two years, although a no deal Brexit could prompt a rise to around 4%, primarily as a result of import inflation due to a weakening pound. MTFs assumptions therefore range from 2% to 4%, although a provision for inflation will only be included on contractual budgets, income and staff pay.
- 3.6 For pay, an average of 2.65% has been assumed and an additional contingency of £100k was factored in to cover of the cost of the new national pay award from April 2019, although the outcome of this exercise is still to be finalised.

Settlement Funding

- 3.7 This element of funding has seen the most significant changes in recent years following the localisation of Business Rates and Council Tax Support.
- 3.8 The 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement provided figures for Settlement funding through to 2019-20. Settlement Funding includes Revenue Support Grant (RSG), Business Rates Baseline Funding (BRBF) and in addition Rural Services Delivery Grant (RSDG) and Transitional Grant (TG) were included in the settlement.
- 3.9 The government confirmed the 19/20 settlement on 29th January 2019, the final year of the multi-year settlement.

- 3.10 It was assumed that funding after 2019-20 would be subject to the Spending Review which was due to take place sometime after April 2019. However, delays to the Fair Funding Review and review of the Business Rates retention system means that this will be rolled on a further year and details will be updated when we have further information.
- 3.11 On 4 September, the Chancellor's Statement outlined that funding levels in 2020-21 would largely be as per the current year. Although the provisional settlement is not expected until early December, we will be able to work on the figures over the next few weeks and these will feed into the budget process as outlined below. There is some concern that this date may slip – perhaps until after Christmas – due to the General Election.

Business Rates Retention

- 3.12 The Council is part of a successful bid for 2019-20, which includes councils in West Yorkshire as well as our colleagues in the North Yorkshire pool and the City of York.
- 3.13 The 4 September statement appears to confirm that Business Rates will continue next year as per 2019-20 levels, with inflation. The current pilot will not continue in 2020-21 and the Chief Executive and s151 officer have been working with other authorities in North and West Yorkshire to come to a future pooling arrangement for next year which will maximise income for Ryedale District Council and to secure additional funds which can be used to enhance business and economic development in the district
- 3.14 This would (if it comes to pass) provide funds additional to those noted in the February budget. With these and with the overall Business Rate funding, the Council seeks to see more a link with investment in the economy and local businesses through economic development.

New Homes Bonus

- 3.15 New Homes Bonus (NHB) is an incentive scheme which rewards housing growth. It provides funding based on the number of new properties brought into use with an added element for affordable housing. The calculation provides that 80% of the funding is paid direct to District Councils with the County Council receiving the remaining 20%. The scheme is funded partly by the Government and also by top-slicing the Local Government funding settlement. Ryedale achieved £1.676m p.a. when the scheme reached maturity for 2016/17 (year 6 of the scheme).
- 3.16 However, the Government's evaluation of NHB and consultation early in 2016 resulted in it being scaled back to a 4 year scheme with a 0.4% growth threshold – for 2019-20 £861k is expected.
- 3.17 New Homes Bonus funding is only secured to 2019-20 and it was anticipated that this scheme would be replaced in its entirety from 2020-21 with the Government considering alternative ways to incentivise housing growth. However, it is likely that NHB will continue at least in 2020-21 and a prudent level of growth is currently included in mid-case estimates, giving a forecast income next year of £675k. This is lower than the £861k received in 2019-20 but will be a welcome addition to our medium term forecast which anticipated that the funding would end this year.
- 3.18 In recent years, £188k has been allocated for capital support. A continuation of this would produce the figures shown below.

Year	NHB £000	Revenue Support £000	Capital Support £000	Balance £000
2014/2015 (received)	1,127	175	0	952
2015/2016 (received)	1,387	559	288	540
2016/2017 (received)	1,676	327	188	604
2017/18 (received)	1,420	32	188	1,200
2018/19 (received)	964	0	188	776
2019-20 (due)	861	0	188	673
2020-21 (estimate)	675	0	188	487

Special and Specific Grants

- 3.19 These will be confirmed in due course.

Council Tax

- 3.20 The Council Tax Base in 2019-20 is 21,812 and we have currently estimated a 1% rise forecast thereafter. Every 0.5% increase above this level would add approximately 108 Band D equivalents to our Tax Base which equates to around £21k p.a. at the current Band D charge.
- 3.21 In 2019-20 central Government allowed district councils to increase their Band D charge by 3% or £5 whichever is the highest, without triggering a referendum. Our assumptions are that this will be 2% or £5 per annum in future years.
- 3.22 A £5 increase would equate to an increase of approx. £110k additional income for the Council in 2020-21. The Strategy will therefore note that any Council Tax increase will be between £0 and £5.

Pensions

- 3.23 The Council's employers' contribution rate for the North Yorkshire Pension Fund is set every 3 years based upon actuarial assumptions and investment expectations. Like many other Councils Ryedale's pension fund has a historic deficit - £6.472m at 31 March 2016 when the last valuation was undertaken. The employers' rate is designed to cover future service costs and a contribution towards the historic deficit, which aims to balance the fund over the long term. Changes to the scheme benefits have also been introduced in order to reduce the costs of future pension payments.
- 3.24 The triennial valuation is currently in process and the Council has just received draft employer contribution rates for the next three years. These will be fully analysed and will be included in draft figures for the budget. A consultation period for our results has – at the time of writing – just started and lasts until 10 December 2019.

Debt Charges

- 3.25 Management of the Council's debt is governed by the Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators which aim to ensure the Council's capital expenditure plans

are prudent, affordable and sustainable, with decisions on borrowing taken in light of spending plans and available funding, cash flow needs and interest rates (current and future forecasts).

- 3.26 Borrowing enables the Council to spread the cost of capital expenditure over time. Generally speaking it gives rise to 2 charges against the revenue budget: Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and interest payable on debt.
- 3.27 MRP is an amount set aside to repay debt in accordance with the approved policy within the Treasury Management Strategy. The current policy is to charge MRP for assets included within the debt liability over the useful life of the asset or finance lease term. The current annual charge to General Fund balances is £35k. Given the high level of reserves held by the Council, one option might be to use these and therefore reduce the charge to the revenue budget. It is suggested that this is explored before finalising the 2020-21 budget.
- 3.28 The Council has resolved to fund the current capital programme through the use of grant funding and reserve balances, thus removing the need to borrow. However, should this position change, the current environment of low returns on cash investments means that it is more favourable to borrow internally (i.e. use available cash earmarked for future spend) than take out new external borrowing. This will be kept under review as part of monitoring the Council's Treasury activities.

4. Commercial Strategy

- 4.1 A key driver for the Council's Commercial Strategy is future financial pressures and a need to plug a likely funding gap in future years or to fund investment in services, and to look at how the Council can become self-sufficient other than where specific grants are allocated by central government.
- 4.2 The Strategy considers where certain discretionary services can be funded by those who use them rather than the general taxpayer.
- 4.3 Alongside this is a requirement to ensure that the Council provides the best value for money to the people of Ryedale.
- 4.4 Commercial opportunities can have a positive impact on the Council and the area by:
- Developing the portfolio of services provided by the Council and making it a more attractive place to work
 - Generating additional income which, in addition to plugging any financial gap, can be used to invest in services
 - Working more closely with business and ensuring the Council is a key player in ensuring that we maximise the economic potential of our area and achieve our strategic outcomes across our communities
- 4.5 Although income generation is very important, our Commercial Strategy will also look at how we can ensure that every spending decision is taken with a view to ensuring the best value for money for taxpayers. We will also ensure that we become infuse our procurement and commissioning decisions with an "intelligent client" ethos.
- 4.6 All of these require us to look at culture across the Council and ensure that staff and members feel confident and knowledgeable enough to deliver the strategy.
- 4.7 In summary therefore this Strategy notes that we will
- Look at all non-statutory services and investigate potential for full cost recovery or increasing user contribution to their cost
 - Shape potential markets for delivering traded services and look at how generated surplus can be used
 - Review our procurement strategy to ensure that a commercial approach is taken
 - Ensure that all purchasing decisions are guided by a value for money approach
- 4.8 To do this successfully we need to ensure that we have the proper support functions in place in designing and delivering the services (e.g. financial and legal advice and marketing support) and that any costs of this are fully recovered in what we charge for the services.
- 4.9 Ensuring we have the right culture across the organisation is also important. We will takes steps to provide staff and members with the relevant skills and expertise in this regard to embed a more commercial mindset across the Council.
- 4.10 An important part of becoming more commercial involves managing risk and attitudes towards this from officers and members. Our approach will encourage an appetite for calculated risk-taking and being willing to learn lessons from approaches which do not always lead to the success hoped for. This will of course be balanced by a risk management process which ensures we safeguard the council at all times.

5. Reserves and Balances

- 5.1 It is assumed that General Balances are **not** used to support the revenue budget.
- 5.2 General Balances are funding of last resort. Taking account of the size of the Council's revenue budget and risks being managed, a minimum working balance of £1m would seem appropriate.
- 5.3 At 1 April 2019 reserve balances were £14.9m revenue and £453k capital receipts. A summary of the current position is shown below:

	Balance at 1 April '18	Transfers Out	Transfers In	Approved Realignment	Balance at 31 March '19
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Reserve	3,331		650		3,981
Capital Fund	2,929	-169	2,763		5,523
Strategic Reserve	0			2,325	2,325
Earmarked Reserves:					
Collection Fund	506	-303	760		963
Equalisation Reserve	61	-26	20		55
New Homes Bonus Reserve	3,698	-2,500	889		2,087
Total Earmarked Reserves	4,265	-2,829	1,669	0	3,105
Consolidated Reserve:					
Council Tax Hardship Fund	24		6	-30	0
Ryedale Developm't Fund	94	-47	13	-60	0
Grants Reserve	163		11	-174	0
IT Fund	95	-40	2	-57	0
ICE Fund	807		50	-857	0
Local Developm't Framework Reserve	50			-50	0
Operational Reserve	648	-4	51	-695	0
Restructure Reserve	402			-402	0
Total Consolidated Reserve	2,283	-91	133	-2,325	0
Total Revenue Reserves	12,808	-3,089	5,215	0	14,934
Capital Reserves:					
Capital Receipts	408	-18	63		453
Total Capital Reserves	408	-18	63	0	453
Total Reserves	13,216	-3,107	5,278	0	15,387

6. Capital Programme

- 6.1 There will be a new capital programme which will take account of the Council's priorities and objectives.
- 6.2 In putting this together, new schemes will be reviewed against the Council priorities plus a detailed assessment of deliverability prior to consideration by Council. This methodology will be applied to all proposals, regardless of the source of funding, prior to any decision being made to accept external capital support such as grant funding, so that the Council can ensure that they form part of an overall capital investment strategy.
- 6.3 The Council is committed to seeking out innovative partnership and funding opportunities in order to deliver the capital strategy and achieve best value.
- 6.4 The Council will continue to work closely with funding partners. Future projects will continue to be developed through partnership working more likely with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The Council also recognises the importance of increased community engagement and participation as fundamental to the quality of public services and the health of community life. The Council will therefore seek to develop major projects with the full involvement of local communities and ensure appropriate consultation prior to scheme approval.
- 6.5 Resources to fund capital spending are provided from central government grants, with other external grants and contributions sought. Council funding in the form of capital receipts, use of reserves, borrowing and from revenue sources make up the balance of resources. However, grants provided by central government and resources from other external agencies are often specific to an individual scheme and cannot be used for any other purpose by the Council. The Council has limited scope to generate significant capital receipts other than through the sale of major underutilised assets.
- 6.6 Under the Prudential Regime, which has operated since April 2004, the Council has the responsibility to demonstrate that its capital investment programme is affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Prudential Code requires that this is done by calculating specific indicators for capital expenditure and financing and by setting borrowing limits.
- 6.7 The revenue implications of funding the capital programme will be built into the medium term financial forecasts.



Budget Consultation 2020/21

Ryedale District Council is consulting on its budget and the services it provides for 2020/21. The results of the consultation will inform the decision to be made by Council on 20 February 2020 on the budget and council tax level for 2020/21.

Over the past few years, Local Authorities have seen significant reductions to their funding. In Ryedale District Council our net budget on services this year was agreed at **£8.2m**. This compares with **£9.3m in 2011-12**.

Like others, the Council has had to take action to ensure that we stay within budget and it is likely that our funding will reduce further in future years. As we are limited in how much we can increase Council Tax, we are constantly looking at ways we can work more efficiently.

This consultation seeks the views of residents and businesses about our services and its results will be presented to councillors before they take any financial decisions about the budget for 2020-21 and beyond.

Although we are the authority who send you the annual Council Tax bill, we only keep 11% of the money we collect. The other 89% is split between:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| ○ North Yorkshire County Council | 71% |
| ○ North Yorkshire Police | 14% |
| ○ North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service | 4% |

In return you receive a range of services and facilities from Ryedale District Council including:

- Refuse collection
- Street cleaning
- Recycling
- Leisure facilities
- Housing services and preventing homelessness
- Economic development
- Planning services
- Environmental health
- Animal welfare
- Community safety
- Tourism
- Arts and cultural services

A comparison¹ of the different responsibilities of the County, District and Parish Councils is shown below:

County Councils	District, borough and city councils	Parish, community and town councils
education	rubbish collection	allotments
transport	recycling	public clocks
planning	Council Tax collections	bus shelters
social care	housing	community centres
libraries	trading standards	play areas and play equipment
waste management		consultation on neighbourhood planning
		They also have the power to issue fixed penalty fines for things like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • litter • graffiti • fly posting • dog offences

Where does our money come from?

The Council's gross budget for running services is just over £28.6m, the majority is funded from service specific income and grants, such as:

- Housing Benefits Subsidy £9.1m
- Fees and Charges for services £4.9m
- Other Government Grants £0.2m

In addition to service specific income streams, The Council also receives the following sources of income:

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/understand-how-your-council-works>

Financing	£'000
New Homes Bonus	861
Business Rates	3,702
Council Tax	4,256
	8,819

What is the money spent on?

The Council's gross budget in 2019-20 is £28.6m, and is shown below:

	Gross £000s	Income £000s	Net £000s	Main Services Included
Central Services	9,369	3,108	6,261	Local Taxation collection, Elections and Democracy
Cultural & Related Services	1,331	5	1,326	Culture, Recreation & Sport, Tourism
Environmental and Regulatory Services	4,465	2,008	2,457	Licensing, Animal & Public Health, Waste Services. Community Safety
Planning Services	1,650	767	883	Development Control, Economic Development, Planning Policy
Highways & Transport Services	328	808	-480	Parking Services, Support to operators
Housing Services	11,459	10,178	1,281	Enabling, Homelessness, Housing Benefits, Private Sector Housing
Total Spend on Services	28,602	16,874	11,728	

We are currently considering our budget and council tax levels for 2020/21 and beyond.

It is important that you have your say on this and we would like to hear your opinion about which services we currently offer that you feel are a priority.

The deadline for responses is Monday 14 January 2020

Q1 The current Council Tax for a Band D dwelling relating to the services provided by Ryedale District Council is £195.82 per year – or £3.77 per week. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Ryedale District Council provides value for money?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please provide any information to support your response:

We would like to ask your views on two of the Council's priorities:

- **Sustainable Growth,**
- **Customers and Communities and One Ryedale.**

Please rank the following statements under each priority in order of importance for you, with 1 the most important

Q2 What is your opinion of the following council services over the last 12 months?

	Satisfied	No opinion	Dissatisfied	Not used in the last 12 months
Household waste collection (green bin)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Garden waste (brown bin)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kerbside recycling (plastics, tins and glass)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street cleanliness (litter collection, graffiti removal and fly tipping) (TO SPLIT INTO 3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning (planning applications and planning policy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community facilities (support for village halls, play equipment, arts & culture) (TO SPLIT INTO 3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development (support to businesses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental health (including licensing, food hygiene inspections, nuisance complaints, animal welfare, private water supplies, pest control)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Benefits (housing benefits, council tax support)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing service (housing options advice, homelessness, affordable housing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Car parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure facilities (swimming pools, leisure centres)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community safety (including anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, alcohol awareness)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Artistic and cultural promotion (support to artistic and cultural organisations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism (support to the tourism industry)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please expand your answer below if necessary:

your response:

Q3 Charging for Services Provided by Ryedale

Do you agree that the Council should introduce or increase charges for certain services to ensure that the costs of these are recovered?

Q4 Council Tax

While the government has reduced funding, it has increased the ability of councils to raise further funding through council tax. We expect that legislation will allow district councils to increase their Band D charge by 2% or £5 whichever is the highest, without triggering a referendum.

A £5 increase would equate to an increase of 2.55% (or 10p per week) for 2020-21 and would equate to £110k of council spend.

Do you have any comments about Council Tax in Ryedale?

Q5 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Ryedale District Council runs the services we provide?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Please provide any information to support your response:

Q6 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place to live?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Please provide any information to support your response:

Have you any further comments on the Ryedale District Council Budget and council tax levels for 2019/20:

About You (Optional)

Q7 Please tell us your postcode (for example YO17 7HH)

Q8 Which of the following towns do you live in or closest to?

- Helmsley
- Kirkbymoorside
- Malton
- Norton
- Pickering
- Prefer not to say

Q9 Are you responding as a.....?

- Resident
- Business
- Voluntary Organisation
- Stakeholder group
- Prefer not to say

Please click Submit to complete the consultation.