

Budget Consultation – All Comments

Thank you to everyone that got involved with the consultation which made it the most successful consultation that Calderdale have ever seen. We had over 4400 responses with over 1000 comments on your priorities and where you think we can save money. Below you will see all of the comments we received by tool E.g. simulator/survey/postcard.

We hope that we can use this information to help make our budget savings. Did you check out our 12 key themes of the Consultation?

Survey

We had over 250 comments as well as over 3400 people completing the survey, we asked for comments by themes (our priorities) or ways in which the Council can save money.

Ambition

Comment
Offer permanent full time jobs when they are available.
Make school children use "school yellow buses" to stop all the grid-lock around schools.
Invest in schools - especially High Schools.
More monies needed for Calder High School!
There are many charities e.g. "Children in Need" which cater for special needs and vulnerable children, so councils should help them access this money. Use council money for those who are in need but cannot access charitable help.
Free music lessons for children.
Schools biggest spend, yet education in Britain is not raising productivity. Either we are wrong about how we do this or business is at fault for not being "investors in people". How do we create an education which gives us people with flexible mind-sets? Personally I think more internet peer-to-peer learning is the way to go; this means fewer teachers, controversial I know. This style was tried in India with slum kids who worked out how to get info and the instructions weren't even in their language. They cooperated (an executive skill - not explicitly taught, and even difficult to do so implicitly or explicitly - as are all executive skills) with each other and learned that way. The group of learners quickly organises to optimise their grains (in this case the purchase of some Nike trainers funded by the experimenters) This last point indicates "incentive" and motivation. Well good luck chaps - expect we'll see this in 40 years!!!
Education is a priority. So why is the day getting shorter and shorter? Two flakes of snow and schools are shut.
Speed up adoption process; stop unnecessary delays to save on foster care fees.
Fund for Mytholmroyd Youth Centre, but also for others.
I think the Council should invest more in Mytholmroyd Youth Club. I wouldn't go to other youth clubs, e.g. Halifax, Luddendenfoot.
Keep Mytholmroyd Youth Club - great place.
In Children and Young People's Services a great deal of money is spent on supporting CYP who are accommodated out of the area. This is impossible to budget for. As much as possible we should work on alternatives within Calderdale. Early intervention is proving to be a very useful way of saving money in the longer term. More investment should be made in this and Family Intervention Services in order to keep families together wherever possible.
I feel very strongly about services such as libraries, health & fitness and children's centres. I believe the main things that need to be encouraged, especially for children and young people, are reading and exercise - I think this will help start to change the lifestyles and attitudes of generations who don't see health and education as a priority which in turn will gradually increase the prospects of young people and their futures.



Children and young people, people with disabilities and the elderly should always be given priority for support and funding!
Try to maintain front line services.
There should be more safe and comfortable nurseries and child-minders for young children. And it is important for young people to have a safe place to go in the evening.
Improve services for children and families.
Q7: there should be criteria linked with this, like support for people to get back into work or to attend job club or interview; it shouldn't just be for people on benefits
Q7: as a hard working family who are not entitled to any benefits, I find it difficult to agree with this. We spent a fortune on nursery fees.
Free family services enable integration in communities and supports learning from an early age.
Q6: Care for vulnerable children by charities (eg Barnardos, NCH etc.) reduces need for costly council involvement and infrastructure
Q8: obviously - what is the alternative?
Q9: how many apprentices has the Council gained in the last 5 years?
It is right and proper that we should look after children in our council care. But why do we place these children in private care homes at unnecessarily great expense when we could operate our own homes at a fraction of the cost?
People must be responsible for themselves. Too much reliance on the Council/Benefits etc. - work for their family and not sit and reap my money while I work
To engage young people in crisis there needs to be more youth workers in the valley - detached & in appropriate workplaces e.g. hospitals, libraries and youth centre. They need to be qualified & trained to work with young people with issues who 'fall through the net' & are not in touch with other services, e.g. those with mental health issues. This is preventative work and important to invest in. Don't lose youth workers please!
I feel healthcare and education are a major priority. Subsidised nursery provision is also essential to make work pay
I am glad recycling rates are so good and think investment in Halifax town centre is also great. Support schools and college to make young people access good quality education/training
Services to parents/early years children/vulnerable families/childcare setting support should be protected. Getting it right in the early years and narrowing the gap for disadvantaged children will mean fewer problems for the future
Better outside play facilities for all schools as it's not fair that some schools have them and others don't. There should be equal opportunities
young deaf student recognises people in school help & support him; also people from the inclusion service come in to support him
More should be spent on maintaining schools and make sure money is allocated to a school goes to that school and is not spent on another one. Cragg Vale school may be the smallest in Calderdale but it's got the biggest heart. Children that love to go to school, parents fighting to save it. It is the heart of the village.
Council needs to look at more specialised provisions for children with SEND
Give grammar schools same/similar funding to state schools!
Q7: why should I pay so some parents to sit on their backsides all day and not help those who are working and struggling with childcare?
I realise that everything has to be made to pay their way but I would not like to see any cuts in services for the young and the old. This means that libraries, parks and exercise facilities are needed to keep people as well as possible and not everyone has an open pocket.



Efficiency

I believe a lot more could be done re sharing buildings, e.g. schools
Things seem great the way they are, but if the Council needs to save money maybe it could reduce the number of workers in Council offices in Halifax, putting more services on-line only. Pretty much everyone has internet access now. Scaling down at a bureaucratic level rather than public front line services seems a better way to save money. For example Benefits office in town - does it really need so many staff? Couldn't we have more online assessment/phone calls/contact by email rather than waiting in line in a rather unpleasant environment?
Greater efficiency, fewer management, fewer wasteful ideas, more front line staff, stricter control of budget
Council IT system very difficult to navigate.
Move to elections every four years and have different size wards to allow for better community representation and to save money.
I would like to see services devolved to parish and town councils which are not limited in what they can spend (yes, I'll pay more).
Arising from this we need more parish town Councils all over the borough.
I would like to see more local services from different authorities combined under single management to get more integrated services.
Money could be saved on salaries as some departments in the council have too many members of staff on high levels of pay. This could be looked out and sensible judgements made as to what is really acceptable and required. The sports department, for example, is quite small in relation to larger ones in the other areas of the country and there are staff on £50,000 plus salaries. It may be worth looking at whether this salary is justifiable for such a small set of sporting facilities, there are other members of the staff in leisure with salaries of £30,000 plus that surely would be sufficient for this small area of the council. There will be other departments that are the same and it could be looked at in depth possibly. There will be staff aged 50 upwards that could take redundancy making huge savings for the council. There are many people of the same opinion about excessive salaries within the Council.
One sure way of saving money would be to down scale some of the higher paid members of staff, there are positions created within management that pay over £50,000 per year that do not actually deserve to be paid such a large amount of salary. Many members of staff who actually work on the front line are receiving salaries nowhere near their peers but don't reap the rewards, particularly within the sport service. Cut down on contractors being called to do jobs that main line staff can easily complete.
Get money for all these plans by reducing salaries at the top of the tree rather than cutting jobs at the bottom.
Seems too top heavy in many services.
The Council needs to save money by looking at how many staff they employ on high grades. For example, when private organisations take over council services they do not pay the high levels of wages for the management levels. This is particularly noticeable when swimming pools/gyms are taken over. The principal officer grades are always eliminated when this happens with a massive saving to the company, and this also assists in safeguarding the contribution of leisure services within the local community. The Council needs to stop doubling up on wages for example Upbeat (Better Living Teams) now have two people managing it: the sports manager and someone from the organisation that Upbeat joined with. The Council needs to tighten up on the doubling up of roles. This will happen in other departments I imagine as I don't think there are any procedures in place to stop this.
I think communication with the Council is difficult, i.e. long time answering phone (recycling). Not everyone wishes to use email, though I am able but it is often much better to speak to someone rather than email, especially when complaining.
I do not want to see further cuts to jobs or services. Decanting services to voluntary or private providers is not successful and rarely economic.
Stop shutting down contact points as not everyone wants or can or has internet. Most people want to talk face to face.



Don't understand question 23.
Moving service provision to community groups should be encouraged but it must be recognised that these need financial support, i.e. don't was the Council's hands of services that third parties provide.
Re point 20 - I would agree to use more online services but they are currently ineffective. The queries I have raised online have never received a response.
Now those Calderdale Councillors are paid and there is a cabinet system of local government, why not save money by reducing the number of councillors per ward from 3 to 2?
If you become too reliant on online technology you are vulnerable to "cyber-attacks"
I think we are very close to peak online use of services - I regularly hear from young families & people with mobility or time issues that they already do everything they can online and wish that the things they can't do online (e.g. libraries) were more accessible. Centralising services will lead to those who can't get to a central location becoming more isolated and using council services even less than they already do.
Giving contracts to private companies to provide services is usually a waste of money (see national examples like ATOS and G4S), and reduces the council's control over the way services are delivered.
Significant investment in digital services with rigorous commitment to service design. Commissioning services which offer flexibility and space to innovate
Sack a few tiers of top management - that would be the biggest saving of all
Outsourcing local services to private companies is, from personal experience, a mistake. Council are working for the good of the community they serve, private organisations are there to make money, so there is a fundamental mismatch of interests. In the Council I work for, we have outsourced several services, with disastrous consequences. Out IT service has gone from excellent to dismal, and our customer services are all about "have we met our targets" rather than "have we served our customers efficiently and effectively." And the Council pays through the nose for this "service."
Q24: Yes by voluntary organisations, but <u>not</u> by private companies.
I think the Council should review the role of Councillors. They are essentially "community volunteers". It is appalling that they are paid and it is pensionable - that would seem to indicate they are "employees".
Calderdale has no presence. Website shocking.
Too many decisions behind closed doors. Gang of Six! Never listen to general consensus. Too many high paid Council heads, 100,000 max salary, £2000 a week. Who could justify this wage for public servant? Reduce number of councillors. Appoint a Tsar with common sense (Mayor Boris Johnson example). Free car parking to help local shops (they are also rate payers); Toilets (continental style, pay as you go).
Q21: Which services?
Q22: Depends on suitability of building.
Q23: Define value for money.
Q24: A big if - and 'quality' would need defining - there are many issues.
Stop councillors claiming money for meals
Stop publishing everything for the Council in multiple languages.
Private companies running Council services are a bad idea. It will not lead to any company improvements. Private companies are not 'not for profit' companies.
The Council has been good at 'joined up' services - staff across departments talk to each other and present a united and helpful approach. If too much has to be done on line I fear this very useful aspect of Council services would fade away.
Farming out services to companies or voluntary organisations would undermine a clear focus of accountability.
Not everyone can afford a computer!
Too many councillors and reduce their expenses. Magistrate does not get paid!!
Farm out all highways work to main contractors and or enter a joint scheme for all of West Yorkshire. The Lancashire County council example is much more efficient and our highways in Calderdale are of very poor quality if you haven't been on a bike recently trying to weave and dodge potholes its a hairy experience trying to be green. Also push the tarmac/metalling of the whole of the canal path to make access along the valley easier for those less confident on a bike. I realise this mean getting rid of a whole department or mostly except the consultation on legal stuff.



Q24: Not private but voluntary.
Highly paid Council staff salaries should be looked at closely and adjusted accordingly. I feel local authorities nationwide should challenge these cuts and our government.
You need to engage with technology - promote things online so as to engage with young people.
Is this good use of resources? Couldn't it be done on-line?
Children's Social Care Admin Pod Co-ordinators are line managed by two Business Support Managers (new posts that have been created in the last few months) – in other authorities Pod Co-ordinators are line managed by Practice Manager which makes more sense as Pod Co-ordinators work closely with pod and provide PA type role to Practice Managers working closely with them. This would give a saving of over £50,000 per annum.
With 'Greater Yorkshire' on the horizon we do not need 50+ councillors. Many services are run by West Yorkshire (Metro, Trading Standards, Police, and Fire). If all our Council can only think and run a lottery for recycling then they should not have such rewards - expenses and pensions.
We must retain LIBRAIRIES and SWIMMING POOLS and PARKS as these are essential for the development of our children Frontline staff, e.g. Police & teachers are essential. More Indians fewer chiefs please. Salaries of managers should be reduced - no one deserves more pay than the prime minister. Motorists can afford to pay a little more for parking. I would be happy to give up my free bus pass.
It is better to delay some infrastructure improvements rather than cut permanently activities that would be impossible to restart without expensive set up costs, or would be totally impossible to replace e.g. because a valued building had been lost.
Refrain from paying high salaries to senior officers and stop councillors having subsidised or free meals. Stop Council leaders having excess payment for being leaders of various departments. I have to live on my pension within my means and Calderdale Council should do the same. I have to pay my Council tax and I do not see why my tax should be spent on all the councillors' allowance.
Senior officers and councillors could take a pay cut
Stop wasting money on unnecessary things i.e. get rid of Mayors car and driver - waste of money
Get rid of middle management & cut expenses for councillors
Q20: Discriminating against those not IT competent.
Perhaps it would be a good idea if councils could and should now liaise with the public in putting forward initiatives to cover areas which are and will be depleted by cuts - both financial and through manpower. There are many of us out there who would be a) available, b) willing, c) competent to work in various sectors. The retired resource can be as valuable as a contribution to Todmorden as, dare I say it? The young generation.
Q21: There's still a generation of non IT-capable people who need humans to assist enquiries - <i>when we're gone you poor youngsters can exist dominated by IT without any human contact. God help your deprived isolated souls! (Email's useful but totally unlovable).</i>
Q22: But should a building really be demolished after 35 years?
Q24: What services? Why - to save money or because you agree with this approach?
Q23: Please explain what you mean by this. What on earth does it mean?
Regards online services many people do not know how to use or have no internet access. This is a luxury for many people - not a basic need. Councils are becoming too automated - less jobs for people. When I pay my taxes I would like to see a human smiling face not a robot machine.
Review the amount of directors required who are on excess of £50k per year - are they necessary?
Review local elections and have elections once every 4 years. This will help the Council act like a business so decisions are made/ not made for the benefit of Calderdale and not to protect seats at the next election.
Reduce the number of directorates. An ideal opportunity with no director in E&E
Review the delivery of services across the council as part of the above and put services together that complement each other in order to be more commercial and drive business.
Review the work loads of all Directors and Heads of service. Ensure they are focussing on the strategic development and direction of the council. Publish what each Director/Head of service is working on to the workforce so all have a clear view of where our Council and our leaders are heading. This may help build some support and momentum within the workforce.



Review the third tier of management. Roles and responsibilities, along with remuneration, vary from service to service. Reduce the number of officers at this level and ensure all are managing similar size services and are paid at a very similar level. This should be carried out in conjunction with a review of the Directorates.
Review all roles that are not delivering a service. How many roles have grown to support other officers (directors and heads of service) and what value do those roles have? Remove where there is any duplication.
Ensure the Council is consistent with the way services are staffed. If Directorates are to be headed by a Director and Heads of service then make that so. The rest of the managers and staff should be in positions to deliver services for the public or directly support those services.
All the reviews should be carried out by Council officers and not consultants.
Reduce the staff opening times of Northgate House and Westgate to that similar of customer first, say 7am to 5.30pm. Not many commercial companies open 7am to 7pm?
Encourage staff to car share for business miles; an example might be that there are 4 members of staff (from any directorate) going to Todmorden on the same morning from Northgate or Westgate. If we had a live system that staff could advertise the fact they are going to a location including the time and date and length of visit, others can check to see if they could obtain a lift. This would save lots of mileage claims, with only a phone call and across party working.
The number of day's annual leave is very generous and generally speaking more than the private sector. This maybe a difficult subject, however if this saved jobs it may be worth considering everyone giving up a day or two?
I know the essential car user allowance has already been removed, however members of staff who receive the £600 - £700 per year parking pass (paid for by the Council) are only travelling approximately 50 to 100miles business miles per year.(nowhere near the 1500miles, not sure how many miles are now required following the earlier changes). It really needs someone to look on vision and review how many business miles are being carried out. This will create more savings if done on a more regular basis.
Q24: Private companies would mean the Council losing control and this could lead to very expensive mistakes.
Q24: Certainly NOT a private company.
Q11: This already happened - to reduce more would affect the upper valley.
Q20: If they were effective in getting things done
I live in Hebden Bridge and we get a very good service from the Council. I sometimes think we are spoilt compared with other areas of Calderdale. Perhaps we could do more volunteer work to <u>temporally</u> replace some council services (litter picking). Other than this, no bright idea!
Having read Calderdaleguardian.com how efficient are the Council's systems?
I think the Council should be actively reviewing services like Iscal, to make sure they are run at a profit or if that's not possible when Council owned, look at contracting out.
Local services being provided by private/voluntary sectors needs a "stronger than strongly agree" section for me.
I would prefer to talk to a person directly on many issues.
As with previous restructures - continue to trim the top management that have been sat at the top raising up that pay scales and sitting with their feet under the table; fresh blood to attack the problems Calderdale has. Advertise all jobs externally, it is too difficult to get into the council and limits the people we get in to work there
Much of what is in this booklet I agree with but there are some things that seem like an excuse for the council to pass things onto other businesses to save money, which I am totally against. The budget the council gets should be spent on local things.
Reduce the number of ward councillors to save some money as there are fewer things they can influence as all decisions are taken by employees of the council.
Libraries can be integrated.
Reduce duplication and meetings for the sake of it. Better governance of actions to be done. Stop consultant wages and qualify existing staff.
The Council is not always the best body to provide efficient services. However they should provide an environment where private companies and voluntary groups can 1) thrive and 2) be monitored effectively by the relevant council department.
Do not pay councillors, there are too many and they are paid doing nothing.



Reducing/cutting the modest amounts spent on mayoral twinning/international links would be a sad loss with no appreciable saving compared, for example, to reducing the number of ward councillors from 3 to 2.
We should prioritise care of the vulnerable, listen to healthcare professionals and reduce council waste, e.g. share building definitely, reduce management costs and invest in online services. Also promote libraries so everyone has access to cost-saving online services.
Would like to see less elected members in council - 2 members instead of 3 ward councillors. It will save a lot of money when the elected members don't get the allowances paid. It should go back to when they used to serve public voluntarily - make good decisions. It seems hard working council staff lose jobs when councillors' allowances rise every year.
Some services can be combined, e.g. customer first into central library - as a one stop shop for info. More home working should be encouraged for council staff where possible
All sections of the council have been hit by cuts <u>except</u> councillors - why do we have so many and why do some get so much in expenses/payments? Drop it down to 2 per ward - this should suffice, and cap payments/expenses.
Cut down on layers of managers and let staff do their job. Trust the staff to do a job.
You're wasting money on paper surveys rather than online. It's in colour and good quality paper - how much has that costs??
We need to protect our local community. Farming Council work out to external or national organisations should be avoided. Losing more council jobs when it is a major employer for Calderdale residents will start a spiral; to poverty for the entire borough.
Online services are the way forward. We definitely need to make more services available online, all hours of the day, to fit in with the lifestyles of our residents.
So much time, effort and money was spent on the Highways & Engineering restructure - gruelling process for all involved and much quality, loyal Council colleagues lost. Now there is talk that the whole process could start all over again under the new Head of Highways & Transportation Manager. Haven't enough lives been torn apart! After everything we have all been through how can the Council even think to put everyone through this again? We have families, commitments, futures and pride but it just feels like we are nothing. We are struggling with providing a decent service to the public as it is without making more cuts! Get rid of the councillors! That would save money!!!
The increase in online services is good, but the website design is not as user-friendly and accessible as it should or could be. Also access to the appropriate council employee is much harder: it is quite frustrating at times when you have to go through a third party (customer first) when a 'dialogue' rather than a 'single question' is necessary.
Why do we need 3 or more councillors in each ward? Cutting back on them and what they get paid would save the council a lot of money.
Q24: This is already the case and using private companies <u>would cost more</u> . That is why so many volunteers are needed already
Q22: is already the case in Todmorden. Libraries seem less appropriate: they should be quiet
Stop delivering services that private sector delivers cheap and better - pools, leisure centres etc. There are far too many gyms in Halifax and Calderdale. Why does the Council need to run?
Q24: Voluntary yes, private no.
Q20: We don't have the internet.
Business persons need to manage local authorities. Time and motion needs to be introduced in certain areas and levels of personal management. Let the public know the salaries of the management positions in Calderdale.
Beware of too much digitisation - an email is <u>not</u> a form of communication. Talk to each other, don't send emails. As Einstein said "I fear the day when technology overtakes human interaction, because then we will have a generation of idiots" Is that what we want? Or have we already <u>got</u> it?
I don't use a computer and like face to face contact that's why I still pay face to face. Then I know it's done
Q23: As long as you listen to us and it is not a tick box exercise
Would not support privatisation of services - should only be given to voluntary, cooperative or not for profit, i.e. waste and recycling not to massive multinationals as now.



Why not put money into getting good quality staff that can help bridge the gap between those that can use computers and those that can't? Make places like libraries more relevant to today's society by offering more services by combining other services such as benefits/housing services/job centres/youth centre. Put the money into services that already exist rather than out with the old and in with the new.

Fairness

I would like to see speed limits enforced on Elland road (cameras) as drivers use it as a F1 freeway. It is so bad, I have to move as every weekend there is illegal car racing going on. If there were cameras on Elland road, whoever was running them would make a fortune.

I would like the Council to show more dedication in taking action against speeding and littering. I find complaining is like banging your head against a brick wall. People in the council say yes but it is never followed up. E.g. plastic bottles spread over the roads by recyclers.

More emphasis should be put upon walking and cycling as a means to less expensive health care.

The Council should be investing money in the services needed in the Calder Valley. Mental Health Services need supporting more as do those struggling on a low income. The Council's money would be better spent on services and self-improvement than producing glossy booklets and questionnaires which will only end up in the recycling. These booklets do seem a huge waste of council money and resources

Slow down vehicles around built up estates both social and private. Make school children use "school yellow buses" to stop all the grid-lock around schools.

Spend money evenly across Wards rather than giving more to "poorer" areas.

Tackle the air quality management areas - an important public health issue. Support good growing initiatives and allotments. Encourage healthy eating

The Council should promote physical activity to reduce obesity and various other disorders associated with inactivity. However, this cannot simply be done with media campaigns etc.; many of our footpaths have been damaged and rendered unusable by (in particular) less-able/inexperienced walkers (e.g. the most important target group) as a result of mountain bikers using them for downhill runs. Rain water/flash flooding has exacerbated the damage done by bikes. These footpaths need to be a) repaired and b) made less attractive to/inaccessible by bikers by barriers. At the same time tracks with hard surfacing could be re-designated as bridleways and promoted to MTB users.

The speed cars go down New Road is worrying. Big wagons mounting the pavements not bothered by pedestrians and no way anyone can pass on footpath with vehicles parked on footpath. My 4 year old has nearly been run over by the Shoulder of Mutton pub as cars speed through that traffic calming measure. How anyone hasn't been killed is beyond belief.

Council needs to tackle obesity, heart disease & type 2 diabetes through education. The "power plate" from Physicians Committee to Responsible Medicine would be a good place to start.

Active policy of discouraging car use, encouraging cycling, pool cars etc. would bring a great improvement in environment and health.

To invest more money into swimming pools etc. to keep people me active which most people can afford to do

Bus passes (free) for over 60s like in London, Wales, Scotland and other parts of Yorkshire. You show yourself committed to "Fairness" yet this is clearly unfair. I do however, realise the difficulties the Council faces with regard to offering vital services with reduced budgets.

Speed bumps along Bramley Lane, Hipperholme were removed years ago and never replaced, despite there being a school in the area. It is now used as a 'rat run' to avoid Hipperholme crossroads, with motorists not sticking to the 30mph limit. We strongly advocate the installation of some form of speed reducing measures along this road.

Q25: This is a relative concept.

Walking is the best form of exercise so maintain walking paths and pavements.

I am unsure as to whether more money should be invested into areas where there is high levels of unemployment and antisocial behaviour as I don't think it will provide much of an incentive to become employed and improve sociability - more should be done to get communities working together to improve their 'own' areas.



Q25: Weak communities need investment in work opportunities and training to enable people to lift them out of the benefits trap and become proudly self-sufficient.
Q26: Walk It (walking for health) programme run by a small admin team reliant on voluntary walk leaders to foster physical health. A pity Council-funded Adult Education classes are priced beyond many retired people who relied on the activities and social contact to keep their minds and personal skills active - <i>to reduce the use of health and public services in the future!</i>
Q25: What investment? How would this help? In particular areas?
Please think twice, at least, before introducing any more 20mph limits; they are a TOTAL waste of money. They slow down buses, which are then late, they act as a magnet for speeding motorists of both sexes, and all ages, and they frustrate drivers.
Get rid of cars in Hebden Bridge.
Q27: Yes, corner in Brearly past Grove Inn - 40mph one way, 50mph the other - dangerous for pedestrians.
No speed bumps. Put speed cameras in place instead.
We need traffic calming measures on Denfield Avenue, Ovenden. It is used as a short cut to avoid Ovenden Way as can't get up or have to wait if buses are using Ovenden way. There is around 10 speeding cars flying up and down a day as well as motorbikes and other cars which do adhere to the speed limit. There are around 20 young children playing out on the street - all it takes is for them to come out from behind a parked car and an idiot who is using my road where I live as a short cut and be speeding to hit one and the child could be killed because some cars are in excess of 60mph. I am going to record this and send as evidence. Also a light on snicket next to 42 Denfield Avenue would be beneficial for safety of the children and vulnerable people - some won't even use this snicket on a night because its simply too dark and are scared.
Safer parks for healthy living and canal sides for cycling and walking.
Do not take the view that services which do not make a large demand on funding can be cut/abandoned with little impact, e.g. services supporting healthy living and physical activity are important in reducing the scale of future needs in an aging population
Enforce 20mph signs that were put up in Southowram village. We are used as a rat run morning and evening as an alternative route. One of the busiest crossroads in Calderdale now for sure. Would be a 'safer route to school' if the path to Withinfields and our community centre could be maintained and repaired - it belongs to the council. Children wouldn't be near busy Pack Horse corner or roads, but straight to crossing patrol.
More cameras on the motorway.
I would encourage and support greater investment in the more disadvantaged areas of Calderdale; such as regeneration of housing and renovation of disused buildings.
Road safety, not just in inner city but rural locations.
Q26: Most of those able to already do.
Q27: Those convicted thereof should pay <u>much</u> more in fines/costs etc.
Before putting money into 20mph signs in villages at a stupid cost it should consult residents and explain how many these schemes cost, and seeing as they live there and pay council tax they should decide if it's worth all the money. As it is CMBC have spent £? on these in Siddal & Southowram and seeing as I live in these areas it is just a waste of time and how much did all these signs cost?
You should give greatest support to those who are a) motivated to change, and b) are reasonably able to become productive. There is absolutely no point neither investing in people just because they live in a 'poor neighbourhood' nor trying to prevent issues if you have no <u>new</u> methods. Without a & b you just throw money away. What about helping >45, >60, not just young people.

Growth

Comment
I think it should support small local businesses
Transport across Calderdale is very poor - bus services have just been cut, trains to Bradford reduced.
Are the Council doing proper research into the <u>need</u> ? I don't think it is local people using the facilities.



Strongly agree with new sports centre only if swim pool and climbing wall included.
Do not support new sports centre for Halifax, complete waste of money.
I would like to see further development of Halifax Railway Station including reopening of platform 3. It would also be good if the 505/506 West End bus service was brought along back, along with an X bus to Huddersfield along with services to Keighley, Sheffield, Manchester, Oldham and more X buses on major routes.
Social housing and fair rent housing should be a priority. There are many empty properties in all our town centres which could be easily converted to 1 & 2 bedroom flats. Kirklees is making a good job of this in Huddersfield town centre; also has a proud history of strict planning control.
I think personally something should be done to help small villages such as Mytholmroyd to be a place for people to stop (help with tourism).
Transport - bus travel is too expensive - affects disadvantaged and young the most (and families)
Housing, housing, housing.
I think much more could be made of Todmorden market - it's a wasted source of revenue & opportunities for Todmorden.
Stop finding ways to spend our money, the most efficient and focused way of spending my money is to let me keep it.
Do not allow any more building work, the infrastructure can't take it.
Economic development and enterprise are vital to the survival of the Borough. This is in turn is crucially dependent upon a good infrastructure, including good communications (especially superfast broadband) and transport links. Particular improvement is needed on transport links: better roads/increased road capacity; less disruption due to roadwork's, especially in the upper valley (more careful planning needed); more off-street car parking to reduce on-street parking (an increasing source of bottlenecks) and a more ruthless approach to forcing residents to use off-street car park; better quality rail rolling stock.
I think all car parks should be made FREE when filming is taking place in town and there are cones and large vans occupying most of the town - as in Hebden Bridge.
Council used to fund Yorkshire Business Link - all that is now gone.
Calderdale, like many types of council, is full of landlords (private) exploiting the vulnerable and the elderly. In my opinion, social housing is a priority - more important than a sports centre which publicly earns 'brownie points'. If children of the elderly have to take an added responsibility (both physically and financially) then the Council should have a range of facilities to help support that situation - because effectively the family are subsidising and should be recognised for that. In my own situation, we ended up buying a small house for my father to live in because there was no housing available. Now starting with dementia, I have to care for him as well as financially supporting him. Care link weren't interested unless he is pretty incapacitated - in their terms I am not a 'carer'. There is a trend towards putting parents into homes at the full expense of the Council because private arrangements aren't being assessed in the way I feel they should.
Tod is a great town to live in - and having a market in the centre is vital (and rare in this day and age). New housing should be built, using non-standard methods - this is cheaper, more environmentally friendly and can be a treat to look at or live in (e.g. wood construction).
Would like a permanent market hall in Hebden Bridge - perhaps on site of old fire station?
Q1: Yes, help with information and advice, but <u>not</u> subsidise.
Build more houses that are affordable.
Finish the Shay stadium and develop further sporting facilities on site.
I feel it is important that local small businesses are fully supported by the Council - eg Blackbark Woodland management.
Support market events and sense of community.
Halifax needs to encourage better businesses. We were promised larger shops - instead a fast food centre was created. Free parking would help attract visitors. Please NO Primark! More should be made of the town centre architecture as it's outstanding.
Need Council to liaise with bus services to provide public transport access to the new library being built (against our wishes!).
We need a bigger swimming pool!



I'd like to see much more involvement with all areas of the community to develop the Shay. It has such potential. Schools could use it by building classrooms there, museums, training facilities added. Close some of the outlying sports centres and have the Shay as the showpiece with state of the art facilities. Build around Shay so you have place people want to come to and enjoy.
I never go to Halifax. Maintain facilities in the outlying towns: Brighouse, Elland, and Sowerby Bridge etc. Stop trying to send people to Halifax for every little thing. Is Customer First simply for housing matters or aimed at customer information?
Keep Halifax bus station and library where they are - they have never been handier!
Don't build more sports centres - there appear to be loads throughout Calderdale.
Build cheap housing or refresh flat or building we cannot dispose of to turn into housing that we can then rent. The reason it was sold off is it made money so let's I make money like that again. Housing cost major on the land prices. We could also use lots of local workforce in the form of the straw build companies that exist locally. What about assisting local young people to gain the skills for building their own houses we help with the land, materials and they fund or part fund it or just build it with the option of rental and or rent/buy programmes?
Support more businesses in Calderdale as investment.
Dealing with derelict buildings would improve appearance of the town. Lower parking fees would attract more shoppers to market. Social housing should be a priority.
The Council should promote Todmorden Town centre as a great place to start a business with rates free/subsidised for start-up businesses. Organise a town centre association that includes agencies and businesses collectively promoting Todmorden to potential visitors from parts of Lancashire. Promote home grown talent that has started a business. Promote floral decoration in town centre bigger and bolder than previous years, funded through sponsorship from local and visiting business. Hold a regular craft fair monthly in Todmorden market with street artists and workshops.
Maintain market more!
Spend less on pointless literature and more on local communities and markets.
Too many things are already based in Halifax to the detriment of services in Todmorden.
Todmorden needs more policing and more funding make it a better town, it will encourage people to visit, bring in revenue and more jobs; get rid of the eyesores and you might be half way there. Invest in our future. We need more of a say, even though you tend to forget about us.
Todmorden needs more support. We need more shops; as for the market in the winter time there is no outside market.
Strongly agree investment to improve sports facilities, the current buildings in Halifax town centre are in need of development to update equipment and overall; environment. A central Sports Centre is really needed.
Like to see the Council invest time in making shopkeepers maintain their buildings to a good standard, lower rents to make sure high street is filled. Lower car parking charges or free for one hour for small towns. Spending money regenerating small towns to make them more appealing to visitors.
Free parking in Todmorden, say for the first hour, to encourage shoppers into the town. Make use of spare land for the benefit of the area.
Fix the roof of the Market Hall; spend some of the money they collect at Todmorden market instead of sending it to Borough Market.
The money spent on town centre should be distributed fairly not just spent in Halifax and Hebden Bridge. Todmorden is in an appalling state - this would never happen further down the valley.
As for affordable housing! Building on Green Belt is not an option - Calderdale is known for its stunning countryside (Gateway to the Pennines) - stop urban sprawl. I can drive round Calderdale and see loads of empty properties: if a property has been empty for more than two years the owner should be made to tenant this vacant property or face higher council tax charges.
Plan a new motorway from Chain Bar to Todmorden.



Calderdale Council need to make money out of areas/services that are running at a loss such as the Shay. The Shay is running at a massive £53,000 loss. Perhaps it is time for our councillors or one of the top management team to look at employing a person with a business background to suggest some ways in which the Shay can start to make some money. A sponsorship deal of £40,000 a year over 3 years is imminent; however, at best this may make the Shay draw even. Is it not possible for the Council to look at employees' backgrounds before allowing them to manage areas which they do not have the skills or qualifications to manage successfully, which ultimately results in failures for the employee and for the Council as a whole?
Cut rents for market traders - will bring more in, therefore still get income.
Share money with Todmorden - all goes to Hebden & Halifax.
Allow building on waste sites in Todmorden - some have been empty for more than 10 years (a disgrace) - will bring in money.
Should not sell off social housing (need more) & should not have done so in the past.
Support local transport.
Let local shops/buildings such as those on Oak Avenue Todmorden - will bring rents.
Q2: Why link these 2 separate issues?
Above all, investments MUST be in encouraging new business opportunities, through industry, manufacturing and retail, including the hospitality sector. This will promote a secured footfall for the future and a steady improvement for workers and the young artisan. Todmorden could well be the major incentive for the Calder Valley. The Community College would be a good start in providing further education for 'hands on' recruitment of light industry. Continuing the well founded work in horticulture provided by Todmorden High School.
Q1: Excessive business rates kill high street shops; introductory short term rates reduction packages encourage new businesses/employers to set up in towns offering a welcome
Q3: Spread around sports/FE facilities encourage community use and sprit better than central
Q4: Affordable Council mortgages assist home buyers who pay a long term return freeing the council from expense of constant maintenance charges (that's how I bought my first house).
Q1: And avoid unnecessary cuts.
Q2: Obviously.
Q3: How much would this cost? Is it funded? Who would lose?
Q4: Is the Council building more houses now?
Q5: How?
Maybe if you didn't charge such high rents for shops you would get shop owners filling more empty ones. It would be better to get some rent than not at all!
Lived in Hebden Bridge all my life and feel very strongly about the need for low cost housing. This is an issue that concerns me deeply. Affordable housing for the younger generation in Hebden Bridge is a MUST.
Q2: Why is technology and transport links combined?
I think supporting rural bus services is important. I don't see digging up the roads and pavements to introduce high speed broadband as a priority
I believe an overall vision of what Calderdale's role can be in the wider economy is needed. I believe that the Calder Valley has a future within tourism, locally sourced produce, sold at local markets with jobs within the service sector specifically in these areas. I believe that this will require targeted investment in infrastructure and transport, markets and opportunities for business. I think local schools should be enabled to specialise in these areas with help towards more vocational qualifications and apprenticeships. I think such investment would yield prosperity to the area and would generate additional revenue that could then be used to increase social provision in the future without the need for council tax rises or increased levies on business.
Public transport a priority - buses to all areas which run as follows: earlier, later, cleaner & safer, regular, help people get to work, cheaper fares.
Social Housing needs to be addressed throughout Calderdale.
To improve our towns' sales/shops - give free short term parking like many other towns, otherwise people will do as I do - shop at out of town centres which give free parking.
As regards sports facilities, I do agree that we need accessible, affordable facilities, but I think schools need to make sporting activities more frequent for children; so they grow up with a good attitude to exercise.



Q2 Should have been different questions: disagree for technology; agree for transport. Local (public) transport is very important as the use of the car is making life unbearable for pedestrians - who it would appear are just 2nd class citizens.
Why move the bus stop on King Cross (the one by the cycle shop)? There is still same amount of road space. No bus shelter at new stop, which holds up all the traffic because of cars parked there all along the road - very hazardous.
In Elland we are greatly ignored: no baths now or future; no sports facilities i.e. gym or arena; no bus station, no buses to upper Elland after 6.30 evening; no railway. Lucky Sowerby Bridge.
Greetland: no railway station, no bus station or buses, no sports facilities.
A station in West Vale.
Elland needs a railways station and a <u>swimming pool</u> replacing.
Replace Elland swimming baths.
We could do with a swimming baths HA HA I don't think so - it is terrible that a nice town like Elland, was a nice town, that we can't have swimming baths and sports facilities.
A bus station and a railway station - come on give Elland a chance - it's always last in the queue.
More sports facilities - ie use the Shay more for community events.
Please invest in my future.
Low cost housing could be built on areas where council houses once stood, e.g. Turner Avenue in Ovenden.
More should be done in regenerating areas like Elland that have missed out for years on facilities.
I think paying money out for a new sports centre will just put people's backs up more. Some people are still very angry about the new library being built when they thought the old one was OK.

Resilience

re item 11: I would suggest removal of red tape.
The government has ruined good will with its programmes such as work programme and Big Society and social.
Thank you for inviting me to take part in "Your Voice". I currently work as a cleaner in the King Cross area. I have found over the last year to decline in all areas i.e. law and order, cleanliness and unsocial behaviour. I have subsequently had to resign from a position due to feeling unsafe after dark. We need to look at an increase in community wardens and police presence. I hope that local government can promote people to respect, feel proud and love their home and community. We need to look better social interaction and create harmony not fear.
Care in the Community does not work - as Home Care visits get missed regularly and people left without food or drink.
Keep PCSOs on estates to help with ASB - they do help and it lets the Police continue to follow more pressing jobs.
Stop your pathetic "equality and fairness" agenda. Get rid of equality and diversity officers, environmental support officers, ISCAL, ridiculous "health inequalities" agenda. Reduce numbers of councillors, stop translating documents into foreign languages, don't take any asylum seekers, and don't build social housing, cap pay at £80k for officers, stop pathetic 20mph zones.
There is a role for voluntary organisations, and they should be supported, but volunteers should not be replacing qualified professional.
Could use Pay Back teams to help keep the streets clean, Also teach the younger children from an early age to be more aware of littering; and the teaching could also be taught to respect the people and environment around them.
Spend on older people with <u>low</u> pensions.



Calderdale, like many types of council, is full of landlords (private) exploiting the vulnerable and the elderly. In my opinion, social housing is a priority. If children of the elderly have to take an added responsibility (both physically and financially) then the Council should have a range of facilities to help support that situation - because effectively the family are subsidising and should be recognised for that. In my own situation, we ended up buying a small house for my father to live in because there was no housing available. Now starting with dementia, I have to care for him as well as financially supporting him. Care link weren't interested unless he is pretty incapacitated - in their terms I am not a 'carer'. There is a trend towards putting parents into homes at the full expense of the Council because private arrangements aren't being assessed in the way I feel they should.
Ensure young people are able to access support out of school time to prevent anti-social behaviour/crime.
Services for people with mental health problems appear to be almost non-existent.
Most people would prefer to see a police constable doing a shift in a local area <u>on the beat</u> rather than in squad cars 'responding' to events! Community Support Officers (always in twos!) are a poor substitute and costly.
More investment in mental health services etc., advice lines, voluntary stuff because this is only going to increase as technology increases.
Invest in more accessible College courses for people who need some extra support. More social activities for people with learning disabilities. Invest in and have this as a requisite when building to have a toilet accessible for people who need a hoist and bed to use toilet facilities, look at having a disability bus pass with no time limit for people to be able to access work, college, groups, GP, dentist etc. at a reasonable convenient time. To invest in more supported living houses to allow choice.
Children and young people, people with disabilities and the elderly should always be given priority for support and funding!
Please continue with support for adults with special needs.
The Council seem happy to pay for obscure services but are cost cutting services for the elderly and infirm.
Try to maintain front line services.
I really value the service that the Council provides for hard-to-reach and vulnerable groups like lesbian parents, of whom there are many in Calderdale. Council-run sessions have greatly maintained the stability of our community, allowing sometimes isolated lesbians to meet other lesbian parents and introduce our children to each other. This important per-to-peer interaction contributes to healthy wellbeing. Thank you!
Stop giving money to immigrants.
We trust the Council will continue to provide and maintain the Services at present in place for vulnerable adults without any further increase on people who are on fixed incomes. The Service to both the elderly and people of all ages with a disability has already been reduced enough.
Extra money for CAB.
Should not have sold care homes - needs of people & jobs.
I feel that the Council could make more use of volunteers, especially those, like myself, that have many years of experience in community work, military and police. There are now so many limitations in organised services available to 'oldies'. DID YOU KNOW THE COUNCIL HAS AN UNTAPPED SOURCE OF VITAL EXPERIENCED PEOPLE? Those bodies that both my husband and myself have attempted to join, ie Youth Offending Service, are no longer run efficiently with positive outcomes. <i>They seemed to be overwhelmed at our experience!</i>
Q11: CVA offers invaluable leads between prospective volunteers and voluntary organisations needing them.
Q12: Community relations best fostered by individual & local groups with shared communal interest (sporting, cultural, religions, other activities, concerns for young/elderly etc.).
Q13 Surely the job of WYP (spouse was a special constable, I was Independent Custody Visitor).
Q14: Use volunteers, eg voluntary country rangers & voluntary floral display workers & voluntary youth organisations.
Could you disagree with any of these? The questions are biased towards the answers you want.
I think it is imperative to encourage people young and old to respect the local community and environment and to take responsibility for cleaning up after themselves, ie not dropping litter and picking up their dog poo. The streets of Todmorden are becoming very depressing in this respect.



Q10: Care of the elderly is of paramount importance. Respect and dignity at all times to be shown to the elderly. Unannounced inspections of Care Homes, Nursing Homes & Day Centre to see what really goes on. Carers in private homes and Care & Nursing Homes to have better pay and an end to zero hour contracts.
Q24: Support voluntary organisations.
Police get out of their cars.
Q11: Or take the responsibilities for the tax payers.
Council to promote more self-help attitudes rather than nannying by same, although needy and vulnerable to be given priority, including older adults.
The Council should support charities that support local people and includes animal charities such as RSPCA.
Families should look after old people who can't look after themselves.
Q11: Most of the volunteering I have experienced <u>should</u> have been done by paid staff, and often has been in the past but they were made redundant.
Why should the Council do the Police's job?
Unemployed people put to community jobs!!
More public police presence.
Drug takers which are getting really bad round young children and families. Too many takeaways and supermarkets - drinking on the streets and people hanging around in certain places.
I realise that everything has to be made to pay their way but I would not like to see any cuts in services for the young and the old. This means that libraries, parks and exercise facilities are needed to keep people as well as possible and not everyone has an open pocket.

Sustainability

Re item 17: I would suggest that borrowing library books could have a 10p a book charge. I would pay.
A very high priority for me and all my family is the maintenance of Todmorden swimming pool. This is a most important facility for us and our grandchildren.
Household waste collections every 3 weeks; turn off street lighting between 12 and 5am; charge 20p for borrowing a library book.
When replacing North Bridge Leisure Centre it would be advantageous to consider parking for members as Sowerby Bridge pool is totally inadequate and at times impossible to find space. Also the stupid room for classes is far too small for the amount of people that attend, as is Halifax pool.
A new sports centre is said to be built to replace North Bridge LS. Where ever it is located, should have adequate parking, this is sadly lacking at the new pool in Sowerby Bridge where at times it is almost impossible to park to attend classes.
Complete roadwork's overnight rather than peak times i.e. rush hour.
Allow sports to have a greater budget not any extra cost to us.
Attention needs to be paid to the condition of highways particularly in the upper Calder Valley. This is not just a matter of filling pot holes but making good the effects of repeated excavation of main roads for repairs to utilities.
I would like the Council to show more dedication in taking action against speeding and littering. I find complaining is like banging your head against a brick wall. People in the council say yes but it is never followed up. E.g. plastic bottles spread over the roads by recyclers.
Reduce Council Tax by 20%.
I would like to see more disabled parking and better car parks. There is too much over parking in Hebden Bridge village.



I think the Council should not be afraid to force businesses to do more for their local areas, eg to put a charge on every property along unadopted roads that are a terrible mess and just get on and fix them - eg Central Street in hidden Bridge. Also to force businesses to sell (or let) rather than being derelict - e.g. the 2 eyesore boarded-up shops on Market Street in Hebden Bridge. Also given that tourism is a big money earner in Calderdale locals should be given paint etc to keep streets looking good - eg by painting railings; cleaning road signs etc. The Council can no longer do everything, eg the above painting & cleaning, or litter picking or keeping up the parks so you need to ACTIVELY instil responsibility back to local residents and businesses.
Do not rely on volunteers.
Don't forget parks and open spaces.
Parking for cars is a real issue that will only get worse - invest now!!
More parking provision in Hebden Bridge town centre.
More parking provision in Hebden Bridge town centre.
Maintain services in rural areas.
Centralising facilities is a bad idea - keep local facilities because this reduces the use of transport and also means people with reduced mobility do not have to make difficult journeys, eg getting to hospital when there is no direct transport.
Increase the "admin" fee to be added to council tax for those residents requiring the free local car parking permits. Some "town centre" residents have to pay £100s a year for these permits.
Please invest in drain clearance to reduce flood risk.
I think asking for more Council Tax is a bad idea; people on a low income will struggle to pay more as it already costs a lot of money. This is fine for someone on a "good" wage but I am not so I struggle to pay it as it is.
A small charge for use of services that are normally free is a great way of monitoring use of services. Also is fairer as you can contribute to what you actually use. I would not agree with a charge more than £2 and the ideal would be between 50p and £2.
Council must not close libraries.
We would like to be able to recycle cardboard instead of landfill/trips to the dump.
Do not centralise services at the expense of border communities like Todmorden.
A couple of years ago I paid my Council Tax for the full 12 months in April, but this facility was not available this last year. Why not restore this?
Potholes on the roads in Todmorden are a disgrace.
Q17: Yes, for leisure services, maybe for libraries & senior citizen transport, but <u>not</u> for home carers.
Our roads are in desperate need of repair and maintenance.
Pavements should be kept clear of vehicles and encroaching hedges/trees. Why bother to repair the drainage when your own workforce will immediately drive across it (Lightcliffe Stray)?
Q19: especially the one outside the White Horse pub on Burnley Road.
So many of our roads are in a very poor state and have been for a long time. I hope this is a Council priority. Is there anything the Council can do about the number of times Burnley Road is dug up and the length of time traffic is disrupted. I no longer work but it is very disrupting and frustrating. I feel so sorry for daily commuters.
Could the Council provide 'green waste' bins for garden rubbish? It could be offered to residents who are willing to pay an annual fee and be collected only once a month.
Closing some of the smaller libraries could save money, concentrating resources on the larger libraries.
Brighouse pool is fab if only you would not prioritise the car - you should make it safe for people to walk into it - someone <u>will</u> be hurt. The car is not the answer.
Brighouse library is fab - keep buying books.
Invest in things that will save or make money in the future. Don't "protect" the countryside - let it flourish. Help local initiatives who do good job at managing our assets!
Q17: Can't answer this - I believe in 'free at the point of use' - doesn't mean I'm happy for levels of service to suffer.



Q18: How would a good car park in one place help if you were going to another?
Reopen libraries to full capacity.
The pot holes in our roads are terrible. They must be attended to. Also our roads have a lot of litter in them, mostly from the awful recycle bags which blow about into the roads, plastic bottles are the worst. It would be better if the bin men would put the wheelie bins back into the gateway they got them from, not leave them on the pavements.
Garden rubbish collection would be helpful, especially for residents without cars. I'm sure most people would be prepared to pay a small charge. Good quality services need to be maintained and not cut, e.g. parks, libraries and car parks; savings can be made in other area, i.e. council expenses.
While perhaps of a more superficial nature than social services, the maintenance of our parks and road verges and the beautiful borders are important in maintaining morale and contribute to well-being, in part because of the benefits to birds and other wildlife.
Halifax is an old honourable town, and it's sad to see the 'decay' in both the amount of litter and rubbish everywhere, but especially in and around Ovenden where there are 9 or 10 fast food outlets. The Council have budget cuts to consider and services to maintain but to attract people to Calderdale it needs to be clean and tidy with opportunities for young people and for businesses. Dean Clough is a case in point. Street cleaning in north Halifax is a priority along with fly tipping etc. and severe penalties for people throwing rubbish out of cars! From Burdock Way through to Moorside it is a disgrace. Officers and councillors must see the amount of litter!
Q15: What are 'front line services'?
Q18: Keep parks and libraries.
Q16: I don't use sports centres.
Don't turn Cromwell Bottom into a 'theme' nature reserve. Don't spend on it - keep it wild. Why not get volunteers to maintain signs on eg Brighouse boundary and Calderdale Way where some have fallen down or gone altogether? Remove graffiti - replace damaged signs straight away - otherwise it becomes the norm.
Maintain (eg water) planted areas - flower beds quite good but stone traffic island/barriers need spraying to kill weeds.
The traffic on Brighouse bypass is terrible - it will never be a centre for tourism. Signs in Brighouse are not readable or faded - need replacing. Use or establish powers to save ruined buildings if owners do not act within a time limit. Put Brighouse mayor's seat on display somewhere, eg library.
Cycling is dangerous - pot holes are incredible.
Massive solar farm at Cromwell Bottom tag loop, not another nature reserve; it's just had major works on site to remove any entrenched wildlife, and wildlife flourishes in areas like power generation limited spaces such as wind turbine areas on shore and off shore. Combine this with a gas to power and maybe hydroelectric in the river? What about a education/innovation centre with capability to rent space to universities, whose students can stay in our cheap green accommodation... let's build straw houses on our own land. We have so much of it. It's the big expense of any build.
More investment in parks and green spaces as these are often maintained to a lower standard to save money. The parks are not only our heritage which has been handed down to use but are also outdoor classrooms where people can learn about life, nature and how to socialise and interact with all different groups of people whom they might not encounter otherwise on a day to day basis.
We can hardly make ends meet, so how do you expect us to pay more?
Q16: Flatten out the pricing structure especially when people who do work can't afford to use these services.
Q17: We would need to be careful which services we charge for, not just do it for income generation - a full impact assessment on what it would mean for environment, communities etc. Some people may object and refuse which could cause longer term effects.
Q15: I think we pay enough already and I think they could do more with the funding of roads and buildings, and not spending money a new doctors' that's no different to one we already had.
Q15: As much as I would like to support frontline services - I wouldn't want to pay more Council tax. We pay £97 a month; someone else I know pays £12 a month. I appreciate our circumstances are different but I think this unfair.
Council should increase Council Tax to protect services.



It's important that services remain free for those who cannot afford to pay; even if quality drops, in my opinion.
Old people have all the money - tax them. Stop high Council Tax.
We must retain LIBRAIRIES and SWIMMING POOLS and PARKS as these are essential for the development of our children Frontline staff, eg Police & teachers are essential. More Indians fewer chiefs please. Salaries of managers should be reduced - no one deserves more pay than the prime minister. Motorists can afford to pay a little more for parking. I would be happy to give up my free bus pass.
It is important not to put all the funding into 'frontline' services. They cannot function without 'backroom' development and support.
Stop charging car park fees & hospital & local charges.
Stop sending all services to Halifax - allow local offices.
Q17: Discriminating against the most needy.
Q15: Councils are beginning to recognise the benefits of strict housekeeping aided by willing volunteers with valuable experience in many fields useful to local government.
Q16: Users, not non-users, to pay towards their use of sporting facilities et al.
Q14: Yes but only if it listens to us.
Q15: Will the Government allow you to do this?
Q16: How much?
Q17: Which services, how much?
Q18: Are you trying to cut services? A very biased question.
Litter and rubbish is awful, bring back the street cleaners or use the Community Payback teams to clean the streets.
I now hope and pray that fracking will not be allowed in Calderdale bringing high risk to our ground water and local environment. No amount of money can return a damaged environment back to health.
Q17: e.g. car parking!
I would like to see more kinds of plastics recycled. They used to be when Kerbside was running the service - because the people who worked for them seemed to care more - it wasn't just a job it was a way of life to most of them! Your numbers may be up but for me the service has gone down. Why can't we have a better service, like when the young lads ran it?
Q18: Wording doesn't make sense. Employ a survey writer with clarity. This is not good for promoting the Council.
I would not want to pay more Council Tax as it is used inappropriately in my view many a time and unfairly.
Q15,16,17: If finances allowed, that's why we pay council tax.
Further investment to secure core services that no one else provides. The Council should focus on maintaining Calderdale as a vibrant and attractive place to live: one of the area's greatest assets is the landscape & countryside and the Council is the only organisation who has the power to protect this. Greater enforcement of planning regulations and investment in our Countryside and green spaces will protect and promote Calderdale's unique character.
I think you should keep beautiful historic buildings like Todmorden Library and the Town hall, as it is a long way for people of Todmorden to go to Halifax if you close the library in Todmorden.
Q15: As a single person I pay enough.
Q17: Depends what.
Q19: Not a main priority.
It is really important that the council ensures it invests in countryside and its rights of way network - disbanding this was a mistake!
I support the Council retaining a comprehensive range of services whilst making efficiency saving where necessary. I would support higher council tax to retain services.
Raising council tax for <u>working families</u> could be an option, eg using a scale according to income.
I would not wish to pay even more council tax for council to protect the countryside - it doesn't appear to. Would consider paying to a Parish Council.



Please stop renovating public bridle ways and footpaths.
Improve parking on the street of Wellington Road Todmorden.
Q15: I am on a very low income. Council tax should be charged on a sliding scale based on ability to pay. If it were, then there would never be a shortfall - a multimillionaire still has much more than they need if they give half of it up. If I give up half of my income then I can't afford to live. Why should I work as a volunteer for no pay when they have more than they need and could easily give much more of it up?
Our council gardens are barely touched throughout the year nowadays, yet some 'nuisance' workers is instructed to poison 20cm border of all grassed areas and slaughter shrubs in ugly forms, just occasionally. Oh, how sad. If it cannot be done well, leave it to nature please.
Landowners and business owners need to protect rural and urban environment. The principle of 'polluter pays' extended to packaging becoming litter, poor maintenance leading to graffiti etc.
If you wish more people to be more engages in their community in volunteering, why not offer some reward to them which is of negligible cost to you? E.g. helping at a day centre for underprivileged for 1/2 a day a week qualifies you for one free session at the swimming pool or running track. That would improve health, value their community contribution but not add cost to you.
When allocating shops in the Piece Hall could not upmarket shops like Fat Face, Laura Ashley, The White Stuff etc be persuaded to have a small shop but with internet ordering available there? This would bring people into the Piece Hall more than just the type of shops we used to have. This is done successfully in many old properties abroad, making tourists have the best of both worlds. It would also be used by the many people who do not have internet access and would like to buy in Halifax.
I think the bus pass situation could be better. No bus passes for people in work at 60 - they do not need a pass. Charge bus pass owners 50p a journey to save a bit for council funds.
I sense that this consultation process is designed in such a way as to encourage people to support even more spending by the Council, and if this is so I believe that you are looking at it the wrong way round. Instead, consider the notion of reducing the level of Council Tax - say Band A to pay only £50 per instalment then working out the level of cuts required to implement such a measure. You then achieve a better balance between those who are chiefly 'putting in' and those mainly 'taking out'. This would require shelving a few prestige projects etc, such as the new Library, cutting back on staffing levels in some departments, cutting out translators free for those living here without the language and keeping well clear of house building, whilst at the same time keeping parks, museums and libraries going on a basic level; as with schools and hospitals.
Clean up our streets!! Take more action with dog walkers to clean up after their pets!! Gardening - rake up grass cuttings.
Cleaning up after dogs; cleaning up the rubbish.
St Mary's churchyard (Elland) should be cleaned and tidied more often.
Install more litter bins and poo-bag bins.
Remember Elland pay their Council Tax like Halifax and deserve better facilities.
Cleaning all the litter and dog dirt.
I would use the sports centre, so why should I pay more for it.
I would pay more for better services and facilities.
I can't affords to pay Council tax now never mind do that you can build a new sports centre here those with enough money can go to it.
Q19: Potholes really do need dealing with and not this time of year neither, and then the frost can get them.
Ask kids from schools and people on community service or probation to pick up litter in certain streets.
Could do with more road sweepers in this area (HX3). And teach children at school not to drop litter and take it home. Clamp down on drug sellers in this area.
Reduce grass cutting, plant low growing flowering shrubs & flowers, and fruit trees in parks and open spaces.



General

A suggestion box for Council service users may be useful - or not!
Stand up and fight Central Government cuts on the basis of looking after the people who elect you. If cuts are required they need to spread over a long time period as lives are being damaged, some beyond those people ever finding a way back. Nobody should ever forget those who have a need for help. Let's all be good humans.
Maintain Halifax A&E dept., not move to Huddersfield.
Less subsidy/benefits for those unwilling to work, e.g. mobility vehicles etc. - you should earn your wage - work.
I would like to raise one or two points for the record about the recent Talkback Survey regarding Council Spending in the next couple of years. I felt that some of the questions were so worded that it was not possible to accurately and fully reflect my views on all matters and therefore could not claim to be truly consultative. I also feel some of the questions were emotively worded and very subjective, possibly designed to elicit a predetermined response but at the same time allow the council to claim they had consulted on the various matters. For example: Who, apart from the most hard hearted, could disagree with the statement "It is important the Council protects front line services for vulnerable children and young people eg children in care or with special needs" Without knowing if the service was achieving the best value for money. I believe the council have a legal duty in any event to 'Protect Vulnerable Children and Young People' but should endeavour to do so in the most cost effective manner.
Some questions also required an Agree/Disagree type answer (of varying degrees) to questions that lumped together different categories, some of which were agreeable and some with which could not be agreed without more detail. It was not possible therefore to give a fully accurate response in every case. For example – in Q2 (c): "It is important the Council supports the education and development of young people through schools, children's centres and family services". I would strongly agree with Schools but would be more circumspect about Children centres and family services and would need for more information about the latter two. Other questions were similar in nature but I won't list them all here. Notwithstanding I completed the survey as best I could and look forward to seeing the results in November.
Comments: I have filled in the questionnaire re savings. There is nothing to allow comments on. You are not allowing the customer to give you feedback on what to save. Stop sending people on benefits paperwork every month. Only send paperwork where a change is being made. My mother used to receive reams of it every month. This should save hundreds of thousands. Tell people via Courier this will stop. Stop changing school headed paper, stop messing around with changing all paperwork. There is no need. People do not want name changes in departments. I have always worked in the private sector. We could show you massive savings in a short amount of time providing you don't take the attitude of it can't change. Of course it can if we are going to free up the money to go to things that will benefit others.
This survey is biased to promote the good work the Council does, then ask if people would support paying more. Seems more like propaganda than a proper survey.
It is important that Council create new jobs because many people are looking to work, but they did not get any response.
These were almost non-existent when I left a year ago. I do think the Council provide good services and staff work hard.
Should value their staff and their services more and invest in their development so they can retain and promote the place as being a nice place to work.
Much more public consultation.
Full recognition of public concern, e.g. 16,000 petitions for the library.
NHS preserve the A&E.
I totally support this fantastic approach to residents having their say on how the Council budget is spent. There will never be an agreed consensus on spend, but hopefully if sufficient people respond the majority views will have a stronger voice.
Council never listen anyway, what is the point?



As supporters of the new Labour leader we feel the rich should contribute proportionately more as some are lucky enough to have become wealthy in a society which has allowed this they should be more than happy to pay a larger share to help those less fortunate.
Sort out your planning permission issues
I would like to object to the demolition of Northgate House and the Central Library which I do not support.
Some of the "visionary priorities" could be best achieved by Council depts. working together, e.g. Education, Social Services, Environmental Health, and by working with centralised bodies such as local and regional health authorities in a more concerted and coherent fashion. I do appreciate that local authorities now have little power and cash, shame, and I would like to see more regional cooperation to achieve best results for people not political ideology. Hooray for Jeremy Corbyn!
This feels like a "paper exercise" - the underlying problem is with central Govt - subsidising the south by cutting grants to councils across the board, regardless of Council Tax revenue being so much lower here.
Was it necessary to use cardboard rather than paper for this questionnaire?
I did not agree with the new library and archive and hope it will not be like Birmingham's where they can't afford to run it.
Do not want to fill in as too manipulative.
In any cuts council should consider the impact on the most disadvantaged.
Our youth club is open 5 days a week and you could come in and speak to us instead of sending us a form to see our opinions face to face. We are people not statistics. Also, asking us what we want in the community instead of giving us a few things to choose from.
My answers are in part based on guesses as to how much support for my particular service is receiving from the Treasury. Would it be possible for the explanatory leaflet to give indications on this?
Will do online budget. Good idea - can't have everything.
Our local youth club is open 5 days a week and you could come in and actually speak to us and get opinions from us directly instead of us just being a statistic.
I think they should maintain the standards of how youth centres are run and other services like this so children are able to talk and follow this on, so jobs are eligible and education for younger children.
I am a mum of a 1 year old and it's important to her future. It will be good to keep youth centres, schools, and libraries for when she's older so I know she has somewhere to go and is safe. Also it's nice to go speak to someone face to face than to go online and use machines where you don't know where or what you're doing.
Marie at the youth centre where I have been for plenty of years as I am about to become a mother myself these issues are important to me.
Having a youth centre is the most important thing to me as I can talk about my problems, stay safe and socialise without being on the streets. I have a grandma and granddad in the area and it's important they're safe and feel comfortable.
It's important for my nephew to live in a safe area to have a safe future. It will be good to keep youth centres and good schools open.
Too much money wasted on knocking down good buildings, leaving buildings to rot without use of the space. And putting up new one's why doing the Council invest in refurbishing the older buildings and doing all the shop frontage in Halifax empty shops. All they seem to do is have new buildings put up, then use them for the council then when they're finished leave them empty; and they could be used for Community projects local to the area. Introduce a grants pot solely for Community Shops in town centre so community can become self-sustained. It does work.
I have taken 25 minutes of my day to fill this in; please consider mine and the opinion of others to make a difference in the West Yorkshire area of Calderdale; there are many things that need changing and sometimes people do not speak in fear of not being heard. Thank you. "Invest in the future rather than false hope".
Think before you spend.
If you develop services in Elland or Brighouse then people from Kirklees will use them.
I had a few months' unemployed after graduation - the Job Centre was a very unpleasant experience, with "advisers" who blatantly lied to me. Other people have found it OK so I suppose it's a lottery. Not sure if council has any control over Job Centre.



Preserve the heritage and history of Calderdale and concentrate on its culture.
I started to complete this and then realised that this was not helping resolve relative benefits and trade-offs. It is too easy to tick the "I support everything" option, but this is not the problem at hand. Benefits, costs, priorities
I'm not sure what this questionnaire achieves. Too many questions geared towards an obvious "agree" answer leaves me feeling it's geared towards the publication of statistics to support where you'd like to spend.
I will always be grateful for being awarded a maintenance grant from Halifax CBC to go to university. Similarly I fully appreciate the NHS and its hardworking staff. I regret the misplaced efforts by the current government to privatise NHS services (which Calderdale Council can't be blamed for).
Please don't be complacent about recycling rates. The example set should be maintained so as to encourage other local authorities. A target of 75% would seem quite reasonable. The annual circular could be improved with clear notes about what is suitable and what is not. Maybe 2/3 collections a month would be suitable, and allow some saving (general rubbish and recycling could be alternated weekly). Providing each property with an extra paper bag and an extra glass, tins etc. box would allow less frequent visits. Halving the number of street lights used overnight should be considered.
Make pensioners pay something towards public transport. The buses are sometimes just full of pensioners and I am the only one who pays.
Stop immigration no more asylum seekers our country is too small not enough houses and schools.
Improve social services as they are incompetent, inefficient, disorganised, they don't liaise with other services so lack of communication.
And wasting money on things like this. Immigrants get more money than us why. How can an African afford to run a care reg 15 when he only works 10 hours a week?
Don't sell off Pollination Street or other bits of land to make a bit of money.
There have been at least 2 underhand sales of property and land without consultation of local people in Todmorden. Did the Council get value for money?
Get the wasted space in the town centre developed - it must be 20% +
Change the ridiculous rules on large item collections, i.e. asbestos panels from garage roof, electrical items. Allow public to use vans to enable them to bring items to the tip.
Stop the decay in the town centre. Use the space we have rather than build another shopping centre.
It's kept almost secret that the major outgoing on CMBC funds is loan interest. This is hidden by listings of outgoings under service headings (e.g. libraries) where it is split among all or many of them.
I understand that Bristol has developed a local currency, presumably interest-free, and that Exeter is poised to follow suit. CMBC has given low-level support to ventures including "Calderdale Green Currency". But this has been peripheral, and the Council should consult urgently towards establishing a significant local currency for local trading here, persuading businesses to employ it.
I think dustbins should be kept as they are. It would be unhygienic to leave longer.
Random temperature checks on CMBC building - some are far too warm, with heating left on while buildings are unoccupied - you could have a staff representative in each building to check this.
Allow more staff to work from home to cut down on mileage/accommodation costs.
Increase recycling in CMBC buildings.
Open Bankfield Museum as a wedding venue to self-fund its existence.
Improve footfall at museums by changing collections more regularly to attract visitors to the area.
Stop holding shows at Victoria Theatre that are poorly attended, too many shows of the same era. Introduce indie and rock bands which sell out to raise profits.
Stop renewing the contracts of staff who are way over the pension age in order to free up jobs for others who will join the council on a lower hourly rate.
More 'Indians', fewer 'Chiefs' - reduce drastically the pay of top managers - there are people lower down the food chain who could do the jobs just as well, if not better.
I have disagreed with most of the sections because there are no financial figures given. Without showing a breakdown in current costs, the questionnaire is largely irrelevant and can lead to the Council wasting its budget in the wrong areas, e.g. Q12: yes no one could argue with this, but at what cost?



Also, I believe that anyone in Calderdale can complete the questionnaire. This is completely wrong: this should only be available to Council Tax payers; people who aren't paying will agree to virtually every suggestion because it's not costing them anything. It also makes questions 15 & 16 completely ridiculous. Therefore, if the Council makes any decisions based on this document it could be legally challenged.
The Council creates too much paperwork.
Make more effort to publish results of surveys such as this. Allow the public to make use of these surveys to put pressure on those politicians who otherwise ignore these surveys.
You have left out any option to comment on education, community security and general wellbeing: all areas being quietly privatised and removed from criticism by the voter.
More strategic thinking required on part of Council employees. I think you should really look whether your workers are committed and efficient at their jobs. I think the bar is too low. Also support bottom to top initiatives and let people on the ground inform managerial decisions.
Do we have to be treated like infants with faces instead of boxes to tick? Many of the questions to which I have responded positively require more money. Where will it come from? Central government is demanding cuts, local council have to reduce expenditure so how can many of the desirable outcomes in this questionnaire be funded?
I wonder if it would be possible to put a handrail outside Brighouse library. Every time I go I'm frightened of falling. Trying to pull myself up on the stone pillars doesn't really help at all. I'm sure I am not the only one who would appreciate this. Thank you.
I would like more information about how these answers will be used - what process will follow? I feel the Sustainability and Efficiency sections contain too many questions which are either leading or need further explanation. The use of multiple choice answers in these cases is likely to lead to a lack of clarity as to what people have actually voted for - hence all my comments alongside.
Stop wasting money on projects like Copley Valley Developments and giving thousands to GenR8.
Don't demolish the library.
Spend less money on doing up Princess Buildings for the councillors.
Why is the council not committed to recycling household waste? We are aware of some neighbours who have 2 wheelie bins (only 2 adults & 2 children) and do not recycle anything!
The tax levied by the Council on empty houses after 3 months has resulted in landlords and estate agents placing many unsuitable tenants in rented property. These tenants bring areas 'down' and are effectively spoiling my town - Elland. Perhaps a council register can be introduced where responsible landlords can share info about prospective tenants. Responsible landlords could possibly be excused the charges on empty homes. Used furniture is often dumped outside these properties, creating an eyesore. Councils should bill these tenants for the furniture removal, even though the tenants will deny all knowledge of such furniture. Why should responsible rate payers pick up the bill?
It is important to me the Council should employ well-qualified staff and pay them a fair salary
People need to be thrifty in the true Yorkshire tradition. Food is not expensive if you cook it yourself
Town planning - pre 1960 Halifax was a well-planned town with 3 level shopping streets. I used to admire the atmosphere of it - sadly it's gone! Is that progress?
Make more use of experienced department operatives, like environmental health going to Hambleton to conduct operations with/for them to prevent food crime. (Not sure if we get additional funds but kudos...)
Advertise on local radio all the good things we have done like closed bad land lords, fixed x number of houses for members of the public through handyman scheme, prosecuted x number of food establishments, looked after x number of children, get the pest control profit making group up and commercially running again... for a few starters.
The more cutbacks in men and equipment obviously the less work can be done. You have to ensure that men and equipment are utilised better, less men and less equipment does not always save money in the long run. More local involvement with the community with cleaning and clearing dumping's etc.
Why do you need to know a person's gender, age, sexual orientation - how does that help? Do you just want to know how much you can get away with, axing more jobs, more services?
This survey is a great idea but needs better promotion and support for people to ensure it is completed. Maybe ensuring vulnerable people in society take part - care homes, nursing homes, and schools. The young people of our town should be hugely involved in things like this to create a real change.



Would have been massively beneficial to have this posted through every letterbox in Calderdale - there are many adults who cannot or do not want to access this digitally. This should have been promoted much well. For a number of people at our meeting the paper based version was the first they had seen.
I would like to see the council challenging the cuts from central government, as all the services are central for everyone's health and wellbeing.
The questions are very ambiguous. Don't know exactly what specific action the questions relate to.
The Art Department in Todmorden was taken away from us. As it was a thriving college and used by many ages it is supposed to be "Art for Life". BRING IT BACK.
Have a look at the recruitment process and get rid of dead wood that are discrediting the Council's work, or those that bring a good wage for not doing what they are supposed to be doing.
I was disgusted to hear that Calderdale did not support singing of the National Anthem and flying the Union Flag.
Reduce planning officer posts, turn off street lights, stop wasting money on useless paperwork and officials.
Most of these questions are leading - of course we should look after old people and children and pay less for these services. Give real alternatives to get real answers.
Please stop wasting money poisoning the grass, blowing leaves inches; sending me endless information about what you do for me; leaving so many lights on public buildings; using two different vehicle to collect our rubbish/recycling. Be more aware of those who <u>don't</u> want to do everything on line and cannot afford the fares to Halifax. Thanks.
Should help everyone and every area.
I believe that people living in Britain should speak English and money spent duplicating forms in numerous languages is money wasted if you want to use the services from the language it is written in. I think there is too much pandering to ethnic minorities who in lots of instances make very little effort to fit in unless money is forthcoming.
I think Calderdale Council could do more, as an organisation and elected body, to stand up to the government and their austerity based regime. People are suffering due to cuts that are being made to vital services, both through the lack of service itself, and also the loss of employment opportunities. If you truly care about the residents of Calderdale, and the UK as a whole, you will spearhead a campaign to stop the cuts to, and selling off of, our public services.
There is a lot of deadwood working within Calderdale Council. They should stop changing the traffic systems which affects market traders like me and other town centre shopping. Prioritise on fixing damaged roads and offering more affordable parking to help local small businesses thrive. Stop wasting money on changing the roads at the cost of millions with no benefits, for example Ainley Top roundabout - the traffic has got worse - this money could have been spent on our hospitals and countryside to attract more visitors.
I am currently at work in Westgate House and can hear the busker with bagpipes - this is very annoying when you are trying to concentrate. I then found out buskers do not need permits in Calderdale. I think it would be a good idea to start charging for permits - that way the Council will earn some money and we will be able to concentrate again.
Agreeing and disagreeing don't matter much if you don't give full examples of what is meant - "front line services"? - Or what financial impact options would have.
Clear connection between Town & Borough/District Council - seems to be a disconnect.
Tennis courts need upgrading in ALL parks, especially Calder Holmes and Todmorden. Recycling needs more support. Dog walkers need eco-plastic poo bags that are biodegradable.
Alcohol should not be so freely and widely available or promoted - this should be something for the community to address together, ie less pub and more leisure centres/pool halls etc; table tennis needs promoting. Youth are under-supported.
Health & safety has gone mad - encouraging fly tipping by not allowing someone to use the facility because they are on foot. Motorists are not speeding - you have more chance of being knocked down on a zebra crossing than the tip. Staff can walk out of the gates to stop people walking in; they could also help by taking the bags themselves on the way back, but not a chance. What is their role if not to assist? 'Jobsworths' I say. Get a grip.
Many of these questions are not properly or fully answered by a question in this format. For example, whilst I agree that the Council, should strive to provide affordable housing, this should only be if proper safeguards are in place to ensure such housing goes to the right persons and is not open to abuse.



My suggestions for further savings include: even further reduction to top heavy management; offer paid-for services to the public, e.g. garden waste removal, garden tidying for older persons; look even more intensely at the use of redundant buildings or underutilised buildings e.g. Brighouse Civic Hall; get <u>properly</u> tough about recovering unpaid rents/taxes etc. (I understand several millions remain unpaid on Council tax) - has the Council the political will to sort this out?
Please use recycled paper for future publications & print on it that it is recycled/from sustainably managed forests.
When you say that funding has been cut by the government, please clarify that this cut continues every year, not just for one year. People don't always realise that.
Money could have been saved by printing this survey on paper instead of card.
Stop wasting money. Why must there be white desks for Smarter Working when brown ones are still alright to use? Why buy new chairs when the others are only 7 year old. Our Council wastes so much money it is unbelievable. I waste money on things that can be used again & doesn't use money on things that really need it. What's happened to make-do-and-mend? Why move workers when leases on buildings have not run out, then still have to pay for them? It's madness, utter madness.
Perhaps the costs involved in producing paperwork and signs in other languages could be put to better use! The people, who cannot read or speak English, have family who can! (It's just that they are too lazy to try!) Those who have no family have managed to come without difficulty so they can have a basic knowledge already; so why waste money which could be better used on more important things in our area? Would you please put online this cost under FOI for us to see?
The Piece Hall was fine - why redevelop?
Stop building unnecessary things e.g. new library plans for Halifax when perfectly serviceable building.
Doctors' surgery - the rebuild in Todmorden was meant to include minor surgery unit etc - still can't get appointments. Also huge building which costs enormous amounts to heat and still none of the promised services.
Allow recycling tables at recycling sites whereby people can purchase items and a low cost - this is proper recycling & will give income; & reinstate garden collections.
Where did the money go when Abraham Ormerod was sold?
Stop re-organising of services which wastes a lot of money.
You shut down Tod College Arts course which was used by people of all ages & now in Halifax & no room for the older people.
This document is couched in generalities that one cannot disagree with. I would rather you explain how saying yes to your visions: would affect cuts (could you prioritise on the basis of agreeing/ disagreeing with your core areas, and how would agreeing relate to avoiding cuts?); would affect listening to people instead of streamlining decisions (e.g. did we the people agree with the new library, the Copley Valley scheme, or the 20mph limits in many areas of Calderdale?); would affect the Green Belt (will you protect this and the environment in general?) All of your questions have an in-built bias - how can we disagree with many of them? The main question is how would you do all this given cuts to 2020?
Too much money spent on expenses and not enough going on the public, i.e. roads.
People in full employment pay enough tax and get little or no benefits or rebates. People who are on benefits and who are capable of working should work to receive benefits of any kind.
Stop spending vast amounts of money on flyers and having to reprint programmes due to errors. Cut out paying contractors and use in house maintenance.
Consult more with how the service runs by asking staff on shop floor - they will save you money in long run. Introduce incentive bonuses.
Maintain buildings correctly first time instead of trying to cut costs by using cheap materials, then having to replace them.
Down scale contracted staff earning over £20k per year. Stop cutting staff but then expect them to do the same job as two people - standards drop not to mention morale. Have more office staff working from home.
Stop buying expensive equipment that is hardly ever used.
Cost up and consult on carrying out fortnightly bin collections.
Turn off street lights on some rounds midnight – 4am.



Close rural library buildings and replace with travelling library.
Do not enter Britain in Bloom.
Do not apply for Green Flags for parks (in addition to the cost of the award, staff act as judges, spending time visiting sites outside Calderdale.).
Ensure the building manager for every building has a budget for energy use which is reduced year on year to an acceptable level.
Now that smarter working is up and running, I would like to suggest the Council closing down again between Christmas and New Year. Keeping only Horton Street open for staff and essential services to run from. This would then save on heating; electricity etc. and having big office blocks open for minimal staff usage.
Charging for onsite parking in Council buildings, i.e. Children Centres, Town Hall, Northgate House, Heath, Mulcture House etc.
One way to save money is to stop issuing questionnaires that you won't really take any notice of, and if you don't agree with the outcome don't reissue another with weighted questions to manipulate the outcome. I am obviously referring to the new library which was never going to be allowed to remain on Northgate.
I now hope and pray that fracking will not be allowed in Calderdale bringing high risk to our ground water and local environment. No amount of money can return a damaged environment back to health.
Broadly speaking the Council does a good job - and I want that to continue.
Review some of the 'traditions' - bring CMBC into 21st century. Cut out the 'flummery'. Concentrate on facts, Disillusioned with local politics.
No point asking us our opinions when residents needs are blocked if they cost money.
I've concerns about the growth of food banks - especially about conditions (e.g. benefits) people must produce before accessing them. Agree with getting the public involved in this survey.
Too much waste - think more like a business.
What's good about giving us free post when we have no envelopes to post this?
I would like to see a breakdown of costs, i.e. wages, salaries etc. included in this leaflet then more considered decisions on different services can be made.
I wish to remind Calderdale that Todmorden does exist.
The Council is very wasteful, I agree with government policy, by reducing the amount of money that Calderdale Council receives they will be forced to become efficient.
There are no questions about clearing roads in winter. Paths and ice going to a metre or more each side on main bus routes makes it hazardous to step anywhere else. Especially as this is on main bus routes and paths are unlevel all the way down the roads. Safety is highly important here and needs to be maintained to reduce accidents and claims in this area.
Maybe these questions could be clearer on what is happening or going to happen, eg investment in the Piece Hall is great, but what and how it serves the people of Calderdale is a mystery. Jobs are often made up of people from outside Calderdale, which wouldn't help unemployment here at all. Open and transparent is much better on these matters.
The bin collectors never sweep up their mess. Litter is obvious after bin collection days and just blows everywhere. They often throw brown bins around which only breaks them and regularly take recycling bins and bags away - careless is an understatement.
Stop the ridiculous situation whereby some employees benefit from free parking solely because they happen to be based in a particular building (eg Mulcture House). I am also based in the town centre & have to pay for my parking every day. Why is the Council not charging for these spaces? If we are 'all in it together' then it should be equitable. The argument that teams based there need free parking to come and go on visits is no longer relevant - we are all working flexibly these days.
please reconsider the annual 'xmas closedown' - how much does it cost to open buildings for the low numbers of staff working who could be working from home if need be?
Stop wasting money on such things as "Our Stars" etc. - you should excel at your job anyway or not be in post!
the new Workforce programme seems flawed - many new employees do not have the first idea of the jobs they obtain and take up time of people 'below them' to show them the job instead of promoting people that can do the job in the first place.
Need to look at the black market - I know of at least 4 eastern Europeans who are earning a living as cleaners and still claiming benefits and no doubt not paying council tax. I think priority should be in



getting people off benefits, creating jobs and back into work. Why can we not use those claiming benefits to do public service work?
Norland and Sowerby Bridge are scruffy, walls falling down, roads not maintained, hedges not cut, and shambles everywhere. Yet I pay more council tax here for a 3 bed than I did for a 4 bed in the south east! Sowerby Bridge market is a shambles.
In these days of money saving why has such a high quality colour questionnaire been produced? It also disturbs me that there are 4 questions regarding children, yet the elderly people with learning disabilities and health issues all get lumped into one question. It suggest they are just being thrown on the scrapheap.
I would like to propose that all Council buildings are closed over the Christmas holiday period thus saving money on heating and lighting.
I would like to put forward a proposal for saving money in the form of closing Council buildings between Christmas and the New Year for all but essential services to save money on heating and lighting.
A saving could be made in reducing street lighting. Calderdale is a semi-rural area and there are many country roads that are lit, which carry very little traffic and even rarer pedestrians. So why waste money lighting them. Rural areas could have street lights turned off at midnight (like they used to be). I live up at Mt Tabor, the lights are on all night! Why? I never see anyone walking on my avenue and certainly not after midnight. Lighting could be graduated, i.e. in the centre of towns the lights are all on, as then as you move away one light in three could be turned off, further out two in three turned off until no lights are on. Research has already shown that reduced lighting did not increase accidents or crime. In fact on darkened roads people would drive more cautiously, at present many motorists at night travel at too fast a speed in a belief of false safety, my garden wall is testimony to many speeders getting it wrong. Similarly I have a street light immediately outside my which has aided and abetted thieves to remove the wheels from my car (twice!).
I think the questions on this consultation are leading/biased. They do not provide a fair reflection of people's views.
Reduce lighting on the motorway. Save money, every other light.
Calderdale staff are an expensive resource - their time would be better spent doing their jobs rather than spending an our per person playing with the 'budget simulator' and filling in surveys. How much was spent producing the forms, postcards, videos etc for this campaign? A simple online form would have been cheaper and adequate for the purpose. The survey should be limited to Calderdale residents - people who live outside the area will have different priorities, eg protecting their jobs rather than the impact on services for Calderdale residents.
I actually think we are doing a great job, considering we are in austerity measures, have had our budget cut 40% over 5 years, and we still came in on budget 2014/15 - great work!
I <input type="checkbox"/> Council.
Can't help feeling this questionnaire is biased in its design: the use of emotions suggest negativity in disagreeing, hence opinions which differ have a negative value. This is further controlled by the use of words such as "important" and "happy"
I do not like the format of questions as I feel they were very limiting and misleading.
If the council reduced or even didn't charge for taking away large items of rubbish there wouldn't be as much fly tipping.
these statements are very vague and do not promote an informed choice.
To stop wasting money on useless and unnecessary things, eg cycle shelters on King Cross - never used and smashed up. Less large stores, we are not big enough - more encouragement to smaller shops and businesses. Open meetings for people's viewpoint, to be listened to.
Near my home 12 paving slabs were renewed. They were laid badly, without the correct under base core. The slabs cracked within months and the process began all over again. Lesson: poor workman and poor quality = repeated work = waste of money.
I bet the leaflet accompanying this form cost a fortune too.
Please close all non-essential council buildings at Christmas. The back office functions are very quiet and it's really not necessary to open. It's a complete waste of public money. It would save heating, lighting and unnecessary staffing cover/cost.
Smarter working - isn't smart! Every officer must lose 30 minutes a day setting up their laptop, finding a desk, moving between doors to find colleagues etc. Just allocate zones to teams and stick to it. When the zone is full on certain day's management should tell/agree, in advance, which staffs need to



work from home as insufficient desks. Easy!
It is necessary that we work largely to cut the deficit - we need to recognise that by slashing services we can later rebuild them with the confidence of economic security.
Take care of local churchyards.
Waste collectors to pick up all they drop.
Disabled toilets!!
Many questions include the idea of "the Council supports": does that mean a) fund or b) enable some service to happen, i.e. funded or partly funded by some private agency? The questions are quite vague.
More disabled toilets and toilets in our towns and villages!
Public toilets for the disables should be introduced.
More toilets for people in Elland.
Listen to the public more. Did we want a new library? If Northgate House is in a bad condition, why did you let it get that way? That's <u>your</u> responsibility. Same with Elland baths - your neglect.
Get Highways to interact with the public. They will not come to public meetings such as Ward Forums. Why not? They are there to <u>serve</u> the public, not the other way round. They are in their ivory tower, divorced from reality. And cutting road maintenance is false economy - that was known 200 years ago, so when will Calderdale Highways catch up?
A waste of time - you're not going to listen any way!
I would like to think my views would help shape future Council services.
Build one large multipurpose council office, the size of a DIY store with movable walls, at outer town site leaving town centres for retail.
Less money should be spent on consulting exercises and more use made of the knowledge that your staff have. More notice should be taken on the public's opinion instead of episodes like the library debacle.
Litter in the streets is a big problem. Don't we have road sweepers now? Young people should be a priority of sport, health and work (apprenticeships) and of course schools. The manifesto looked good but extremely expensive and I wondered if cheaper paper could have been used + less of it! I also feel Halifax should keep the head of the valley (Todmorden) in focus.

Simulator

We had over 150 comments from people that completed the simulator. People had the opportunity to give feedback/comments on our work areas. They also had the chance to put any final saving ideas that Calderdale could adopt.

AHSC
Even with maximum cuts this calculator gives an overspend of 9.2m.
The above is not that clear - information given is too simplistic to make decisions. In an ideal world everyone would be supported to be independent but money is short. Surely it would be better to have independent units within a block. A bit likes sheltered housing so that carers and facilities could be shared cutting expenses and commuting time.
Need to put more funding into prevention and keeping people in their own homes.
Budget cuts across all areas would need to be implemented to meet savings target; care home placements couldn't be cut due to increase in minimum wage.
Early intervention required in providing care and support to prevent crisis.
Without investment in this area costs to the NHS could increase and wellbeing for people reduce.
More hands on carers required and less management tiers within process.
Intermediate Care In Calderdale is superb.
If we keep people in their own homes they won't need to be in residential care.
Need to increase effectiveness and reduce budget.
Support to carers and in Residential nursing homes could be enhanced through the greater use of volunteer groups to make up the shortfall in support.



Taking away our A&E is wrong. We need emergency cover close to us who live in Halifax. This would be the killing again of Halifax as a town.
Ensure that charges are recovered, including deferred payments for people living in residential care.
A more creative approach to programming and more localised and volunteer-driven activity hubs could result in better Day Service provision and at a reduced cost. Keeping people safe in their own homes will reduce care costs in the long term, particularly if we encourage pooling of disability resources. There is also room for more alternative housing solutions if more resources are applied to including service users in the definition of, and search for, "better" housing.
This has to remain a priority for the LA in Calderdale.
All essential.
Could investment in preventative services result in a reduction in the need to provide long term support and need for a formal assessment?
Much of this work could and should be carried out by volunteers. The voluntary sector has amazing capacity and the Council should act as a facilitator only. The Public Health team need to be included in this as they seem to have large amounts of cash. Why aren't they overseeing this area of work?
Prevention of issues and reablement is important in long term improvement of issues.
Some vulnerable adults have slipped through the net and must be helped.
Need to focus on strategies to keep people independent and at home.
Do more on prevention and less on reaction.
Important to ensure Social Care receives adequate funding
This is important.
Could savings crossover with service delivery between children and adult and social care? Could central resources be pooled? Could Children's centres have a wider remit? Could we pool resources with others involved in delivery of adult social care i.e.: NHS/hospitals/voluntary sector to assist with the savings? Collaborate and work smarter with central resources and other mandatory public sector and voluntary sector that have a remit to work within this area.
I thought this was about cutting spending cost will look at transport by stopping staff being picked up and dropped off on route the council are paying double what they need to in hours check it out if you don't believe me.
Those on higher rate of benefit. They can afford a min payment say £10 per week?
Having an aunt who has dementia we did not find the Council helpful and indeed made the process of moving her into a care home more distressing than it should have been due to the lack of understanding shown by the social worker who didn't seem to want to take account of those who were caring for her about her state of health and wellbeing.
I would seek to pass some of these costs on to the health service as social care has increasingly being left with the issue of discharges without the resources to do so. Unfortunately the public has more sympathy and loyalty to the health service then the council and would kick up more of a stink if they were in crisis.
Families should be encouraged to help more with the care of their Elderly Relatives.
Needs to stay exactly as is with inflation increases.
Increase prevention and enabling people to remain independent longer. Close council provision and fund voluntary and community sector to deliver day services or similar.

C + E
Cut down on admin and management expenses. We can't keep spoon feeding everyone.
Youth offending and prevention work should be a jointly funded area working with the police and probation services and not simply left to the Local Authority.
Higher cuts to central costs to meet savings, whilst small cuts would be needed across the board.
Get rid of children's centres and off3er grants to schools to pick up the work.
Parents need to take more responsibility for their offspring.
Spend much less of interfering with schools.



Again volunteer groups could be used to support early years learning and children's centres and also in assisting with special requirements.
Outsource service provision from in-house services to the independent sector.
Streamlining services, better use of technology and collaborative processes could generate significant savings in the budget for Central Co-ordination of services to schools.
All essential
Rather than be provided by the council could some services be outsourced and provide better value for money.
Why is there no narrative on central co-ordination and services to schools and early years care and learning? How can I make an informed decision on this?
Adult learning magazine and why are we offering soft skills using public funding?
Special needs children plus safeguarding very important.
Early years doesn't tell you the changes when you move the budget.
Is there a way that charity money such as "Children in Need" money could be used to provide the expensive equipment required by school children with special requirements?
Could savings crossover with service delivery between children and adult and social care? Could central resources be pooled with those of the school resources? Could Children's centres have a wider remit?
Education needs investment and attracting and retaining teachers of an excellent calibre will go some way to removing the need for council paid youth workers.
Leave alone.
Less money spend on managers and silly manager meeting and on parking passes for people who don't need them. Schools can look after themselves they get enough funding and there is plenty of companies that offer good competitive price.
Outsource the youth service to the voluntary sector.

Communities
Reduce fly tipping by making it easier to dispose of waste at sites. Increase revenue by fining those who drop litter, cig ends and dog pooh. Combine contact centres with sport and leisure and library. One stop place should reduce staff, building costs etc. Can we access more funding for out sports centres for sensory for SEN and women only sessions we may be missing out on increasing income Parks could be taken on by schools or youth groups to grow their own and learn gardening skills. Help them get fresh air and take pride in their neighbourhood. It doesn't say what we would get with more money in sport but I do think we need to provide affordable facilities and encourage youth to come. Perhaps when the Council go to Junior schools they could give leaflets on our junior gym membership. Peer pressure hopefully will prevail and they will sign up bringing more revenue and a healthier resident those reducing obesity and health costs.
As generations move on the population are more capable of using alternative options of engaging with the Local Authority.
Long term need for library's has deteriorated and only the main locations are required, whilst larger cuts could be made in culture, leisure and entertainment, customer facing areas if the savings target is to be reached.
Sport should be funded through Public Health. There needs to be more support for the voluntary sector of sport. Libraries and museums are free, why isn't sport. Move customer facing services online.
Maintain these vital services.
Current availability advertising of sports facilities should lead to a reduction in health costs now and in future. Street cleaning and countryside management could be supplemented by volunteers.
Libraries have a public duty to educate and foster learning within their communities. In a digital age their spaces should be hives of activity year-round, closely linked to schools, colleges and universities, and provide supportive homework space for any student in the borough. Collaborative working with schools and colleges, and with other council services, could generate not only significant income but guarantee our libraries' future.
All essential



Could some services be outsourced and provide better value for money.
Ward forums are a talking shop for people with nothing better to do. Why not develop on-line forums which would engage younger people and/or those that have busy working/family lives? All leisure centres/libraries/theatres/pools etc. should be managed privately as they seem to run at a profit without the limitations that CMBC have. Get managers in on a basic wage with a performance related pay element and you will see that they will make these services profitable. It's such a shame that we have so many public facilities (gems such as Clay House) that are underused because of the bureaucracy in the Council. Community safety should be the remit of the Police.
Why is the town hall cafe still open, how much is it losing? Work with incredible edible more for parks and open space improvement.
There are private gym facilities and facilities provided by charities. People can keep themselves physically fit without going to a sports centre. E.g. there are lots of voluntary activities that involve exercise and parks and open spaces might be used more. CCTV doesn't appear to stop crime and I have seen little publicity of it being used to catch a criminal. It is very depressing to visit a place which is uncared for and encourages some people to make the environment worse. Litter/graffiti seems to attract more litter/graffiti.
Reduce lawn space, replace with perennial edible and ornamental plants.
Introduce collaborative working across some of the customer facing services (customer facing, sports, library, culture) with other services like libraries maybe sharing of locations will increase usage. Work with voluntary and community groups to actively involve people in roles which may have traditionally been undertaken by the LA but could work with collaborations with those communities who need assistance and encourage people who are unemployed and need to get back into work, instilling a sense of community pride.
Go digital and operate one help desk from a central location with telephone and IT access provided at each town hall. Essential works only and libraries are the means for all to learn and expand knowledge and provides an escape as well as offering self-learning, more funds available there the better. Sell all sports centres to the private sector, Todmorden is a prime example of waste, 2 massive car parks with no charging or controls in place, a hot spot for crime at night. Poor upkeep of this property is also evident which detracts from an area of conservation. Other solution would be to build sporting facilities within any new high school development and generate funds such as Wright Robinson High in Manchester does.
Close all libraries and scrap new central library.
The Council, in my opinion, shouldn't really be providing facilities that the private sector could provide.
Small libraries in state of disarray and local communities can be better served with mobile libraries. And some groups need to seek funding elsewhere for the specific events not council.

E+E

The parking situ was a joke and a very annoying waste of funds. We need to improve roads if we want to attract business, tourists and residents. Share council buildings e.g. TI, Libraries and Sports to save on costs of maintenance and running costs.

Uneconomical Markets should be closed. The population of Calderdale and the new generations see no benefits in local markets and the sooner this is recognised the quicker the deficit is removed. Encouraging more recycling and ensuring collections is carried out even during severe weather periods. Highways - either dispose of the car parks that are 'free' thus reducing maintenance costs or bite the bullet and charge. If no charges then no repairs but ensure there is a disclaimer against accident claims due to no repairs. I think that the reduction of winter service is a false economy due to the fact that it impacts on commerce & industry and puts more pressure on the Health Service treating people who are injured so take the hit on this one as part of the bigger picture. Parking back office support should be tendered as part of the enforcement contract or at the very least there should be a joint contract for the delivery of Parking Services with Neighbouring local authorities.

Charge more for parking to increase revenue, often workers block spaces all day so shoppers can't use.

Get rid of parking metres so that people can pay in shops or in other council offices that can accept payments.



Too many bus stops and buses clutter the streets of Halifax; reduce the number to make the town more attractive. The selling of loading bays to bus stops is an adverse effect for local business, please let us keep our business' going or no one will want to do business in town!!
Halifax is so far behind Huddersfield and Bradford now as a shopping centre. All the empty shops should be cheaper rent for so long as say half of some income is better than NONE!
All corporate assets should be generating income for the council, rather than being wasted as resources (see Clay House as a prime example). Calderdale council should be focussing more on generating our local/regional market than it does courting big businesses who want all the benefits without the commitment to Calderdale residents. Any business support should be focussed on providing affordable business facilities for the small and medium, LOCAL businesses, and for marketing the extraordinary economic diversity they can provide.
All essential
Markets should be handed over to the private sector much like my views on leisure centres etc. The Council needs to rationalise its buildings and land and concentrate on key buildings for key services. Why do we own the Shay? It's a liability.
Recycling fortnightly, increase parking charges, charge for all council car parks e.g. shay. Markets to be managed commercially. Invest in buildings and sell off sites for housing that council shouldn't need in 21st century.
Share space working collaboratively with other public sector and voluntary organisations to strengthen our services and offer.
Make better use of assets for council workers. Smart and flexible working should be adopted immediately by all grades. Remove hub working and go flexible with only key locations remaining open. Make assets work for better revenue streams or develop and implement a strategy for sale of these assets. Apply business sense to the economy will be a hard task but will reap benefits. Why have market towns with poor market facilities, huge rents and shabby stalls / goods? Sell them as a going concern to cooperatives or private investors with clauses they must remain for intended use. Corn exchange Manchester or piece hall are good examples albeit on a grander scale of what can be achieved.
The Council should not be using public money to support private business.
Bring car parking back into council and charge for car parking in more car parks and also re open bull green car park. Alternatively sell off street car parking to private firms and just look after on street parking.
I think it is important for the Council to take the lead role in regeneration of the borough and use its funding to address market failure where this occurs. Particularly where interventions generate new business rates.

Other/corporate services
Central services. Doesn't indicate what spending more or less would achieve. They have had a restructure - perhaps they will be more efficient now. Perhaps a lot could be sourced out.
HR accounts for a very large area of the workforce which in comparison to the remainder of the workforce. Managers of services should take more responsibility for staff training, terms & conditions and discipline with only a small core of HR retained and specialist services bought in as and when required.
Larger savings could be made here.
Procure central services to private sector. Much better Value for Money
Merge a lot of the central services across west Yorkshire to save cost and time. Also digitise more. Pay more off the debt so we have to pay less interest.
Outside bodies payments should never have been agreed to in the first place. Central services must cut its cloth.
Reduce majority of corporate spending.
Better use of existing facilities/resources, fewer vanity projects and tighter deadlines on proposals (the procurement process generates more wasted staff-hours and more alienation than any public service we provide).
I believe that corporate services are essential to support the delivery of LA services - often when these are cut the effects are felt intensely in other parts of the system.



Is the council getting value for money from services provided by outside bodies? Could services be outsourced rather than be provided by the council?
Asking to comment on the above is pointless. The statements make it clear that by increasing budgets will increase CTax payments and decreasing budgets will decrease grant funding. So, how can I make a judgement on either?
Can the payments to other bodies be the subject of tough negotiations when contracts change or can they be "shared" between councils?
Reduce spending on ICT, HR, insurance finance and legal collaborate and share resources like other public services and, link up with other West Yorkshire authorities to make savings on same systems... Council tax, environmental health and highways eye.
Do we need a Mayor in Calderdale? No
There seems to be an overlap of services to schools and central services as reduction of central services appears to affect schools.
Public Health and Health Visitors - why is this grant funding factored in the overall spend? Equity = reasonably fair reporting. Which this item is not displaying.
Collaborations with other services and other public sector/voluntary sector organisations to deliver smarter working and savings across public sector as a whole.
Where is the question on reducing the number of Councillors we have to pay - appalling that this isn't in or aren't they part of the process.
Schools and cut amount spent on councillors and political assistants (they should be funded by party not council) also stop wasting money on pointless memberships to groups that serve no purpose. We need to pay off all debts and stop borrowing money.
Reduce the number of councillors in each ward to one from the current 3. Also reduce the payments they receive. These people if they are really interested in serving the public should do it for expenses only and not pretend that they are working as a full time employee.

Income
Prices (more information) Raising income levels can be achieved by people using services/facilities more and this can be promoted by lower prices giving economies of scale savings.
Increase charges to businesses.
lower expenses of Councillors expenses in addition
Pay those at the top less. Voila, more money. Take it from the TOP not the BOTTOM. If you can't do that - find a way
Increased cost may initially show decrease in use however evidence shows this is quickly accepted and levels return to normal.
Calderdale is wasting opportunities to generate income and encourage local economic activity. If all of the empty Piece Hall units had been let for nominal rent to pop-up businesses over the last 10 years, the facility would have earned a fair portion of its expenses. There are other council-owned facilities in the borough that could be used to provide affordable venues for whatever appropriate venture is suggested--be it one-off cultural events (acoustic concerts, gallery shows, meetings, etc.) or more formal, fixed-term arrangements. Costs could include promotion using social media by savvy apprentices who know their technology.
Charge more for Residents' Car Parking Permits.
Common business sense needs to be applied.

Final Comments
10% increase in budget for AH&SC sounds about correct for me.
Bring back the closure over the Christmas period as this will save money on building costs on lighting /heating buildings etc. where there are usually skeleton staff in during this period. Charge a small fee £1-2 - for visiting Museums and halls where they are free.



The government policy for cuts is ridiculous and should be challenged at every juncture. We should also take great care not to be engulfed and to lose our identity by a regional combined authority As a major employer in the borough; we should not lose council staff with the attendant financial and social impact on our own area.
I think by closing down Council Buildings at Christmas (I.e., Westgate House, Northgate House etc.) Places that don't need to be open should remain closed. This will save a lot of money! I have often found that there are skeleton staff and a whole building up and running for a few people. There is a reason why we have skeleton staff and that is because it is extremely quiet with very little phone calls etc. I think closing down at Christmas would save money.
It is unmanageable. Spend less time snipping the edges of the coin and more time forging new coins. Councils meet with each other and turn en masse away from central government. Strike. Do what is needed to make the necessary changes.
The debt needs to be paid off quickly so we don't pay more interest. in order we do this we should have a small increase in council tax.
It's difficult but it's also obvious that it's been worded to make the choices tougher than they should be.
The difficulty with this model is we only have a figure to spend; we have no figure for the income generated by the Council to help to offset any amendments we might wish to make.
I have been unable to make the 20 million required saving. It is an impossible task with hugely negative ramifications for most people in Calderdale but particularly those who are vulnerable. I am deeply concerned about the next wave of cuts.
A very difficult budget to achieve and I am sure the council will have to agonise over it. So without all the information on possible increases in revenue from some of the decisions that could be taken and how their costs will be affected. I have tried to minimise the impact of the cuts on the most vulnerable and children's education.
Too much traffic through Halifax town centre is unacceptable. The reduction of bus stops, taxi's outside Tesco & throughout Halifax would not only make the town look more affective but the health benefits would be raised to help curb the 70% obesity rate that Halifax suffers.
It is way beyond time that Calderdale Council took responsibility and stripped away the layers of management that serve no purpose whatsoever. It is simple maths; costs need to decrease and income needs to increase. Council Tax must increase. Charges for services must increase. The Council needs to stop funding voluntary or community groups and should instead focus on core services that it has a statutory obligation to provide. There are far too many departments that serve no purpose whatsoever, but have escaped previous change. The Council should work proactively with developers to increase housing provision, which will bring in revenue in terms of Council Tax and employment within the area.
Easy - just cut everything.
Perhaps save money by not paying for budget simulators? Making these kind of spending cuts is always going to be difficult - I don't think anyone denies that - and we as the public are woefully unprepared to sort it out, as although the simulator tried to explain it, it us hard to understand. Perhaps aiming to creating money might be an idea- run a paid for ticketed outdoor concert / event.
Services cannot be cut further, revision of council tax necessary to make it affordable to those on low incomes but increase council income overall.
This could have been avoided if you had listened to the public in previous consultations.
Difficult task to balance the budget. I have failed to do so in this exercise.
I would also review how we source our energy in terms of trying to get the best possible cheapest supplier for electricity and gas. Also undertake a review of reducing the number of councillors we have.
In doing this exercise the answers given to cuts are sometimes limited in their reply. Also the biggest cost which is staff and officials is not even open for consideration. Can some of this shortfall be covered with use of our reserves which again is not mentioned? I do feel also that an opportunity was lost earlier in not getting a good price and selling the Shay which is a drain on resources.
I can see how hard this is now. My priorities would be for early interventions on keeping people healthy, instilling work ethic through activities. I do worry that the high percentage of special needs is pointing to some problem in classification or a change in education delivery e.g. dyslexia teaching styles may suit ordinary children as well. Fixing when broke is an endless task.



The council needs to reassess charges across all services and shouldn't be scared of increasing the council tax.
No need to have a Mayor in Calderdale, Times have changed.
Reduce the number of paid Calderdale Councillors per ward from 3 to 2. Now that we have a cabinet system of Local government, do we really need as many paid councillors especially as some of them see the job as a stepping stone to national politics?
Some of the consequences are a load of garbage and extremely melodramatic but overall a useful tool to show how hard it is for the council to meet current budget demands.
Surely your maths is off? An increase in council tax and charges to businesses as I advocate will result in less overspend, not more.
Working smarter, encouraging collaborations with other public sector and voluntary organisations who have a shared aim alongside what we do. Consider working with private businesses as advocates to support and help with working smarter and reducing costs whilst also maintaining the level of services.
Maybe sensible spending in previous years would have prevented some of the overspend?!
Most of the services you are paying for should be paid directly by those affected not by us.
Option to scrap all museums and libraries not available, theses should be scrapped.
Reduce the numbers of councillors and the frequency of elections. People are happy to pay for services that they value. Stop delivering services you don't need to.
Although this may seem to be difficult during any age where cuts to public services are mooted. We need to focus on our priorities, establish what they are and how we can move forward with them. Whilst doing so it is important to reduce wasted resources and focus on money making aspects of the council. Increasing Council tax by 6 % would be acceptable increase. Introducing charges for some services would enable to maintain them. As cuts are anticipated year on year during this parliament it is prudent to try and at least ensuring a budget saving which can be then re-allocated during this further austerity, reducing the regrettable redundancies that would have to be made. In short this budget will be focusing on essentials, reducing the superfluous parts of the council and encourage further co-operation with other councils. For example: West Yorkshire could stop their internal IT services and enter into a joint arrangement.
Why is there nothing about Councillors, the Mayor or aren't they part of the Council - surely if you are reducing the numbers of staff we should also be looking at the numbers of elected representatives. Why is there a need to have 3 councillors per ward - surely it should go on the number of electorate they represent; also has the Mayor's budget been reduced in line with what you are asking the departments to do? Seems a very leading simulator - especially when the response to some reductions, is no you can't do this because... why have them in then?
While none of these changes are palatable they can be made and if it should be the case i.e. government does not relax the timescales then I guess the Councillors have some tough decisions to make. My plea to them would be brutally honest with the public in what services will need to change/close/reduce functions and the effects to customer facing services.
Although I live in Calderdale and support the Council I didn't really understand lots of the terms or indeed the rationale for this exercise. I think you could use simpler. More straightforward language. Most important, what power does the Council have to act on the desires of its council tax payers anyway? Britain is only a nominal democracy.
When considering the budget there is nothing in this about the administration of the council. Departments can be merged, reduce the number of Directors and those that take on additional responsibilities receive no additional payments as they should be grateful they are the ones still with a job just like the rest of us. Politically there should only be one councillor per ward and not the current 3. The councillor's payments should not be salary simply basic expenses at the same rate that an employee would receive and then we would see who was really there to serve the public of Calderdale instead of using it as an excuse not to get a real job. So please add in the political dimension to this exercise to make it realistic. If volunteers are to run many of the services that the council provide or used to provide then why not get volunteers to actually run the council. I am sure there are many people out there with the necessary skills.



Postcard comments

Invest in crime prevention.
Focus on the upper valley as this gets neglected, i.e. Calder High & Tod High.
Actively pursue unpaid Council Tax accounts.
Make proper investment in upgrading A646 Burnley Road by way of 24hr working/repairs. On-cost of delays is intolerable.
Why are you excluding press from Council meeting (14/09/2015)?
Stop making decisions when there is massive opposition from the people who live in Halifax ie moving Library, 20mph zones.
Listen to people! Very much feel that views on central library and Piece Hall were ignored.
Scrap the 20mph scheme.
Council should operate from other building but these buildings should be properly maintained eg Industrial Museum.
Operating from fewer buildings as long as quality guarantees on these buildings.
More toilets in particular disabled facilities.
Are we making best use of empty shops? Lost revenue through rates.
Could we share or integrate Council buildings & services.
How many buildings does the Council have?
Why are we building a new library and Piece Hall?
Not everyone is online, so Calderdale need to promote/advertise using normal methods.
Homelessness.
Push on recycling incentivise and enforce.
Link in with Probation Service.
Better working between PH2K and CMBC.
More volunteers cleaning streets.
Street cleaners, parks, gardeners should link in and be one team.
Housing Associations should work together to provide services for the public.
Not enough street cleaning.
More and better networking between CMBC departments.
People on the usual benefits should be made to contribute to public finances by cleaning up their own areas and picking up rubbish. More bins required! The A629 from town to Morrison's is a disgrace and gives the town a very poor image.
Improve inconsiderate, out of town parking by Lloyds banking group and Calderdale Royal.
Invest in more conservation projects and not create 'townie - playgrounds' like the ridiculous ideas to destroy Cromwell Bottom nature reserve!
Do something about Lloyds banking group and the hospital who are making everyone's life a nightmare with parking.
Maintain Burnley Road better as it is the main trunk road through the Calder Valley.
Clear up the town. It is full of Litter! It's a disgrace to an old and honourable town. Penalise people who drop it severely.
improved Bicycle paths + bicycle signage.
Re-open the old railway which has been closed, such as Elland and all the others.
Severe punishment for dog owners who allow their dog to foul in public places and don't pick up after it.
Number the responses as they come in on these cards, and immediately display. Say in the Halifax town hall alongside further blank cards on which further ideas might be generated.
Reduce commercial rates - more businesses? Rather than empty high street with few shops paying higher rates.
Less money for 'poorer areas' and 'poor people' council tax cut. Hold elections every 4 years.
Concentrate on what affects the majorities rather than always the minority.



Provide better off-road car parking facilities to reduce on street car parking, improve traffic flows, support economic development. Without wealth and prosperity services to the needy cannot be improved.
Better social care for the elderly.
Give new businesses a 6 month free business rate period in empty shops. This will give businesses the time and opportunity to grow their business.
Stop giving bus passes to recovering alcoholics and drug users - why should rate payers subsidise their life choices?
Insulate more homes.
Charge more for parking; increase parking facilities in Hebden Bridge.
More provision of parking in Hebden Bridge.
Persuade the people who own brownfield sites and eyesores, eg derelict building, to develop them sympathetically. If the lack of development is due to flooding why not build houses/offices with car parking underneath so the car park suffers flooding not the housing?
Through Copley there is an ancient oak woodland that used to continuously stretch to Wakefield. Sycamores are taking over and it would be nice to see them removed and the oaks managed for future generations.
Encourage all communities to take good care of their own spaces - privately owned and public - not rely on the Council to do everything.
Repair and then stop mountain bikers from using unsuitable (ie downhill unsurfaced) footpaths - to encourage more people to walk them and at the same time promote the surfaced tracks that are suitable for bikes.
Change the school hours so that we start later on. Sort the pot holes in the road and re-tarmac them so they look neat. Sort the litter out.
Did you know the brain starts up properly at 10am, its scientifically proven. So start school at a later time.
Make a skatepark with lights.
For art programs in the summer, have more bins, pot holes fixed.
Enable the commissioning of public arts as part of cultural quarter - Piece hall, library etc. Use as way to lead people into redeveloped space.
Extend the skate park at the rec and add lights so you can skate in the dark.
For people to go around and clean the litter up.
The amount of litter and other growth.
Maybe give more money to art programs. You give loads to sports but in arts we hardly have any good art supplies.
To tidy up the streets a little because it is affecting the environment.
Teach them about LGBT rights. I'm getting tired of having to explain my identity. Why isn't it being taught yet?
I would like them to improve roads because there are dangerous dips in the tarmac that people could fall over and could pop car tires.
Maybe teach about POC history. Like all we learn about is white history. We're not the default race, more diversity.
Privatise rubbish collection let people select from private providers who will better meet their requirements e.g. large facilities need more collections.
The Francis firth collection makes millions each year from selling digitised copies of old photographs. The Council has a large collective of photos which can be easily digitised and sold. Better still, if Calderdale could do this for every council in the up we could make a lot of income to support important services.
More social/affordable housing - do more to help prevent 'ghettoisation' and separating people. Will help social cohesion, tolerance and mixed experiences will breed new ideas.
Review corporate governance processes and timelines with aim to make it 'smarter' through using IT products and give officers more time.
I would like the parks to be bigger or more parks.
Change the colour of street lights so it's easier to see where you're going and you can find things such as streets with its very dark.



Have more carnivals/festivals so people can mix together and raise money for the Council.
For pot holes to be mended on Temples' close!
A zebra crossing on every school road.
Potholes, potholes, potholes! They're a nightmare, fill them up! Cars are being broken from pot holes.
My idea is to extend rec skatepark. Add floor lights to Elland rec or have a shop placed at Elland rec.
Clean the streets of rubbish.
Clean the streets.
To have more bins in the area. Gym for everyone. More chocolate factories. A fun gym for kids.
More leisure centres, more sporting activities for children, more family activities.
Gym, another deli, improve the classrooms, family activities.
Family activities e.g. family walks. If someone caught littering they get a fine! Leisure centre from children in Elland. Have more bins throughout Elland/Calderdale.
Bathrooms for non-binary/agency people! It gets very annoying when we have to wait until we get home to go to the loo!
No dress code in school! Students can't express who they are if they're in uniform. We're not in like army. We don't need to look the same. Uniform does not equal how smart you are.
To make a skate park in Stainland because we're not allow to skate/scooter on the road because they have police on us.
I'm prepared to pay more council tax but I want to know more about where it goes and see evidence of my money at work - Like new books in the library!
More use do volunteers in libraries and other services. Reduce Councillors to one.
Order more sunshine.
Better school transport.
Teach children/teens/young people about rent/taxes/stuff that will help them when the finish school. I think that's more important than learning Pie.
Parking near mosque on residential streets.
Waiting lists.
Doctors.
NHS Care.
Schools.
Roads.
Disabled groups for children.
Groups for disabled children. Road and street cleaning in park ward.
Extend services to older people.
Street parking.
Treating patients as human beings before anything.
Grants to disabled families.
Housing.
Disabled parking (hospital, free!).
Easy transition and more support during 16+ disabled children.
Sort out the traffic lights at west vale, its horrendous.
Traffic lights at Hipperholme.
Dog fouling.
Improve potholes and sort out dog fouling in Southowram.
New library too far for older people.
Parking - Near hospital.
Better pay and conditions for Council Staff.
Sort parking charges.
Sort the hospitals out, need more stuff.
Nothing the Council are nice!



Council could be more punctual at collections answering help line etc.
Sort the congestion on Calderdale way.
Keep care services within the Council.
Keep roads clearer, rubbish collection back to weekly would improve roads.
Pothole - Need to be fixed.
Improve roads.
Housing > no. Roads (potholes) needs to be sorted.
Pay council tax need a better service.
Potholes and traffic.
More disabled parking (Hebden bridge particularly).
Provide better social housing. Stop putting care services out to private.
Stop A+E closing.
Improve the potholes on the road, get them filled in.
Too many senior staff in the Council reduces.
Improve the condition of the roads.
Noisy neighbours, improve ASB.
Improve the roads, they are awful.
Create more jobs for the older people. It seems people 50+ are never considered for jobs.
Parking charges, sort out the wool shops car park, spaces too narrow!
Please do something about the dangerous and illegal parking on the blind corner at the top of the Winterbutlee road Walden before a serious accident occurs. Police and Councillors not interested so far!
Schools are really important.
Roads and more money making pavements accessible for wheel chairs and moto scooters.
Need 20mph zone in Todmorden Garden Street. Blind Lane and Victoria Road to prevent an accident.
Re-acquire old fire station plot in Hebden Bridge and site a permanent market on it. Proposal to move existing markets to less yard is ridiculous (no of stall less and lousy access).
More stalls.
Can't find anything on the website.
Cut councillors expenses and stop spending everything in Halifax and Hebden bridge.
To have more access to Wi-Fi such as in the youth club.
More Wi-Fi access.
Internet access.
Rebuild Todmorden high school.
I would like to see the 'Walsden' branch of the library open more. It has 2 days now in operation Mon + Fri. It would be great if Wednesday could also be introduced. I know that Todmorden library is only 20 mins walk away but sensitive people need to visit a rural branch especially if they have no PC and are looking for work.
Wi-Fi in Todmorden Youth centre.
A paper of what is on in the idea of young people.
To improve the bus prices, improve the roads in the Todmorden area.
Internet in the youth club.
Internet in the youth club. Cheaper transport cost for young people.
Get rid of Yorkshire water, its arrogant ways and rapacious charges. Much higher than London water plus tax avoidance.
More social housing. Assess and assist children of the elderly who form a situation where they assist/facilitate their parents! Housing problem and care for them.
Take highways maintenance 'in house' - Amey are ripping off the tax payer.



Ripponden Library is an after school club for children to play on the computers until their mums collect them. Don't allow unaccompanied children in.
Actually listen to the people of Calderdale.
Courses for Councillors on the value of money. They throw money about on ridiculous ideas and need to be taught how to budget other people's money. Are they as spend thrift at home?
If Calderdale wants to encourage residents to re-cycle more food waste, they might be advisable to allow them more than 3 food bags - not everyone has facilities for a compost heap on their property.
Allow only council tax payers to vote.
Keep investing in youth club.
Spend some money on Mytholmroyd Youth Club.
Make Mytholmroyd youth club open more nights.
Put more money into Mytholmroyd youth club.
Make Mytholmroyd youth club bigger and open more nights.
More money to youth club.
Invest in hydropower, wind power and biomass renewable energy. Don't privatise everything!
Fill potholes and tidy up empty properties.
More waste bins for dog waste.
Speed bumps along Bramley lane, Hipperholme.
Support the visual arts by supporting/running national competitions, specialised art classes in schools and taster sessions from professional artists.
Revamp the 2 underpasses of Ludenscheid way - Clean and less vandalised materials.
Tackle the air quality management areas.
Encourage people to leave their car(s) at home and use public transport through a range of measures.
Put a decent tennis court (re-surfacing) at Calder Holmes park, Hebden Bridge ASAP
Stop wasting money and resources
If you have an equalities policy then for avoidance of humbug you need to stop paying large 6-figure salaries to some staff whilst others get 1/10th of such a wage.
Accessibility to footpaths/pavements. Do Hedging work and charge. Pay for it by not paying Councillors more than most employees.
More and better cycle paths.
Leisure facilities
Placing all services on customer first is a big risk, always busy and maybe it would help sending people from different services down to customer first so you could speak to someone face to face from that service e.g. environmental health.
To introduce random checking of buildings to check temperatures to ensure staff are not putting the heating on too high. Too many staff working in premises that are far too warm, having to put up with the 'cold person of the building' needs. This could save a fortune.
Stop begging on the streets It is far too much.
Creation of a council registers for rented properties. Landlords can then share info about prospective tenants. Anyone deemed unsuitable will not be rehoused.
Free or cheaper parking prices - It would regenerate the area as more people could visit shops.
Leave the central library where it is.
Introduce inexpensive and affordable park and ride sites to reduce current parking congestion by commuters everywhere. To take workers to town, hospital, Lloyds etc.
Be more committed to recycling waste.
No more immigration. We are going to be ruled by Muslims soon and terrorism is going to escalate.
Free parking, improves the roads - no pot holes, and grit the roads when snow is forecast instead of waiting for gridlock.
Get rid of gypsies quicker. It took two weeks to get rid of them from Manor Heath in August.
Our local library, Halifax.
Provide more TESOL classes (especially for Asian [Muslim] women but also for other needy groups.
Cut down on expenses.
Bring back the Art Department in Todmorden.



Instead of using a mower and a blower why not use a mower which gathers the grass in a box and when full it is put into a bag. This would do away with the blower.
Spend more in Todmorden than Hebden Bridge & Halifax.
Share resources - get rid of the "No" attitude - torn lights off and heating in public spaces.
Departments that don't cooperate with community organisations - do something to make them.
Put up rates, collect rates, and hold housing associations to account.
More imaginative contracts - Sita could have recycling centre - be better to public.
Stop annual planting.
Give free transports passes to over 60s (off peak only) and those on benefits.
Todmorden Market Hall and main road shop fronts. Also free parking for centre.
Roads continually blocked with road works - the Td/Halifax road is a nightmare for anybody travelling regularly.
Parking charges - first hour free.
Improving and up-keep of Todmorden market.
Reduce Todmorden car parking fees.
Stop supporting the Tories and start supporting the residents of Calderdale.
Free1 hour parking in small towns to help business flourish.
Planning officials.
Council needs to work more with the people.
Promote the town of Todmorden to visitors.
Improve Todmorden market.
Short term free parking (eg 30 minutes) would help small shops, customers who wanted to "nip in" for something would be able to without paying a parking charge - free parking in supermarkets.
Crack down on dog fouling and fly tipping.
Vehicles and equipment - SCG services.
I think Safer Cleaner Greener funding should be protected.
Stop cutting money and services to Safer Cleaner Greener.
Free access to tennis courts in Todmorden and Hebden Bridge - please, please, please.
I would like it to hold referendum on raising Council tax by more than 2% cap in order to be able to continue to deliver the level of essential services required.
Stop charging for residents parking permits - impinges on right to enjoyment of personal possessions under HRA 98. Charge for failure to display are disproportionate.
Apprentices to be on scales of pay - not apprentice wage.
Continue to support creative industries & local festivals & arts events.
More opportunities for young people (BME) jobs in the local economy.
Cleaner streets.
Improve potholes & parking.
Sort the lights out at West Vale!!! Awful - takes an hour to get to work.
Speeding - more traffic wardens needed. Better policing because of drug dealing in area.
Fix street lights, clean the roads, fine people more for littering.
Keep centre open for the community.
Need to keep streets clean.
Cap all salaries to £100k maximum, therefore money saved could be used to maintain/improve services.
Invest in parks and green spaces! Cutting back on maintenance will only end up costing more money in the long term, due to short-sighted savings.
Stop this slow insidious decline in all areas of horticultural maintenance in the borough.



Decision to demolish central library and Northgate House is ill-informed. Council services should be centralised so that they are easily accessible by members of the public - especially those relying on public transport (refer to decision by Richmondshire council). We do not need chain stores.
Better facilities and services for disabled children.
Councillors should listen more to what we want.
Need more pot holes filling?
Better free services for children so parents can work.
Stop charging for extra bins.
Sort the roads out and parking on streets.
Speeding on Queen's Road and other roads is very bad.
More safer crossings on Queen's Road.
Maintain existing services, especially for vulnerable adults (including the elderly).
Sowerby Bridge where the lights on over the bridge to be moved.
Stop paying the Council Tax for disabled people.
To not cut spending on learning disabilities.
Need to lobby central government about the cuts.
Making footpaths flatter for people who find it difficult to walk. Keep Halifax A&E open.
Bring in more companies/businesses to increase taxes etc.
Offer incentives for recycling - huge saving to be made and environmental impact.
About time some money was spent in Elland.
Not close Halifax A&E, have this accessible to local people.
More police on our street in my area, windows always breaking, dog fouling.
A new sports activity centre based in HX1 area. This will allow women from the community better access and have child care.
Sorting out our youths, more activities for them so they don't get into trouble with the law.
Minibus service to allow to use leisure services eg swimming pool.
Drop in to discuss women issues.
More women activities such as exercise, swimming, leisure.
More community activities.
Debate session, women only sessions to enable community to get together and meet each other.
More funding for women activities, lots of social isolation in the community so additional activities would benefit us.
The buildings and streets need cleaning better, very dirty.
New lights at King Cross making traffic back up - get rid please.
Leave Council building where it is - save money & save our legs walking down too far.
No more big stores. More free or cheap parking to help existing shops in centre.
<u>Listen</u> to the people. Cut down on all these expensive consultations you make - to no avail.
Litter (including dog fouling_) is a big problem.
Stop the development of Council office site. We <u>don't</u> need any new shops. Utilise space above shops and market for cheap housing.
Reduce the number of paid councillors - this used to be a voluntary position - and you saw them more frequently.
To stop ignoring the existence of Southowram. Stop the rat race; parking on causeways; access only road.
Have free on street parking for a limited period to encourage people to shop in Halifax. Stop having expensive consultations and then ignoring the people.
<u>Free</u> parking! About 3 hours so workers in Halifax don't hog them all day.
More police presence in the village, or detached youth workers.



Increase recycling to include garden waste. Swings in Southowram play park. More police presence in Southowram due to antisocial behaviour of young people.
Stopping cutting men and equipment.
Council to be more involved with public needs.
Them at the top should take a pay cut as well as all councillors.
Improve street cleaning.
Escalating costs for licencing cars for PHVs and taxis is causing problems, especially during these austere times. Prices should reflect this.
MOTs for taxis and PHVs are currently monopolised by the Council, this should be addressed. Any MOT station should suffice.
We would like potholes to be repaired - they are bad for cars; and speed bumps.
Better taxi services @ Transports Services - not up to standard.
The state of the locals roads is horrendous: pot holes galore - this issue needs sorting as it causes damage to cars.
Parking attendants won't even allow wheelchair users on Georges Square - more compassion should be shown by PAs - the safety of the wheelchair user is of paramount importance to the taxi driver.
Improve diversity education in schools - virtues such as tolerance and respect for all races and communities.
Over zealous parking attendants - even on laybys after taxis just dropped a fare off - wrong attitude and over officious.
More consideration to be given to timing on temporary traffic lights to ensure the best release of backlogged traffic at peak times.
More services for young people. No cuts.
More parking facilities.
Can you please make sure all Park Ward councillors to do some work for Ward? They should hold fortnightly surgeries by each councillor to listen to people's views and problems in Ward, which reduce pressure on the Council. Thank you!
Retain significant wild spaces within walking distance of all communities.
Young people's access into sports, outdoor education clubs to promote healthier lifestyles in areas of need.
Get councillors to listen to the people of Calderdale, take their views on board and act upon them. Not everyone has crazy ideas. Some ideas are sensible and worth looking into.
Fill more shops in town centre.
Develop the Piece Hall as a 'destination' for tourists.
Improve and expand the Handyperson Service. I had a bad experience caused by faulty workmanship, despite being assured the craftsmen were qualified (apparently they were, but not in the skill(s) they were carrying out) The mess took years to sort out. I was badly let down. PS I'm still waiting for the replacement front gate (68 year old citizen).
Work together with a single plan - and stick to it.
Establish a Volunteer Civil Defence Corps equipped and trained in liaison with Police, Fire & Rescue, Mountain Rescue, WRVS and uniformed youth organisations to provide manpower to aid LGO maintained services in times of emergency.
Stop spending so much money on leaflets/publicity such as this booklet. It could have been done on thinner paper with fewer pages at far less costs!
I would like to see all receptionists fully trained to deal professionally with all customers. Receptionists need to be able to speak properly to people showing good manners, willingness to find out things instead of making customers go from one building to another because they can't be bothered. They should not ignore customers because they are having a gossip with another member of staff and leaving customers until they have finished their conversations. They should be taught not to voice personal opinions to customers and not to have arguments with other staff in main reception areas. Council reception desks are the first point of call for all our customers and the first impression a person gets of the Council determines our reputation.



Also many porters who cover receptions are smelly, scruffy in their appearance and slouch over desks. They should be made to smarten up and wear ties, and in some cases sent home to have a bath as it is unbearable standing near them.
Keep the streets tidy, hedges and grass cut.
Stop spending money on glossy products like this. Surely this survey could have been achieved for less?
Waste collection with regards to recycling. Improve Pollination Street as an area for families to enjoy.
Make the owners of derelict buildings and land clean them up or knock them down and landscape the area.
Provide additional free parking in Ripponden to help local businesses.
Listening to people more on questions of environmental quality, the limitations of house on Green Belt, the quality of the built environment in Halifax etc.
Offer of independent MOT testing for taxi trade.
Better education.
I would be willing to pay more Council tax to have more Police on the streets.
Improve the MOT centre at Battison Road so there is more than one MOT centre to go to.
Improved services to taxi industry from Council at Battison Road depot.
I would like to have more sports facilities.
Stop the cuts now!! Reinvest in local services helping local people who need them.
Introduce cultural awareness training to all Council employees, some of whom can be very rude.
Remind Council employees that they are public servants - treat people with respect.
Council should keep on increasing people's awareness on issues which were discussed today (safeguarding).
Schools and hospitals.
Spend money on NHS and schools.
Improve on cleaning my street. Improve parking tickets (charge too much).
Dropping off points in towns and schools (taxis).
MOT off year and can use bit of old.
We need more community services and community centres right across area.
More diversity work across Calderdale - breaking down barriers.
More funding for vital public services, mainly NHS. Police more involved with community.
Affordable housing for young people.
Availability of more free trips/activities for young people.
Get rid of poverty.
Services to visit youth clubs eg dance teachers, fitness instructors.
Youth clubs to be open every day.
Invest in more sports facilities, eg astroturf.
Transport for disabled (public); sports facilities all inclusive; play centres & activities for disabled children & short breaks; more housing for disabled.
Improve potholes, better roads, more speed cameras
Cleaner streets.
Provide more short breaks for carers, more activities for children with disabilities, more bin men.
Better housing for people.
Housing benefit should be easier to apply for.
More social housing in Calderdale.
Housing in Calderdale needs to be improved for people on low incomes.
More 2 year old nursery places.



Improve roads.
More services for women.
Fill potholes and make roads better.
Better childcare provision.
More shops in the town centre.
Better parking in the town centre.
Make funding available for <u>all</u> 2 year olds.
More short breaks for carers; more sporting activities for children with special needs; more books in King Cross library for kids.
Refuse collection needs to be improved.
Improve roads and potholes.
More free nursery places for children.
Private landlords need to be looked at.
Maintain roads; bins should be collected every week not every 2 weeks.
Nothing! It's not just up to the Council; it's up to everyone who lives in Calderdale to improve where they live. And I love it!
Streamline meetings that are serving very little purpose, using far too many resources.
Provide bins to use for the recycling & removal of garden rubbish.
sell stationery @ libraries, eg plastic sleeves, envelopes etc.
Keep the roads/pavements cleared this winter - blocked roads affect the economy & stretch the NHS.
Please put Hebden Park back to how it used to be - it is a disgrace now.
Improve mental health services for local people.
Do not close Hebden town hall market.
Do not spend my council tax money on economic migrants.
Improve services for elderly to match those of Kirklees, eg home/burglar/fire alarms.
Stop using consultants to do the work of Council officers as they do not know local issues and it costs twice as much.
like to see cobblestones roads with provision for disabled people because parking vehicles block pavements - cobbles difficult for wheelchairs, sticks etc.
Collect recycling <u>every</u> week regularly.
Provide a pedestrian push button for the traffic lights @ Heptonstall Road/Bridge Lane. When crossing from the 'Fox' side at shortest distance to cross one can't see traffic approach from Church Lane until it is upon one.
Get rid of some of the councillors on £100k a year.
Fine any utilities who do not coordinate road disruption with other utility services. Fed up with constant disruption up and down Calder valley main road. More community payback from firms causing disruption due to building.
Stop doing everything online, not everyone has a computer.
Better opening hours for people who work.
Copley valley development a classic case of Council that does not listen.
Dog fouling on public parks.
Parking around the hospital and Lloyds.
Parking around schools.
Keep promises made in run up to local elections.
Listen to local residents.
More action against speeding cars.
Parking outside schools and overspill to residential properties.
Get the dustbin men to leave more bags when requested.



Refuse collection
Dog fouling, more fines should be given out.
Litter - More bins are needed around the area.
Dog fouling.
More parking attendants.
More police looking at speeding and parking - Giving out tickets.
Parking in and around Saville park.
Dog fouling and litter needs to be sorted.
Better parking take another look at hospital.
Sort parking out.
More services for younger people.
Start listening to local residents.
Improve pot-holes.
Better shopping in town centre.
Improve access for people with disabilities.
Improve parking.
Refuse collection.
Improve the roads.
Dog fouling. Where are the dog wardens?
More events to bring communities together.
Arden road club, the archway project, doghouse events.
Get the emptying of dustbins back with the Council. If they can be run at a profit - great as will subsidise other services. Currently the bin emptying services is very poor.
Remove at 20mph signs + restrictions.
Improve youth provision and facilities in North Halifax especially Illingworth.
Look at what is spent and lost running Iscal and look at better ways of doing things.
Local pitches.
Changing rooms.
Parks and pitches.
Improved changing rooms and pitches.
Leisure centre in Elland plus pool.
Pot holes around Calderdale.
Fairer school application process, including for academy schools.
Pot holes around Calderdale.
Drop the speed limit to 20mph along Cousin Lane. Put more things in place at Shrogg park, there is so much available space for skate boarding/scooters/bikes.
More sport facilities.
I feel the football facilities such as pitches and changing facilities improved. Dog foul signs should also be placed on Saville park playing fields.
Football pitches.
Think of the Council as a business - so less waste.
Improve Youth provision in areas where there are issues. Get the early intervention in so there are places for the young people to go that is safe and good youth leaders and volunteers.
Changing rooms and pitch.
Changing rooms.
Pitches.
Have less restaurants and more useful shops.



I think we should encourage more wildlife into the area we live in. Also the roads need levelling out more.
Litter and dog fouling in public places - more bins needed.
Give us a swimming pool in Mytholmroyd.
Provide post office facilities in branch libraries where no PO exists within that local community. As regards the relocation of central library - a total waste of money and a detrimental step - not on a bus route or easily accessible. I will use Brighouse library once it's moved.
Get the derelict sites in Todmorden cleared up quickly. They are an eyesore. We are still in Calderdale.
There should be more police patrols on the streets is 'Bobbies on the Beat'.
Invest in community spirit - encouraging people to come together through integration with the hope of reducing hate crimes/all crimes and discrimination.
I want to see the criteria for school admissions changing. Currently certain communities only have children in schools. Catchment areas should be abolished if we want to see diversity, multicultural awareness in Calderdale. How can children learn if only one lot of community based children attend one school, ie Halifax Academy is 95% Asian orientated. At the age of 16 are these children able to mix in other communities?
Business rates discounts for firms that take on more apprentices from Calderdale colleges and schools.
Condition of our roads, esp minor roads. There have been potholes and very uneven surfaces since the bad winter we had a few years ago. Keep the roads clear when it snows so I can get to work!
Skips on roads for rubbish instead of gardens.
Look after the elderly better. More resources in this area and less cycling etc.
University! It will help the area to get more businesses and more jobs.
Parking! It's shocking you can't park anywhere. To get more people to Halifax improve parking to get more people to shops and use town centre.
Better highways.
Reduce the amount of councillors.
Sort out the state of the roads before they get any worse.
Less election!
The council has cut services and jobs but there never seems to be cuts to the numbers of local councillors. Why do we have so many? Reduce the number of wards.
Save money by reducing the number of ward councillors to 2 per ward. The cuts never seem to affect them.
Increase the subsidies for buses as they are way too expensive.
We need to be much clearer about allocating resources geographically according to needs. Disproportionate time is spent dealing with issues raised by middle class people. The focus must be on the most vulnerable and deprived.
Improve the leisure facilities. The new sports centre in Huddersfield has put Halifax pool to shame.
Lollipops flashing during the day - turn off - roadlights - one off one on.
Queens Road - why is there a man cleaning every day?
I would like the Council to improve its staff management procedures: it is great that there are now more opportunities for staff to develop in the organisation through training and FWP but we need to be more robust in dealing with chronic poor performance. We need the best staff to deliver services and if staff consistently won't engage positively they need to move on. Is it true our redundancy policy is based on disciplinary & number of sick days (excluding certified sick days)? If so it seems unjust and due for review.
Invest more time in appropriate staff training. Too often people are given minimal training due to high work volume then left to get on with it; resulting in errors, causing more work and wasted time in the long run. Value staff more. I've come across various examples of staff feeling demoralised which can affect confidence.



Using Skype for meetings across sites rather than travelling. Less use of email and more use of the phone.
Buy new IT equipment. Time wasting. Buy top of the range.
Calderdale should look at the possibility of contracting some of its services out to private companies who could deliver services. For example leisure services/theatres/museums.
Stop spending money on wasteful projects promoting the council, ie Pretty Gritty logo which would have filled several hundred salt bins more than once during winter. Also the siting of several non DfT compliant boundary signs again at thousands of pounds wasted!!
Reduce or remove member payments. If reduced then the percentage should be 50% and then freeze for next 5 years.
The public want to know what the Council stands for; what is the vision? What is the strategy to meet the vision? Then at least we could see why the Council makes the decisions it does. Rochdale wants to be the greenest ... what does Calderdale want to be? And 'digital' is not a strategy.
Transport links and road maintenance. Bring businesses so the benefits are reduced as people should work. Improve shopping experience and car parks - after 8am most spaces are taken by workers.
The public's perception needs improving and to do this the Council needs to raise awareness through a central/corporate brand.
Reduce number of managers.
Reintroduce xmas closing period.
Collaborate on communications with other councils with same messages, eg fostering.
I think it would help the Council if they developed a proper central brand and vision to carve out a defined direction to lead Calderdale in.
Abolish Neighbourhood Teams and Community Cohesion Teams. This should be centrally funded rather than Local Authority funded. Joint budgets as an alternative with Police & Crime & Independent Sector.
Communications Team - an unnecessary luxury for a small local authority especially when the public perception is not really too bad. Education of the public regarding the central government reduction in funding would be more useful than Pretty Gritty campaign. Tourism is generated more now by exposure on TV rather than self-promotion. Reduce the service by 75% and focus on public education of financial situation.
Transport services - remove the mayoral car and driver. The mayor should use public transport or drive their own vehicle. If there are regional civic engagements then a hire car can be used as appropriate from tenders list.
Markets - close uneconomical local markets. Today's generation focus on shopping using the internet or see shopping as part of a social event and therefore use shopping malls where food, entertainment and retail are under one roof, and parking is not prohibitive.
Parking services - outsource the entire service either as part of the soon-to-be renewed enforcement service or look at collaborative working with neighbouring authorities.
Not close the A&E in Halifax please.
Improve health service.
More dog wardens please, or more fines for dangerous dogs.
Ensure dog excrement is cleared regularly and owners prosecuted where possible.
More council taxis improvements.
The Council need to work more closely with communities through integration.
More free parking in town centre.
Get rid of parking permits outside of my house; don't see why I should have to pay to park outside of my own house.
Roads.
Resurface roads in Todmorden.
I think they should improve the roads.
Spend more money on front facing services and buildings.
Reintroduce free swimming and sports facilities for kids. In the long run you will be reducing health costs by promoting exercise and fitness.



Tidy hedges, rebuild walls, maintain roads & get more people paying council tax.
Recognise the important role volunteer groups can play. Facilitate their involvement in the community be removing unnecessary restrictions.
Reduce the number of councillors.
Elections every 2 or 3 years - not annually - save money, time and allow parties to actively follow their ideas.
Close non-essential council services over Christmas period. Save money on staffing and overheads.
Reduce the number of councillors.
Balance the seating/computers for officers in Westgate House. Seats next to toilets on 2nd floor very noisy because of doors.
Get rid of a least 17 councillors to save money - why should they be the only section of the council to not have personnel cuts?
Have pedestrian crossings on all roads in the town centre (esp to the North Bridge Leisure Centre).
Sweep up the leaves off the plants. Thank you.
Fund health provision in Halifax (not send out the Huddersfield). Make sure Calderdale Royal Infirmary is supported - A&E stays and provision and staffing is prioritised at the hospital.
Do not lose site of the compassionate side and remember "everyone different, everyone matters".
Bring recycling back into Calderdale where companies are more accountable to Council. This is a cat and mouse game and if you ask people then this is a major problem here right now. It also increases local employment.
Less ward councillors.
Stop wasting so much money on this type of stationery - it could be better spent!.
Improve on the parking on the local streets of Todmorden.
Stop wasting money on gimmicks like this.
Help more people find jobs, build more houses that everyone needs. Find new homes for stray dogs. Put more bins for dog waste on rural walking routes.
Repair the potholes!!! Improve street lighting.
Better parks with more obstacle courses and skateparks. Build more houses for old and poor people.
Build a new house with garden, making outside improvements in school.
My school needs more books please and can you pay to teach people to sign. Thank you.
New swimming pool and sports facilities please.
Preserve and maintain the natural environment. Encourage development of brown field sites.
Get rid of outlying sites and combine into one larger central site to save council money on heating and building costs.
I would like to see more "green areas" (like Urbis in Manchester) in Halifax town centre where people could sit, eat and chat.
Safer roads; reduction of speeding motorists.
Invest more in community projects. Obviously in current times this isn't possible, however every little helps!
Invest in staff. Get rid of the excess management and provide appropriate training and support. Foster a 'can do' attitude and pride in work and Calderdale; reward staff better.
Don't be afraid to raise council tax for fear it may be unpopular. It's necessary.
Annex Kirklees and Bradford.
Spend less on expensive consultants or contractors who duplicate skills we already have in-house.
Change priorities, eg demolish Princess Buildings - no more Victoriana. Build a better library and sports centre.
Reverse town centre parking restrictions - they are counter-productive.
Roads.
More interfaith.
More cultural awareness.



Better communication with communities.
More community development workers.
Deal with speeding.
Municipal graveyard in Todmorden.
Better opportunities for young people.
Support deprived communities.
More community development work.
More interfaith work needed.
Graveyard in Tod.
More investment in Tod.
Graveyard in Tod.
Improve community relations.
Improve community relations.
Graveyard needed in Tod.
Cemetery in Todmorden.
Graveyard in Tod.
Help the third sector.
More cultural integration.
Graveyard in Tod.
Sports centre in Hebden Bridge!
Please stop renovating bridleways and footpaths.
Please improve lighting on roads.
More bins within local areas (ie Siddal, Illingworth, Elland, Southowram etc). It will cut down on litter.
Take 20mph signs down in Todmorden and put speed cameras up!
Look after taxi drivers; always being disadvantaged.
Provide independent services for MOT for taxis. It is a monopoly.
More litter bins.
Safeguarding jobs that are needed the most, especially children's services.
Safeguard jobs that are important within the council.
Keeping Calderdale litter and weed free, especially in Clover Hill area; keeping central reservations tidier on Burdock Way & Ardan Road.
Cut down to 2 councillors in a ward, not 3; less councillor expenses; no free teas - bring sandwiches.
Contributions, eg council tax, should be based entirely on ability to pay (no 'get outs' by fiddling their accounts figures. Someone who has £millions can afford to pay thousands of times more than someone who has £thousands, <u>and should do so</u> . If the Council doesn't receive adequate funding from the wealthy and industry then fight for it; make a fuss; it is no good asking the poor for it - ask the wealthy, they can afford it.
All Calderdale buildings are dreadfully overheated from October to March! Try reducing the hot libraries and offices by a few degrees - the staff should not expect bare arms in winter!
Reduce the burden of council tax! Hard pressed individuals are forced to pay far too much for the services they receive.
Give prior warning to staff about movements and changes. Everything seems rushed. Keep the interpreting service in-house as a service for deaf people.
Sort out empty shops. Lower rents to attract new business (for first few months).
Scrap 20mph - waste of money.
Improve road layout (bypass) in Sowerby Bridge.
More bins in the area (Sowerby Bridge).
Listen to local residents.



Bigger fines for dog fouling.
Sort traffic out in Sowerby Bridge.
More litter picking and grass cutting on main roads into and around Calderdale. Use volunteers if required.
Better roads.
Become a commissioning agency.
Improve the roads - they dig them up and put them back like a patchwork quilt. I would think they are the worst in England.
Introduce more ISO9000 type thinking, proactive management, "right first time" systems. At present a lot of what you do seems reactive - "if it goes wrong we'll fix it". But that costs more in the long run. And never ever <u>try</u> to do something - if you're going to do it, then do it. Remember what Homer Simpson said: "trying is the first step to failing".
Go to schools in Elland and teach children <u>not</u> to throw rubbish all over.
Put facilities (Elland swimming pool) back into the towns which make up CALDERDALE. Too many supermarkets selling cheap food, making people too fat. Rebuild swimming pool and fitness centres.
Give Elland a railway station.
Attend meetings - get more work out of the highly paid councillors.
More sports facilities in <u>Elland</u> . Less supermarkets, pubs and takeaways and teenagers on street corners and playgrounds. This may apply to other places as well.
Getting people back to work. Also there is plenty of jobs like cleaning litter etc. Get the layabouts doing the work?
Listen more to the people of Calderdale and their ideas, suggestions, rather than making decisions in the board room on how they think the residents of Calderdale think without asking them.
Carry out repairs on homes as quickly as they possibly can. Have a warden check on elderly people at least 3 times a week to see if the elderly have concerns or maybe they are just lonely. Invest more in schools.
Build council houses.
Allow people to dive in and don't be so strict. Health and safety is an issue but please let us off the hook.
Not to have as many rules as we will not hurt each other.
Make it deeper and have slides.
Abolish car parking charges in Elland, as it drives shoppers away. You can park free in Brighouse, Sowerby Bridge, and King Cross etc. Elland is like a ghost town on Saturday afternoons as people go elsewhere. You could save money by cutting out the traffic wardens' pay, and sell the parking meters. So do it now!
I would like a slide in my garden.
Remove advertising banners which are littering railings and buildings.
Green bag/bin collections for garden waste as in some areas. Please.
Designated rural school - Cragg Vale Junior and Infants School. I would like to see Calderdale pioneer a Rural Schools Network and hub full of shared facilities that inspire and give aspirations to our early and primary age children. Making use and highlighting their beautiful rural environment.
Clean up the street ie have 2 or 3 proper bins. Get rid of boxes and bags (bad news in bad weather).
Improve cycle paths.
Free parking throughout Todmorden to encourage and support regeneration and local business and market. Encourage people into town; maintain traditional structure of town; socialisation.
Plant more trees - particularly roadside trees. They manage to do it in rest of Europe. Why not here?
Get political parties to work together for the good of the community, not devote so much energy in scoring off each other.
Hebden Bridge could do with a park and ride scheme for visitors as locals and villages above Hebden cannot park to shop in their own town!
Promote our fine area and all it has to offer. Provide more car parking spaces in Hebden Bridge.



Clear up the rubbish everywhere - especially outside Argos - a disgrace.
Support services: despite many support services being centralised a considerable time ago, there continues to be service areas that have posts that duplicate others, eg Finance. Some posts such as business manager and finance management info officer. These posts need to be brought into the centralised support service then they can be rationalised.
Recycle more and use only electric vehicles where possible in its fleet. Save 50% of energy by efficiencies.
More sports facilities. Better communication with residents.
Out back the trees overhanging the road are obscuring the lights on the 40mph stretch of the road out of Hebden Bridge, past the station. At present it is dangerous.
Recycling - Can we have a more efficient collection system? The borough is now littered with plastic milk bottles.
In regards to fining for attendance I feel that all schools in Calderdale academies or not should take upon the same approach.
Do more to combat littering, which is blight on our beautiful landscape. I see rubbish strewn across the riverbank. Rubbish is mounting at the bottom of wall next to public toilets in mythomroyd. People sit on bench and throw litter over wall. A new bin next to bench could help? A big sign?
More gritting of pavements particularly box lane, Elland. To prevent falls.
Focus on fitness activities. Do cycling events. Turn Saville park into a cycling/joggers park create a cycle path around it and in the centre + add more gym equipment in the gym area. Do free adult swimming lessons in the main pool at Halifax swimming pool.
The pavement between the post office and hose and jockey needs re-surfacing at highroad well - ice puddles collect.
Provide 30 minutes free parking in outlying towns. Full car parks are good for business. Empty car parks generate no revenue and still require supervision.
Make living here less expensive by considerably lowering the amount we are obliged to paying Council Tax.
Please can we re-instate a 24 hour on-call noise pollution officer? Thank you, very much.
If the Casa hotel and restaurant wins the planning appeal now going to the high court in London who will pay the total cost of this on-going planning litigation. (Redacted comments) Response in comment.

