



16<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

The meeting of **KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL** will be held at **6:00PM** on **WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE** when all Members of the Council are summoned to attend.

Yours Sincerely

Hugh Peacocke  
Chief Executive Officer

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**Membership:** Councillors G. Connolly (Mayor), J. Aston, J. Beckingham, B. Brookes, D. Chambers, L. Carroll, V. Caulfield, B. Connor, H. Dyke, N. Gale, D. Hine, S. Hollands, M. McDonnell, S. Miah, F. Oborski (MBE), M. Rayner and M. Smith.

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Apologies for absence**

### **2. Declarations of interest**

To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 S32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

Members are reminded that should you declare a pecuniary interest at a meeting, it is your responsibility to inform the Monitoring officer.

### **3. Public Question Time**

In accordance with Standing Order 3(c), to allow members of the public to make representations, ask questions, and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.

### **4. Approval of Minutes (Appendix 1)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting of Kidderminster Town Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.

### **5. Town Mayor's Report (Appendix 2)**

To receive a report from the Town Mayor, Councillor George Connolly.

### **6. Town Hall update (Appendix 3)**

- 6.1 To receive an update on the progress of the Town Hall Transformation project
- 6.2 To approve proposals for the podium/ plinth along the front of the Town Hall.

- 7. Public Consultation report (Appendix 4)**  
To receive the report on the Council's public consultation.
- 8. Vision 2025-2029 (Appendix 5)**  
To Approve the Council's Vision for 2025 to 2029.
- 9. The Budget and Precept for 2025-26 (Appendix 6)**  
To approve the Council's budget for 2025-26 and set a precept to fund the budget.
- 10. Climate Change (Appendix 7)**  
To consider how the Council might react to climate change.
- 11. Appointments to Outside Bodies**
  - 11.1 Clare Witnell and Blount Charity
  - 11.2 The Kidderminster Civic Society
  - 11.3 The Kidderminster Education Foundation
- 12. St. George's Paddling Pool update (Appendix 8)**  
To receive an update on the Paddling Pool.
- 13. Committee meetings**  
To note the following minutes of Committee Meetings held since the Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October (already circulated to Members and published on the Council's website):
  - 13.1 The Planning Committee meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 26<sup>th</sup> November and 18<sup>th</sup> December
  - 13.2 The Town Hall Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024
  - 13.3 The Operational Services Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024
  - 13.4 The Finance & Overview Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025
  - 13.5 The Staffing Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024, and
  - 13.6 The Civic, Community and Events Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
- 14. Schedule of meetings 2025-26 (Appendix 9)**
- 15. Notice of Motion**  
Received from Councillor Helen Dyke:  
*"Kidderminster Town Council calls on the planning authority, Wyre Forest District Council, to consider naming a road or street in the parish of Kidderminster, in honour of the late Bob Fleming who worked for many years in the role as Mayor's Officer for the Charter Trustees of Kidderminster."*
- 16. The Forward Work Programme (Appendix 10)**  
To note the Forward Work Programme for Full Council for 2024/25 and consider any additions.

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held at 6pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024  
In the Council Chamber, Wyre Forest House**

**Present:**

Councillors George Connolly (Town Mayor), John Beckingham, Liam Carroll, Vicky Caulfield, Bernadette Connor, Helen Dyke, Nicky Gale, Doug Hine, Steve Hollands, Mary McDonnell, Shazu Miah, Mary Rayner and Daniel Round.

**In Attendance**

Hugh Peacocke, Chief Executive Officer

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. John Aston, Ben. Brookes, Darren Chambers, Fran Oborski (MBE) and Mike Smith.

The Mayor and the Members present sent their best regards to Cllr. Oborski.

**53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Liam Carroll and Mary McDonnell declared their membership of the Save the Paddling Pool Group.

Councillor Mary Rayner declared her membership of the Friends of St. Georges Park.

Councillor Liam Carroll declared that he is the Council's observer at meetings of the BID board of Directors

**54. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None

**55. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes of the meeting of Kidderminster Town Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**56. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The meeting received a report from the Town Mayor, Councillor George Connolly, on the events he had supported and attended as Town Mayor and also noted congratulations to the following members of the community in Kidderminster:

- Claire Cashmore who won a silver medal in the Women's PTS5 event at the Paralympics in Paris,
- Izzy White who became the youngest ever woman to be British national Bowls Champion and will head to Australia next year to represent Britain in the World Championships, and

- The Revd. Hayward Osborne, who recently celebrated 50 years in the priesthood and to thank him for his contribution to his congregation at St. Mary and All Saints Church.

#### **57. The Town Centre Team (West Mercia Police)**

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting PC's Charlotte Gunn and Simon Reilly, from the Greenhill/ Kidderminster Town Centre Team at West Mercia Police.

The Police presentation included the following points:

- The Town Centre Team was established in September, with 3 designated PC's
- The team wants to be visible in the Town Centre
- Hot Spot Patrols (using policing data and NHS data -"Taking Back Our Streets)- achieving positive results
- Focus on anti-social behaviour, knives and young people
- The Force had seen a 10% reduction in violent crime
- Achieving a return of £2.20 for each pound spent
- CCTV issues
- Benches in the Town Centre
- Partnership working
- Proposed police office in The Swan Centre
- Poor public lighting in some areas

Members raised questions regarding homelessness, begging, ongoing data sharing and liaison with the Town Council, designing out crime,

Members also mentioned crime outside the town Centre, including burglary, knife crime, dangerous driving and car theft.

The Mayor thanked PCs Gunn and Reilly for their presentation and for taking the time to come to the meeting.

#### **58. Kidderminster Business Improvement District (BID) - ballot and business plan 2025-2030.**

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting the Chairman of the BID board, Mr. Paul Long, and the BID Manager, Mr. James Barker, and invited them to address the Council on the BID and their Business Plan for 2025 to 2030.

Members asked about the impact of food fairs on local businesses, security and working with the Police Force, shop visits by the BID, empty shops, new business for the town and involvement/ consultation with all the levy payers.

There was concern at the lack of diversity on the BID Board and Mr. Long said that the Board members were volunteers but were working to address this issue.

Members had a particular concern that the BID sometimes failed to acknowledge the Town Council's contribution to events, such as the Christmas Lights switch on. Mr. Barker said that the Business Plan was draft and that this matter would be addressed.

Mr. Long welcomed the suggestion that the BID might organise events to promote the heritage and culture of Kidderminster.

The meeting acknowledged the challenges that the BID had to overcome, with the pandemic impacting on the newly formed organisation. Overall, the council acknowledged the benefits that the BID had brought to Kidderminster and congratulated them on their first 5 years in business.

**RESOLVED:** that the Council votes for a further 5-year term for Kidderminster Business Improvement District.

Councillor Daniel Round abstained.

The Mayor allowed a short break at this stage of the meeting.

Councillor Mary McDonnell left the meeting at 8.24 pm.

**59. TOWN HALL UPDATE**

The CEO referred to the update circulated to Members, which focussed on the Construction contract at the Town Hall.

He further advised members that the Town Hall Committee had approved the appointment of business consultants to advise on the best business model for the future Town Hall and the staff structure and resources required to support that model.

The Meeting received the Town Hall update.

**60. ST. GEORGE'S PARK PADDLING POOL UPDATE.**

The CEO told the meeting that funding bids had so far been unsuccessful. Councillor Bernadette Connor advised that Midcounties Coop, with whom she was involved, would be interested in supporting this project. The CEO would advise the Operational Services Manager to make contact in this regard.

The meeting received the update on this matter.

**61. ASSET REGISTER**

The Mayor referred to the email from the CEO, suggesting that for reasons of sensitive financial information that this matter should be deferred to the private section of the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To deal with this item after the press and public had been excluded.

**62. PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**RESOLVED** to approve the public consultation on the Council's services, including the consultation plan and the finances required to deliver it

**63. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS**

The meeting heard that the District Council was consulting on 2 Community Governance Reviews which directly impact Kidderminster Parish.

The meeting noted that this was an opportunity for the Town Council to address anomalies in the Parish boundary and look to have the boundary updated to reflect current settlement patterns.

The CEO had circulated details of the reviews and recommended how the Council might respond. The Mayor told the meeting that both the District Council and Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council had recommended that the Hollyfields Care Home should remain in Kidderminster Foreign Parish area.

**RESOLVED:**

- A) For the Kidderminster Foreign Review, To support the proposal that the Kidderminster Town Council boundary should include the Habberley Road development which should be transferred to the town
- B) For Wolverley and Cookley:  
To call for redrawing of the boundary between Kidderminster and Wolverley & Cookley in two areas:
  - i. At Sion Hill, by bringing the site of the former school site into Kidderminster (Wildmoor Rd).
  - ii. Development on Stourbridge Road (Albrighton Drive & Bowdler Close) also to be brought into Kidderminster.
- C) To call on Wyre Forest District Council to carry out a community governance review to re-establish common ward boundaries with those used for WFDC in Kidderminster and to make other changes to Kidderminster's boundary so that it includes Kittiwake Drive, the whole of the Woven Oaks development and the developed areas comprising Finepoint Way and Zortech Avenue.

**64. Report of External Auditor on the financial year ended 31st March 2024.**

The CEO advised the Council that he had received the report of the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn, on our accounts and annual return for 2023-2024. Following this, the Council had published notice of the completion of the audit.

The CEO had circulated his report on the issues arising in the report.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the report and to note the actions which officers are taking to address the issues raised in the report.

The CEO said that he would update the Finance and Overview Committee on progress being made and report on these matters when presenting the Annual Governance return in June 2025.

**65. BUDGET 25-26**

The CEO circulated a timetable for the preparation of next year's budget, so that all members would be aware of the schedule and the process and how they could contribute to next year's budget.

Members would be invited to submit suggestions for the Vision and Budget and responses should be back to the CEO by Sunday the 3rd November.

**66. DELIVERY OF AN ENERGY & RESOURCE PARK NEAR KIDDERMINSTER**

The Mayor told the meeting that Power generation Midlands had received planning consent for an Energy Centre and a plastics Recovery plant in Kidderminster and the Company was setting up a Community Liaison Group to

*“provide a two-way dialogue between PGM and the local community during the construction and operation of the Energy & Resource Park.*

*Regular meetings will encourage discussion and allow parties, such as elected representatives and local residents, to raise issues with PGM and provide feedback as the project progresses”.*

Terms of reference and details of membership were circulated by the CEO. The members would be drawn from:

- the Company itself,
- their communication agents,
- an officer from the County Council
- 2 Members from the County Council
- 2 Members from the District Council ( 1 representative Foley Park & Hoobrook and 1 representative Mitton, and
- 1 each from Kidderminster and Stourport Town Councils.

The Mayor invited nominations for a representative from the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Doug Hine be appointed to represent the Council on the Community Liaison Group to be set up by Power generation Midlands

**67. COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Committee meetings held since the June meeting of the Council have been sent to Members and published on the Council's website:

- The Planning Committee meetings held on 27th June, 30th July, 27th August and the 30<sup>th</sup> September, chaired by Councillor Doug Hine

- The Town Hall Committee on the 9th September was also chaired by Councillor Doug Hine, Deputy Chair.
- The Events Committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, chaired by Councillor Mary Rayner.
- The Operational Services Committee held on 26th September chaired by Councillor Liam Carroll
- The Finance & Overview Committee meeting held on 10th October chaired by Councillor Steve Hollands
- The Staffing Committee meeting held on 16th October chaired by Councillor Helen Dyke

Councillor Dyke told the meeting that the Staffing Committee had confirmed that the CEO had satisfactorily completed his probation period and the Council thanked him for his work so far with the Council.

#### **68. FULL COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2024-25**

The Mayor presented the Forward Programme and invited members to comment or propose any additions for future meetings.

It was noted that the Council had declared a Climate Emergency in 2021 and asked that this matter be put on the agenda for the January meeting.

#### **69. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The remaining items on our agenda contain confidential information, one of a financial nature and the other personal information. It is therefore recommended that the press and members of the public be excluded from these discussions.

**Resolved:** To exclude the public and the press from the remaining items of business.

#### **70. ASSET REGISTER**

The Council noted that both the internal and external auditors had raised concerns about this matter.

The CEO updated the Council on the challenges that officers faced and the progress in drafting the Register.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the draft Asset Register and to authorise the CEO to obtain valuations for insurance purposes on the assets, as indicated on the Register.

#### **71. Flexible working request**

The CEO has requested that the Council amend his contract to allow him to work his contracted hours in 4 days instead of 5, for the period 28<sup>th</sup> October to 30 April 2025.



**RESOLVED:** to approve the temporary amendment to the CEO's contract of employment to enable the CEO to work his contracted 37 hours per week over 4 days per week, as set out above, from 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, in accordance with the following arrangement:

- 3 days a week, work at Wyre Forest House, from 8.00am to 6pm, with 1 hour break time: 9 hours work per day, for 3 days = 27 hours.
- 1 day per week, work from home, 7.30 am to 6.30 pm, 1 hour break time: 10 hours
- Total: 37 hours.

The Meeting concluded at 9.11 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mayor's Announcements

Firstly, I would like to welcome all Councillors back after the Christmas break and hope you all enjoyed the break!

I'm sure all Councillors will join me in welcoming back Cllr Fran Oborski to Full Council. Councillor Oborski's fortitude and dedication to the community have shone throughout the last few months and I'm sure we all wish Fran well as she continues her journey to recovery.

During the past few Months, I have attended multiple events seeing a wide range of people from our communities. The Mayor's Christmas Sunday service was very well attended with £150 being Raised for MND my Mayoral charity which has been gratefully received by the charity. I would like to thank all Councillors, Officers, Past Mayors and Honorary Alderman for their attendance.

### **Events attended since full Council:**

31/10/24 All about you, opening of a Japanese head spa  
2/11/24 Kidderminster Choral society  
7/11/24 Kidderminster beer festival (Deputy)  
10/11/24 Remembrance Sunday  
11/11/24 Armistice Day  
11/11/24 100th Birthday Party of Resident of The Gables Rest Home  
11/11/24 Visit to Support Wyre Forest Night stop and & Mediation Service  
11/11/24 Public consultation 45 Live  
15/11/24 St Richard's Hospice – Lights of Love Service  
16/11/24 Kidderminster Christmas Lights Switch  
23/11/24 Old Carolian Annual Dinner  
28/11/24 Twinning Association Meeting  
30/11/24 Kidderminster Choral Society 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
7/12/24 Santa in the Town Event  
7/12/24 Wyre Forest Symphony Orchestra Concert (Deputy)  
8/12/24 WFDC Chairman's Carol Service  
11/12/24 Bromsgrove DC Chairman's Community Carol Service (Deputy)  
12/12/24 Offmore Primary School Official Opening of Outdoor Area  
12/12/24 A Journey Through Kidderminster's Town Hall – National Lottery Heritage Fund Project: Wyre Forest School Certificate Presentation

## Mayor's Announcements

15/12/24 Mayors Christmas Carol service

18/12/24 Baxter College Awards Evening

21/12/24 Kidderminster Choral Society, Wyre Forest Young Voices and Primary Chords

Christmas Gala Concert (Deputy)

5/1/25 Opening of J's dance studio

18/1/24 Kidderminster vets launch

Lastly, I would like to wish all parties the very best in the upcoming By-election for the Broadwaters ward. I urge all candidates and campaigners that whilst we may disagree with each other on policy it is important that we all campaign with a respectful tone whilst demonstrating constructive democratic debate.

**Public Report to Kidderminster Town Council meeting 22nd January 2025**

**Agenda item 6. Town Hall Update**

- 6.1 To receive an update on the progress of the Town Hall Transformation project
- 6.2 To approve proposals for the podium/ plinth along the front of the Town Hall.

**6.1 Kidderminster Town Hall Transformational Project Update**

- Please see attached latest update from the Contractors, Speller Metcalfe Ltd.
- Storm Darragh caused damage to the Courtyard roof, for which the Council is claiming from its insurers.
- The Council's Business consultants, FMG, will meet the Town Hall Committee 29<sup>th</sup> January, with recommendations for catering and bar providers, as well as a Pricing Policy for the Town Hall to be approved.

**6.2 To approve proposals for the podium/ plinth along the front of the Town Hall.**

Please see attached drawings for the revised podium. The project Design Consultants, Glenn Howell Associates, will present this item for consideration by the Council.



SpellerMetcalfe

# Contractor's Progress Report

Project Name

Kidderminster Town Hall

Refurbishment

Report No: 14

Date 16/01/2025

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#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - H&S Report

Appendix 2 – Program Drop Line

Appendix 2A – Recovery Programme

Appendix 3 – Outstanding RFI's

Appendix 4 – Building Control Tracker

Appendix 5 – NO UPDATE

Appendix 6 – NO UPDATE

Appendix 7 – NO UPDATE

## **CONTRACT PARTICULARS**

**PROJECT TITLE** – Kidderminster Town Hall Refurbishment

**CONTRACTORS PROGRESS REPORT FOR SITE MEETING NO** - 14

**CONTRACT WEEK NO** – 53

**Date of possession**: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Contract Start Date** – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Duration** – 72 Weeks

**Contract Completion** – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## **SECTION 1**

### **1.0 - COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

1.1 Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 minutes received on the 23/12/2024.

## **SECTION 2**

### **2.0 – Health & Safety Inspection Report**

One Health and Safety report has been carried out during the period. These can be found below. All actions have been closed out in line with Speller Metcalfe reporting procedure.

#### **Appendix 1 – Health and Safety Reports**



Appendix 1 - H&S  
Report 10.12.2024.pdf

### **2.1 - Accidents/Near Misses**

Total Number of accidents in the Period	0
Reportable Accidents in the Period	0
Lost time Accidents in the Period	0
Non-lost time Accidents in the Period	0
Total SM Unsafe site notifications issued	0
Dangerous Occurrence/Near Misses in the Period	0

## **2.2 – Inductions, Training & Certificates**

Total number of inductions in the period: **10**

Total number of Inductions to date: **297**

Average resource: **35**

## **2.3 – Toolbox Talks Carried out in the period**

- Scaffold Towers

## **SECTION 3**

### **3.0 – KEY ISSUES**

<b><u>Issues</u></b>	<b><u>Actions</u></b>
1. Construction issue design	Please refer to outstanding information appendix 3
2. Fire Compartment and fire doors	16/12/2024 – Ross has issued the fire compartment drawing 'draft issue' we are currently getting these items priced, however we need all construction details issued by the 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 to allow us to procure and complete the works.
3. Client Early Possession	18/12/2024 – It was confirmed at project meeting number 13 that the client does not want to take early possession of any part of the building. SML to develop snagging schedule based on the PC date 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
4. Damage to ETFE roof	13/12/2024 – As per email correspondence unfortunately there has been significant damage to one of the cushions during Storm Darragh. SML have issued costs for the replacement of the cushion and have submitted replacement costs.
4 – Damage to out of scope roof's	13/01/2024 – As per correspondence last week we have now installed a scaffolding along Weavers Wharf to protect the public from potential slates falling. We are currently costing the works accordingly. We have erected an emergency scaffolding on Sunday 12/01/2025 to protect the public in Weavers Wharf following safety concerns.



### **3.1 - Key Client Milestone/Key Dates**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date Required</u>	<u>Date Achieved</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Podium Works Design and Instruction	Provisional 16/12/2024		13/01/2025 – SML have updated the programme of works to reflect Gleeds Programme, this is attached below and can now be progressed monthly. This programme will take the completion of the podium works past the current contracted dated to the 08/09/2024 if instructed.
Services Moved and relocated for podium works	16/12/2024		13/01/2024 – SML are now waiting for further information and confirmation of services to be relocated for the podium. We have added the known information from Gleeds to the above programme.
Music hall lights	16/12/2024		13/01/2024 – We now have had confirmation that the music hall lights will be shipped at the end of January. This at present does not delay the programme but will need to be monitored.

### **4.2 – Labour on Site in the month.**

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Average number of workers in the period</b>
Barrie Beard (INC Specialist Subcontractors)	8
Agency	3
Calumet (INC Specialist Subcontractors)	4
Walsh Construction	3
Bradley Cooper Carpentry	2
Steve Allard Stone Masonry	0
ARC (Asbestos Removal Contracting)	0
PVC Decorating	2
Zest Construction	3
Atley Roofing	2
HCL Dry lining/Partitioners	2
Mick Fitzgerald	0
Kevin Smith Dimond Drilling	0
Malvern Scaffolding	4
Shires IPS	0

Midland Lime Plasterer	2
Macintosh Builders	2
Glantree	1
TBL	3
JP Tiling	1
LGM flooring	1
Vector Foiltec	3

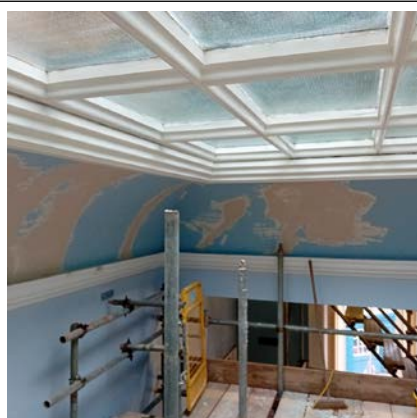
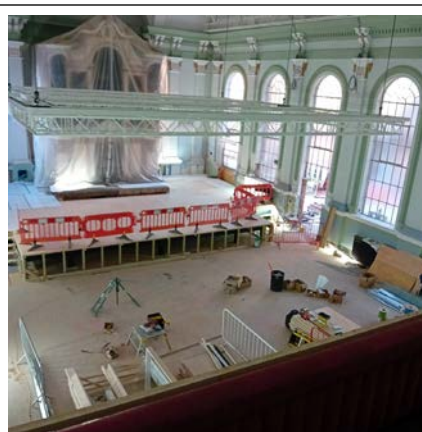
## **SECTION 5**

### **5.0 – PROGRESS**

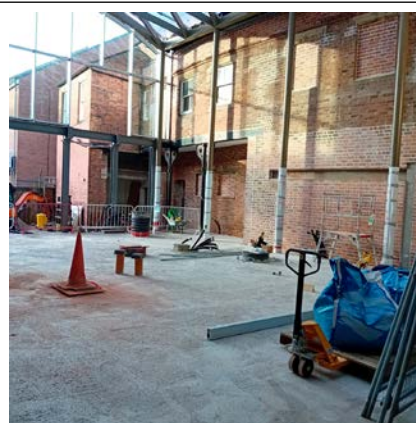
Glazing installed to courtyard



Stage timberwork complete



Restoration works in



Courtyard slab poured and complete

### **5.1 – Executive Summary**

This report is up to the end of contract week number 53, 10/12/2024. We have progressed in line with programme and on target for completion.

### **Contract Programme Update.**

Area	Completion Date	Delay (Cal days)	Forecast Completion	Comments
Courtyard	16/05/2025	0 Days	12/05/2025	13/01/2025 – On Time
Music Hall	27/03/2025	0 days	26/03/2025	13/01/2025 – On Time
Town Hall	6/12/2024		24/02/2025	13/01/2025 - On Time
Completion	16/05/2025		16/05/2025	Project Handover Ontime

### **5.3 – Management Programme**

Forecast Completion – 16/05/2025

#### **Previous 4 Weeks**

- Flat roof works complete 10/01/2025
- Complete floor slab to courtyard 17/01/2025
- Floor finishes have progressed
- Brickwork to corridor started 12/01/2025
- Refurbishment works music hall stair started – 06/01/2025
- Second fix lighting to foyer 20/02/2024
- Stage plywood and structure complete 10/01/2025

#### **4 Week Programme look ahead**

- Brickwork to corridor
- Lime plaster repairs
- Lift partitions
- Secondary glazing to be installed to music hall
- Continue decorative finishes

### **5.5 – Delays**

#### **Delays Shown are against the client programme 03**

Delay Event	Description	Delay (Days)	Cumulative Delay	Comment
1.	Breaking out hard spots in existing ground for drainage	6	0	Week 14, 8,9,10 <sup>th</sup> and 16,17,18 <sup>th</sup> April
2.	Vector Foiltec	14	14	Steelwork Not installed. 25/10/2024 46 days steelwork delay mitigated to 14 days.
3.	Music Hall Lighting	0	0	55 days delay to the music hall lighting and builders work holes mitigated by resequencing the works and reduced lead in times.
4.	Music Hall Heat on Date	0	0	25/10/2024 – Due to gas meter not being installed.

## **SECTION 6**

### **6.0 – PROCUREMENT**

<b><u>Package</u></b>	<b><u>Company</u></b>	<b><u>Order Placed</u></b>
Piling	Van Elle	Yes
Carpentry Enabling Works	Bradley Cooper Carpentry	Yes
Electrical	Barrie Beard	Yes
Mechanical	Calumet Services LTF	Yes
ETFE Roof	Vector Foiltec	Yes
Builders Work	Zest Construction	Yes
Temporary Works Designs	Shire Consulting	Yes
Groundworks	Walsh Construction	Yes
Agency Labour	RGS Global	Yes
Stonework Restorations	Steve Allard	Yes
Roof Restorations	Atley Roofing	Yes
Brickwork	Mick Fitzgerald	Yes
Demolition	Smiths of Gloucester	Yes
CCTV (Temporary Construction)	WCCTV	Yes
HCL	Drylining	Yes
Lime Plaster	Idland Lime Plaster	Yes
Crittall Style Doors	D & R Design	Yes
Audio Visual	Glantre	Yes
Fire Stopping	TBL	Yes
Courtyard Doors	D&R Design	Yes
Joinery Items	Woodcraft	Yes

## **7.1 – BUILDING CONTROL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

### **7.3 – MATERIALS ACCEPTANCE / SAMPLES/SNAGGING DATES**

<b><u>Sample</u></b>	<b><u>Comment</u></b>	<b><u>Approval Date</u></b>
Brickwork to courtyard	Bricks due to site WC 12/02/2024. (Now received) 10/04/2024 – Complete on site and ready for client review	<b>Approved</b>
Mortar Sample	10/04/2024 – On site Ready for Review	<b>Approved</b>
IPS Colours	White Snowdon VEN 154 Gunmetal VEN349 Shadow VEN350	09/04/2024
Vector Foil Tec Canopy	ET 200 T / DM 4:74 / Light	12/04/2024
Colour Of Curtain Walling	Colour required urgently. RB to comment	Confirmed as RAL 8019 on the 12/06/2024
Lighting Samples	11/06/2024 – Agreed status A with Hydrock for technical. However, Ross does not like some of the fittings. Barrie Beard will cost original fittings and give an uplift in cost that will need instructing.	REF A1 - OK with proposed alternative sample provided Ref A2 – OK with proposed alternative sample provided REF C2 – revert to specified item Ref K1 – revert to specified item Ref J1 – revert to specified item Ref E3 – OK with proposed alternative sample provided Ref E4 – OK with proposed alternative sample provided Ref Exit 1 – revert to specified item Ref G – revert to specified item  All light samples above approved 02&03/09/2024
Colours for the Music Hall	Music Hall Colours issues – 03/07/2024. SML have requested colour match and have ben in dialogue with the paint manufacturer. Matches request to manufacturer 05/07/2024. Advised Howells	All approved as per construction issued drawings 16/08/2024

	on 3 week lead or to match to NCS or standard range. 01/08/2024 – SML require clarity on what finishing colours are required, this needs to be bottomed out and confirmed urgently	
Podium Stone Samples & Courtyard Samples	02/08/2024 – The granite samples have been delivered to site are available to view.  26/09/2024 – Further samples have been delivered to site. SML need clarity on what is to be ordered to meet programme requirement. A CVI has been raised.	14/10/2024 – received updated drawing for podium paving and confirmation of courtyard paving.  .
Joinery Samples	TBC	25/10/2024 – we have received samples for the client and architect to review from our joinery supplier. 20/11/2024 – Further Samples are being delivered by Woodcraft 21/11/2024. 13/11/2024 – Woodcraft are currently carrying out their design works
Blinds	15/10/2024 – The black out fabric has no alternatives, and the cost options are as follow:  Split Blinds – 10k saving Bottom fed Blind – Cost neutral. Please confirm choice by 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 so that we can progress the order.	13/01/2025 – we are currently in the process of completing the order with Swanmac.

## **7.4 SNAGGING & HANDOVER DATES**

We have now reviewed areas for snagging, the areas to be snagged are attached below on marked up drawings and have then been populated into the table below:

<b>Area being snagged</b>	<b>Date of Snag</b>	<b>Actual Snag date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Town Hall Ground Floor	17/03/2025		
Terrace Lift/ Civic Corridor FF	24/03/2025		
Music Hall & Foyer	31/03/2025		
Courtyard, Link & Loading Dock	21/04/2025		
All out of scope area's	28/04/2024		Discussions on King Charles suite and office facilities for podium works to be discussed further.

## **SECTION 8**

### **8.0 – CONSIDERATE CONSTRUCTORS**

No further actions required.

### **8.1 – CCS MONITORS REPORT**

No Further actions required.

### **8.3 – Social Value**

13/01/2024 – We have several further social value tours booked in for February and March.

## **Section 9**

### **9.0 – QUALITY PLAN**

We are carrying out all construction activities on site in accordance and in line with Speller Metcalfe's Quality Plan and ISO9001:2015 Procedures.

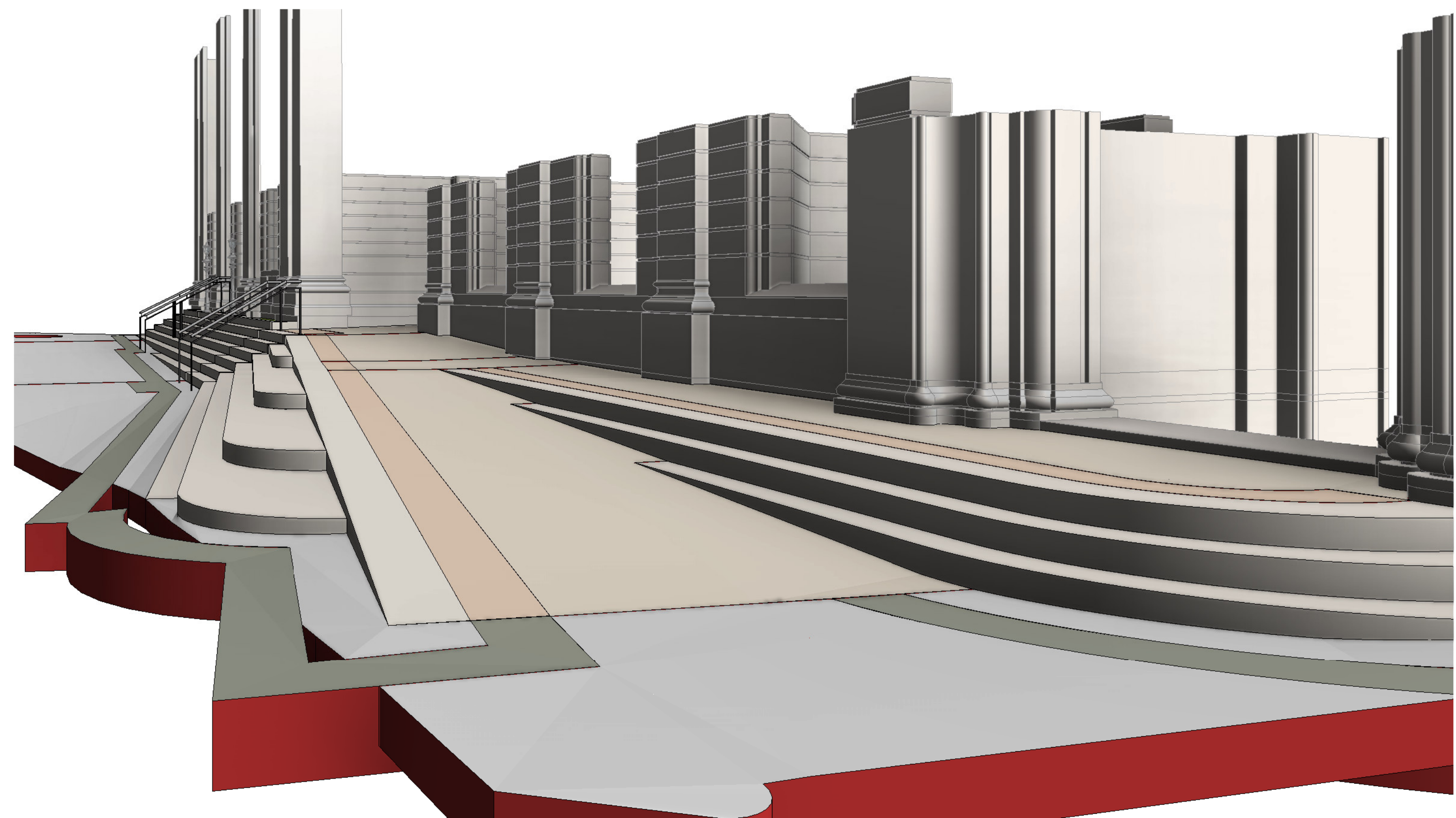
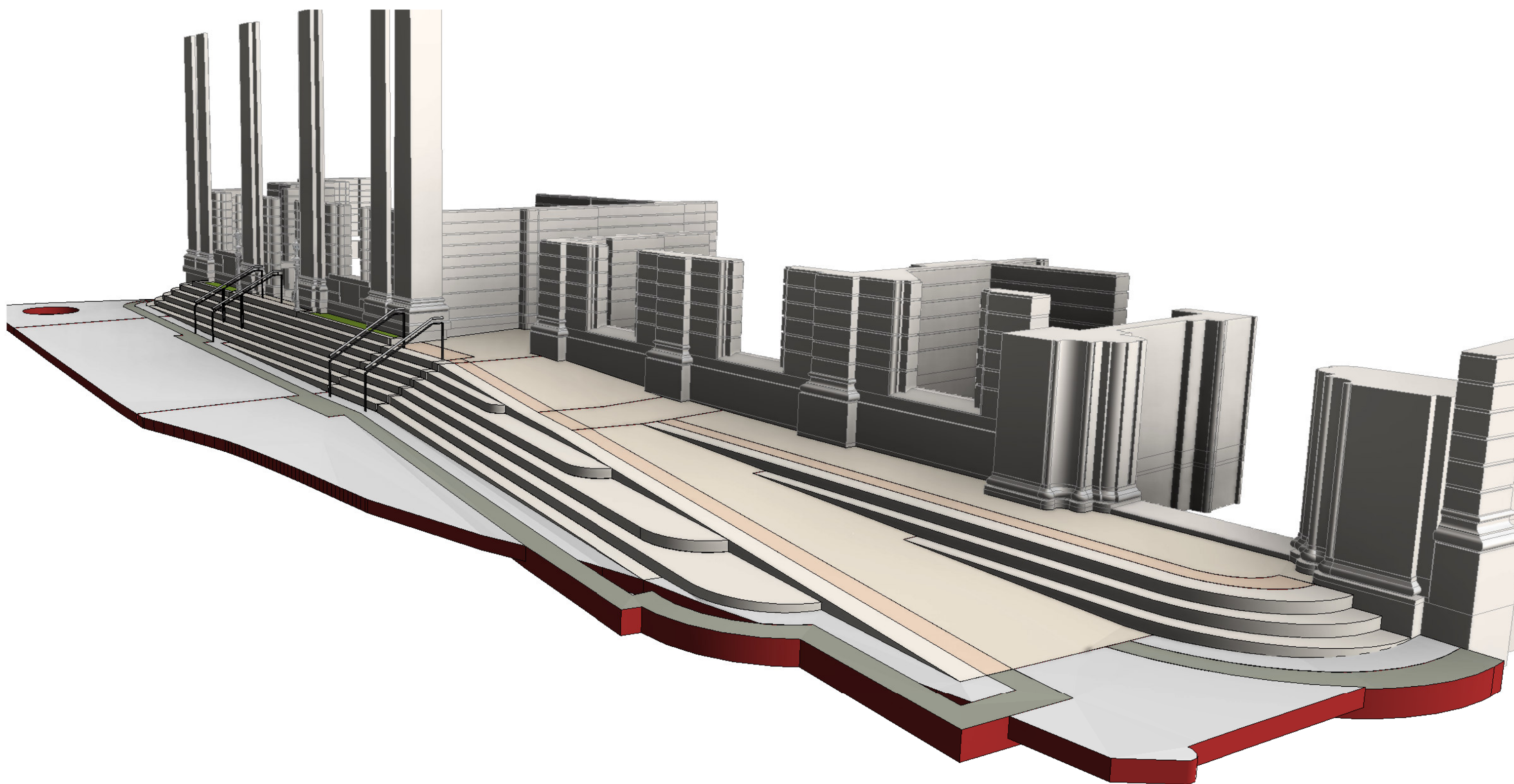
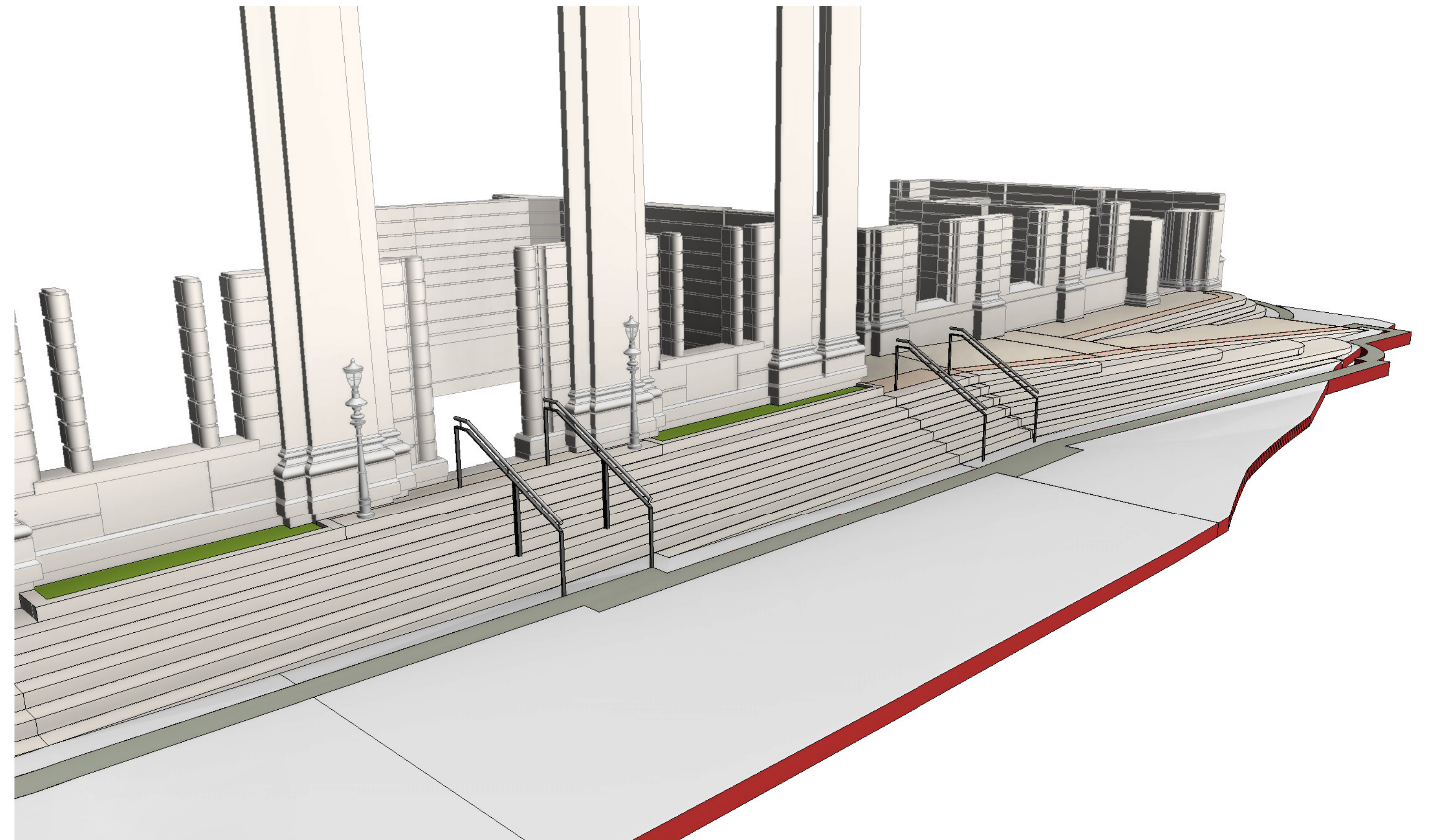
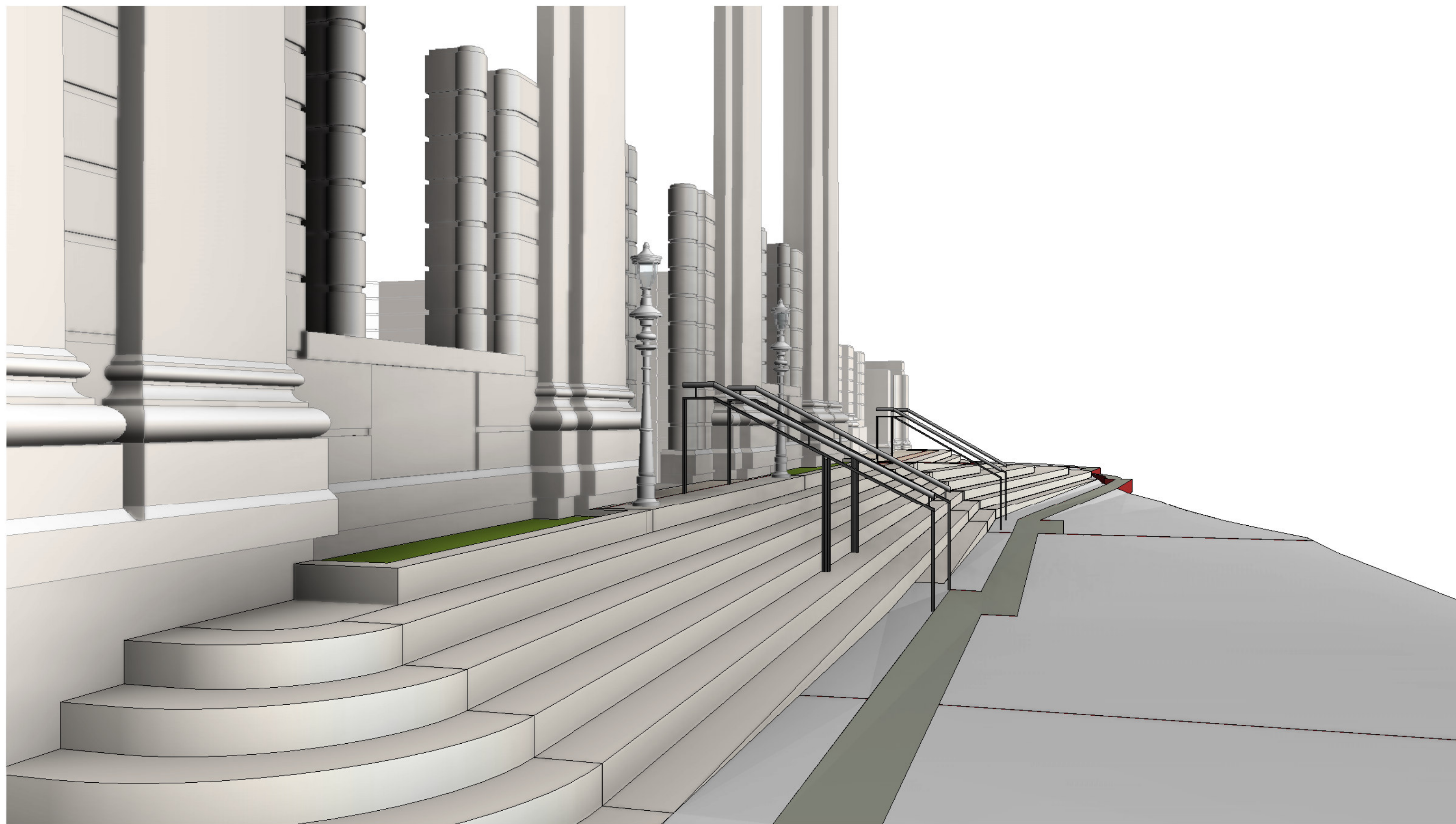
On site quality is to be assessed and monitored via SML Fieldwire and to that end on-site training has taken place with our supply chain to assist in day-to-day records of compliance checking against specs and product guidelines. This training will be ongoing, and it is our intent to capture all trades and to have a fully robust quality plan.


## **Section 10**

### **10.0 – Environmental Reporting**

No Further reports since the last period.





	<div>REVISION   P04</div> <div>DATE   04.09.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	<div>REVISION   P01</div> <div>DATE   25.06.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	CLIENT	Kidderminster Town Council			
	Views updated further to detail development.	First issue.	PROJECT	Kidderminster Town Hall			
	<div>REVISION   P05</div> <div>DATE   10.12.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	<div>REVISION   P02</div> <div>DATE   08.07.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	DRAWING TITLE	External Views			
	Views updated to show revised podium arrangement to accommodate retained BT service cover.	Updated to current proposals.	DRAWING No.	N1247-ONE-ZZ-ZZ-DR-L-0004	REVISION	P05	
	<div>REVISION   P03</div> <div>DATE   30.08.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	<div>REVISION   P03</div> <div>DATE   30.08.24</div> <div>BY   AB</div> <div>CHECKED   JB</div>	STATUS	Preliminary			
	Updated to current proposals.	Updated to current proposals.	SCALE	@ A1	DATE	25.06.24	





LEGEND	
S01	<b>Stone Paving (Podium Concourse)</b> Marshalls Brownridge Sandstone (or equal approved). Colour: Buff. Finish: Blasted. Size: 597x900x63mm thick (all sides sawn).
S02a	<b>Stone Paving (Step Tread)</b> Marshalls Brownridge Sandstone (or equal approved). Colour: Buff. Finish: Blasted. Sizes: As detailed (all sides sawn). Refer to Stone Unit Details, sheets 0602-0610.
S02b	<b>Stone Paving (Access Step Tread)</b> Marshalls Brownridge Sandstone (or equal approved). Colour: Buff with contrasting visibility inlay strip in Proteus Granite. Finish: Blasted (Brownridge); Flamed (Proteus Granite). Sizes: As detailed (all sides sawn). Refer to Stone Unit Details, sheets 0602-0610.
S03	<b>Stone Paving Hazard Warning Paving</b> Marshalls Brownridge Sandstone hazard warning paving (or equal approved). Colour: Buff. Finish: Flamed. Profile: Ribbed. Size: 447x397x63mm thick (all sides sawn).
S04	<b>Grey Granite Hazard Warning Paving</b> Marshalls Proteus Granite (or equal approved). Finish: Flamed. Profile: Ribbed. Size: 447x397x63mm thick (all sides sawn).
S05	<b>Existing Retained Paving</b> Existing paving to be retained/ re-laid as necessary following construction of the podium works
	<b>Hazard Warning Bars</b> Stainless steel hazard warning strips, secured to surface material to manufacturer's recommendations. Size: 20mm wide x 990mm long x 6mm high. Finish: cross-grip serrations to top profile. Strips to extend to overall depth of 800mm in accordance with Part M Regulations.
	<b>Stone Planters</b> Marshalls Brownridge Sandstone (or equal approved). Colour: Buff. Finish: Blasted. Size: As detailed (all sides sawn). Refer to Stone Unit Details, sheets 0602-0610 for details.
	<b>Brickslot Drainage Channel</b> AS1010 Grade 316 stainless steel brick slot drainage channel by ACO (or equal approved)
R01	<b>PPC Steel Handrail</b> Ppc galvanised steel handrail fixed to ppc galvanised steel support posts. Refer to design intent proposals for details. Handrail Colour: Anodite 545 Bronze; Size: 50mm dia. Post Colour: Black/ Brown RAL 8019.
OP	<b>Ornamental Planting (Type 1)</b> Planting to be planted within min. 450mm depth premium grade topsoil to BS3682:2015.
	<b>Existing Stone Walls &amp; Steps</b> To be carefully dismantled and stored in Client's store (subject to Local Authority approval)
F02	<b>Existing relocated decorative columns</b> Columns to be carefully removed from stone piers to Music Hall, refurbished/adapted as agreed with client and repositioned in new locations. With new lanterns to M&E consultant's specification

NOTES

1. Concrete mortar jointing system to natural stone paving to be as follows:  
A. Sandstone paving: Steintec tufftop jointing mortar (Colour: Beige), or equal approved.  
B. Dark Grey Granite: Steintec tufftop jointing mortar (Colour: Dark grey), or equal approved.  
C. Silver Grey Granite: Steintec tufftop jointing mortar (Colour: Natural grey), or equal approved.

2. All rigid paving joints to be 6mm.

3. Bedding mortar system to natural stone paving to be Steintec tuffbed 2-pack, or equal approved.

4. All service covers in paved areas to have recessed lids, aligned to adjacent paving bond direction. Infill paving to recessed lids to match adjacent paving mix and laying bond.

5. For details of stone step units and terrace cladding units, refer to Stone Unit Details, sheets 0602-0610

REVISION | P10

DATE | 06.01.25

BY | AB

CHECKED | JB

Annotation updates following internal review. Handrail details updated to match architectural metalwork specification.

REVISION | P11

DATE | 16.01.25

BY | AB

CHECKED | JB

Handrail reintroduced to North of Town Hall entrance.

REVISION | P07

DATE | 11.10.24

BY | AB

CHECKED | JB

Stone paving specification amended to Marshalls products following review

REVISION | P08

DATE | 06.12.24

BY | AB

CHECKED | JB

Podium arrangement updated to accommodate retained BT cover position.

REVISION | P09

DATE | 20.12.24

BY | AB

CHECKED | JB

S01b paving removed and replaced with S01 specification following review.

CLIENT

Kidderminster Town Council

PROJECT

Kidderminster Town Hall

DRAWING TITLE

Site Plan

DRAWING No.

N1247-ONE-ZZ-ZZ-DR-L-0001

REVISION

P11

STATUS

Preliminary

SCALE

1: 100

@ A1

DATE

07.03.23

DRAWN BY

AB

0100metres

124

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## **Kidderminster Town Council meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025.**

### **Agenda item 8: Public Consultation report**

To receive the report on the Council's public consultation.

#### **Kidderminster Town Council – Our Services consultation report**

##### **Aim**

Kidderminster Town Council (KTC) carried out a survey to gauge opinion on the services it runs and what residents' priorities are for the town. The aim of the survey was to help inform the Council when deciding its vision and future budgets.

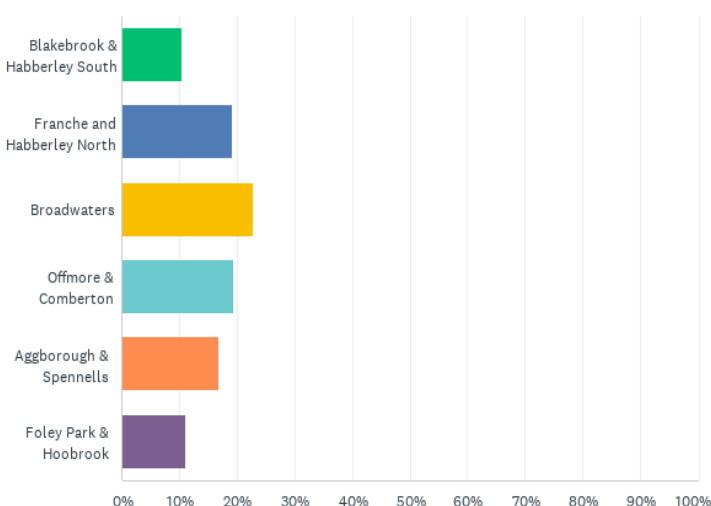
##### **Methodology**

An online survey was launched on Monday 28 October. Hard copies of the survey were also made available. KTC promoted the survey via a press release, advertisement, on social media and through members of the Council. An in-person ( 11<sup>th</sup> November at 45 Live) and online session (7.00 pm, 14<sup>th</sup> November) were also organised. The consultation was also highlighted in Wyre Forest District Council's consultation newsletter, its monthly newsletter to residents and on its social media platforms. The survey closed on Sunday 1 December.

##### **Response**

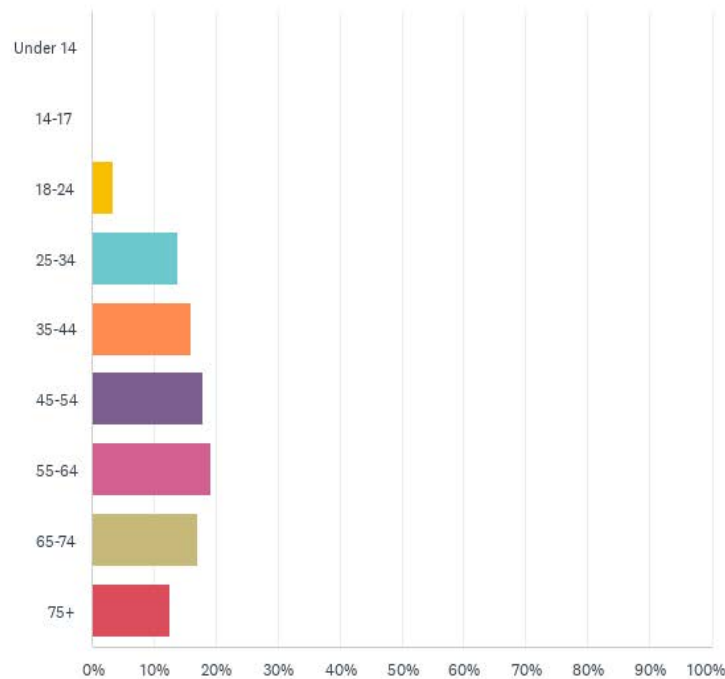
A total of 669 responses were received. The vast majority were submitted online (649), with 20 responses returned in hard copy. The graph below shows that of those residents who provided data for the question regarding where they live (446), there was a good spread of responses from across the town. Most responses were from the Broadwaters area.

Q15 Which area of the town do you live in? If you are not sure you can check on our map.  
Map of Kidderminster areas



There was also a fairly good spread of responses across the age categories. Most responses were received from those who fell into the 55-64 bracket. The graph below show that under 4% of respondents said they were between 14 and 24. Nobody under the age of 14 answered this question.

## Q16 Which age range do you fall into?



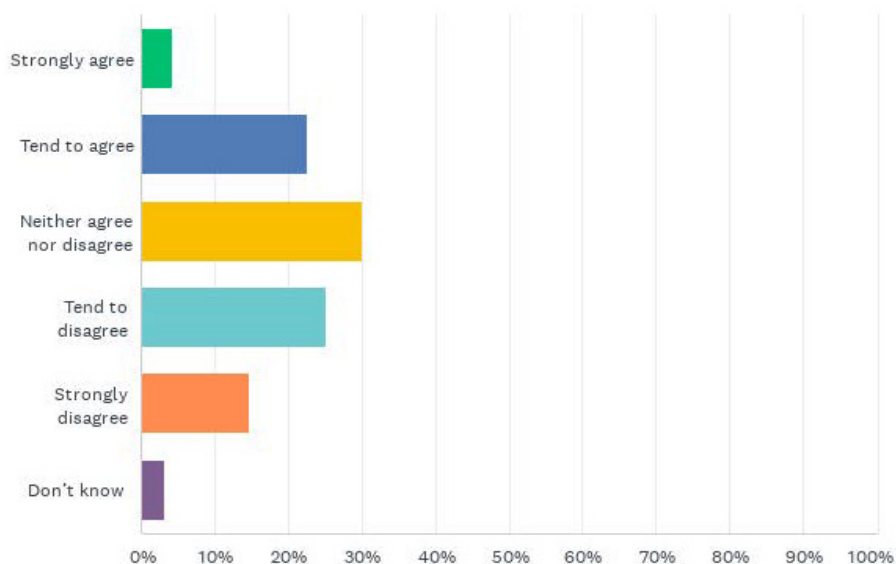
### Key Findings

#### Satisfaction Levels

About a half of respondents (50.49%) reported being 'Very satisfied' or 'Fairly satisfied' with Kidderminster as a place to live. Around a fifth were 'Neither Satisfied nor dissatisfied' (21%). 7% of respondents said they were very dissatisfied.

When asked about the way KTC runs its services 35% expressed satisfaction, 33% were neutral, while 10% said they were very dissatisfied.

More than a quarter of respondents (26.78%) felt KTC provides value for money, however 40% felt that it does not.



Respondents also felt that KTC does not act on the concerns of local residents. 57% replied they felt it acts 'Not very much' or 'Not at all' on their concerns.

For reference: The Local Government Association ( for principal and unitary authorities) measures resident satisfaction with Councils every four months. In the latest results (October – November 2024):

- 74 per cent of respondents are 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their local area as a place to live.
- 56 per cent of respondents are 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with the way their local Council runs things.
- 36 per cent of respondents 'strongly agree' or 'tend to agree' that their Council provides value for money – and 31 per cent neither agree nor disagree.
- 53 per cent of respondents think their local Council acts on the concerns of residents 'a great deal' or 'a fair amount'.

## Priorities

	TOP PRIORITY	SECOND PRIORITY	THIRD PRIORITY	TOTAL
Localism – taking on more green spaces and assets from the District Council to protect their future for the community	33.68% 32	34.74% 33	31.58% 30	95
Representation – Kidderminster Town Council is the only democratically elected body which represents the town of Kidderminster. We are working to make Kidderminster a better place to live, work and play. We use our democratic power to make sure that Kidderminster's voice is heard in local and regional forums and being present in all local groups and spaces, for example:- we comment on all planning applications in the Town Council area- we work with other strategic partners (the District Council, West Mercia Police, the Business Improvement District and other community and voluntary organisations).	55.71% <b>78</b>	20.00% 28	24.29% 34	140
Future proofing/capital investments – getting capital grants and funding to acquire or update buildings and spaces for the community and services, like our Town Hall projects, the bandstand in St. George's Park and funding for biodiversity policies.	33.53% 58	34.68% 60	31.79% 55	173
Community, culture and events – providing free access to events and opportunities to celebrate arts, heritage and culture such as Christmas Lights switch on event and Remembrance Sunday	23.03% 41	35.96% 64	41.01% 73	178
Presentation of the town – street cleaning, street furniture, statues and memorials, putting up floral displays and other initiatives to improve the presentation of the town	36.92% <b>96</b>	40.00% 104	23.08% 60	260
Upkeep of parks and open spaces – maintaining our parks and the play areas	42.68% <b>105</b>	30.49% 75	26.83% 66	246
Providing allotments - making land available for residents to have allotments and coordinating the group who manage the allotments	11.67% 7	43.33% 26	45.00% 27	60
Public conveniences - owning and maintaining the toilets in Market Street	26.61% 29	36.70% 40	36.70% 40	109
Town Markets - commissioning a company to run a market in the town centre. This is currently LSD promotions.	33.33% 39	23.93% 28	42.74% 50	117

Respondents were asked to pick their top three areas of work which they would like KTC to prioritise. **‘Presentation of the town’** had the most votes to be in the top three (260), closely followed by **‘Upkeep of parks and open spaces’** (246). **‘Community, culture and events’** was in third place (178) but ‘Future proofing/capital investments’ had just 5 fewer votes. The priority which got the most votes for first priority was ‘Upkeep of parks and open spaces’ (105).

Respondents were given the chance to give an open-ended response to how KTC could improve in these areas. Here are a few of the specific issues highlighted:

- Many respondents emphasized reopening St. George’s paddling pool, citing its importance for community wellbeing. (NB In the final question, there were comments about the paddling pool which were not supportive of it reopening.)
- Concerns about the town's overall presentation, including litter, graffiti, and street maintenance.
- Calls to attract new businesses to the town centre to replace empty shops and revitalise trade.
- Suggestions to reduce Council waste and increase efficiency.
- Initiatives for enhancing local culture and events (e.g., concerts, festivals).
- Improving safety, addressing homelessness, and tackling anti-social behaviour in the town.
- Recurring themes included preserving green spaces, better communication about Council initiatives, and focusing on community-driven projects.
- Many expressed dissatisfaction with perceived duplication of Council efforts and advocated for streamlined services.
- Attract businesses to the town centre through tax incentives and promoting local markets.
- Develop derelict buildings and provide affordable spaces for small businesses.
- Collaborate with local police to address anti-social behaviour and improve public safety.

## **Kidderminster Town Hall**

There was strong support for using the Town Hall to its full potential with more than 78% saying it was ‘very important’, ‘fairly important’ or ‘important’.

### **Water feature**

The sentiment towards the Town Hall contrasts with that towards the water feature. 48% felt that it was ‘not at all important’ to have the water feature on the town’s ring road switched on more frequently. However, when asked if they would pay an extra 20p a year for it to be switched on more frequently, 42% said they would.

### **St George’s Park – paddling pool**

35% of respondents felt it was ‘very important’ to reopen the paddling pool in St George’s Park and 35% said they felt that it was ‘not at all important’. There was a fairly even split between those willing to pay an extra £2 per year for the repairs and maintenance costs too. 52% saying they would pay more Council Tax and 46% said they would not be willing.

Of the 147 people who answered the ‘where do you live question’ AND said the paddling pool was ‘very important’ 55 were from Broadwaters and 35 were from Offmore and Comberton. The paddling pool featured heavily in the open-ended questions.

## **Other key themes**

Respondents were also asked if there were any other areas of work they felt they would like KTC to take on. The main themes of the replies included:

- Regeneration of the town – people were unhappy with the Bull Ring car park areas of the town. They wanted the Council to help to fill empty shops/buildings, work to attract more businesses/visitors. They want the Council to have a bigger involvement in developments, a greater say in planning and help raise the profile of town.
- Respondents said they felt the Council should be working closer with businesses and working to increase footfall in the town.
- Some respondents felt that they did not have a clear understanding of the three tiers of local government. Other said they did not want KTC to take on any more and felt it should concentrate on improving the services it currently provides.
- Some of the other key themes mentioned were help to tackle antisocial behaviour in the town, providing more for teens to do, helping the homeless and working with partners to improve public transport and street cleaning.

(The full responses to the Consultation are attached, for information)

## **Responding to the Consultation**

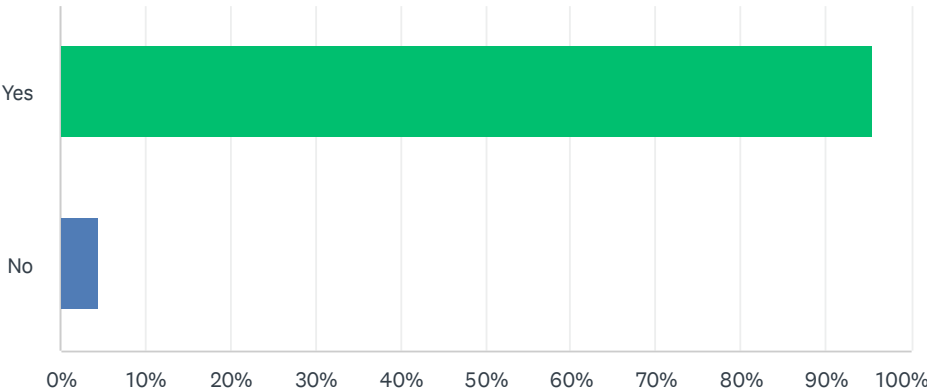
1. The key priorities outlined above will be reflected in the Council's Vision for 2025 to 2029.
2. The Town Council will work to raise its profile and to clarify the functions allocated across the 3 tiers of local government working for Kidderminster.
3. The Town Council is democratically elected to run the business of Kidderminster Town Council. This allows the Council the opportunity to act as “The Voice of Kidderminster” and to promote the interests and concerns of the people of Kidderminster.

Hugh Peacocke, Chief Executive Officer

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Q1 Please confirm you live in Kidderminster

Answered: 669    Skipped: 3

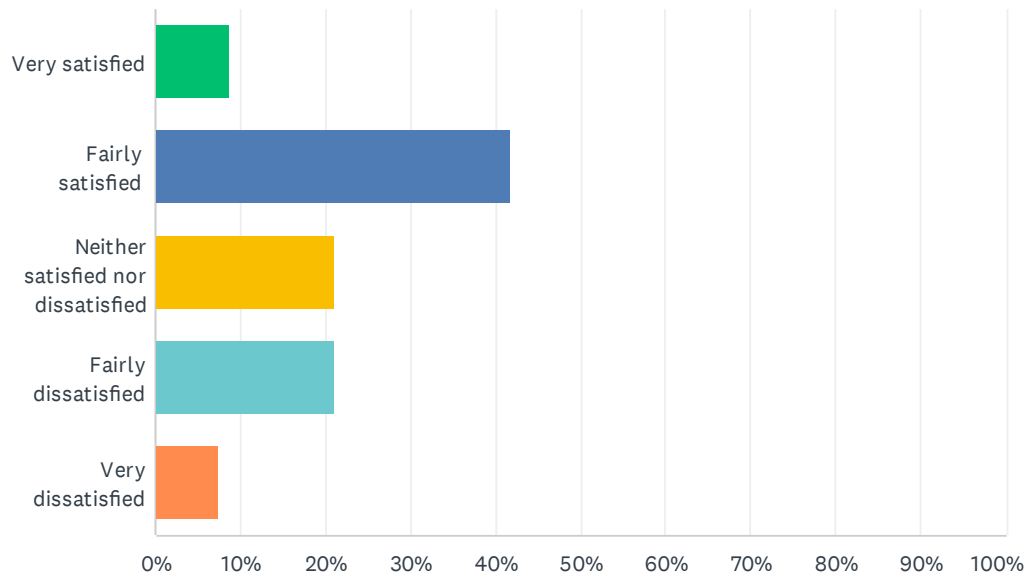


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	95.52%	639
No	4.48%	30
TOTAL		669



## Q2 How satisfied are you with Kidderminster as a place to live?

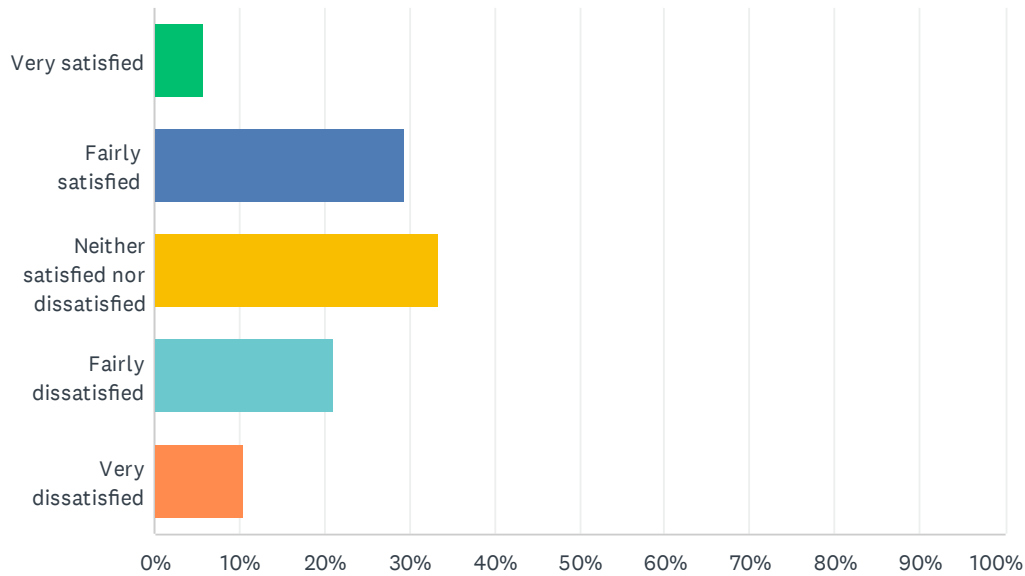
Answered: 618 Skipped: 54



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	8.74%	54
Fairly satisfied	41.75%	258
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	21.04%	130
Fairly dissatisfied	21.04%	130
Very dissatisfied	7.44%	46
TOTAL		618

### Q3 How satisfied are you with the way Kidderminster Town Council runs its services?

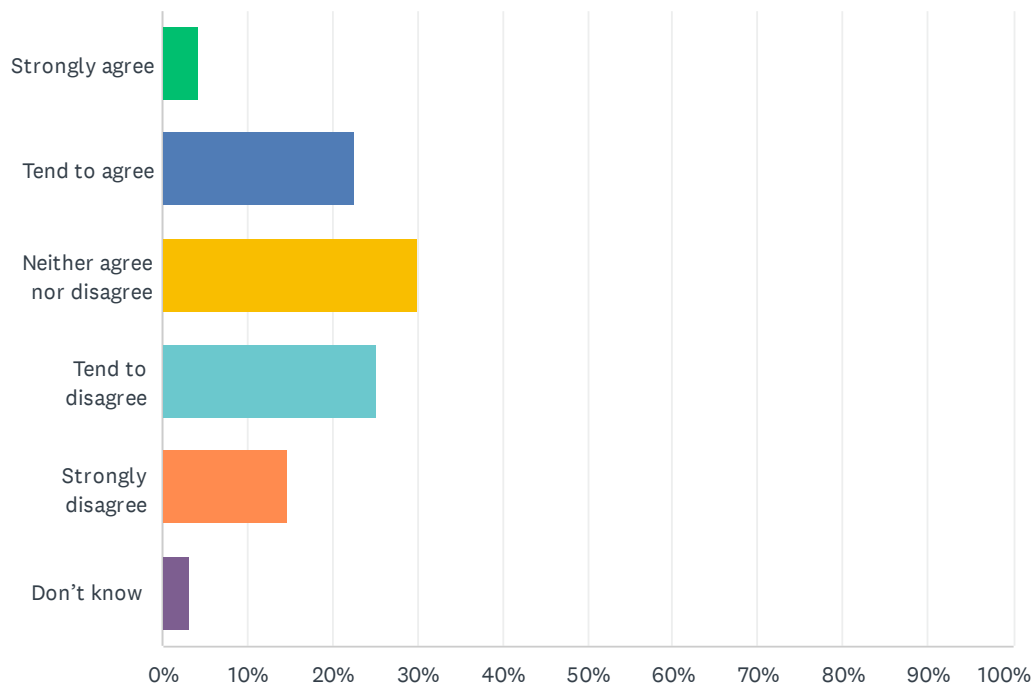
Answered: 607 Skipped: 65



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	5.77%	35
Fairly satisfied	29.32%	178
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	33.44%	203
Fairly dissatisfied	21.09%	128
Very dissatisfied	10.38%	63
TOTAL		607

**Q4 In considering the next question, please think about the range of services Kidderminster Town Council provides to the community as a whole, as well as the services your household uses. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Kidderminster Town Council provides value for money?**

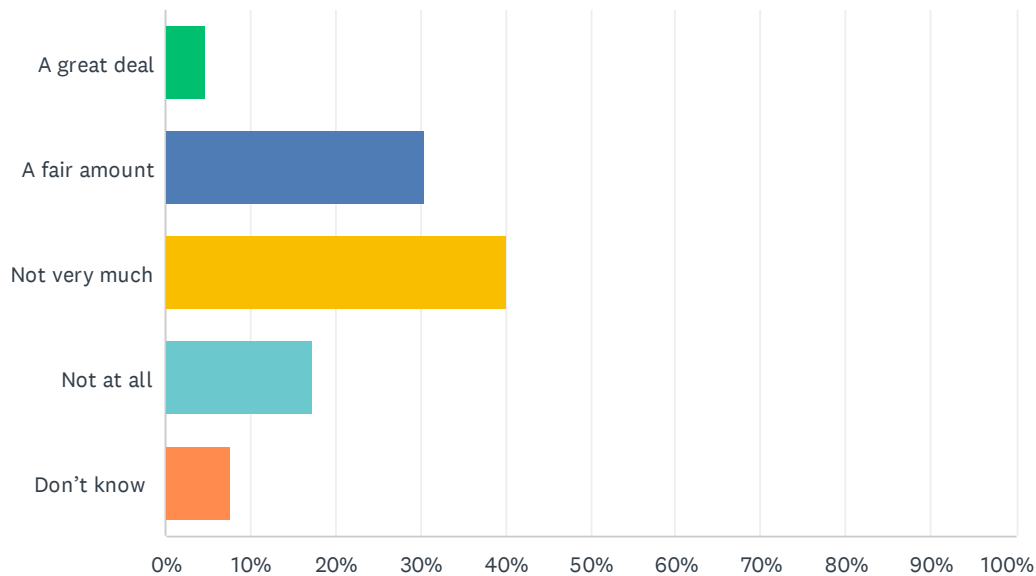
Answered: 590 Skipped: 82



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	4.24%	25
Tend to agree	22.54%	133
Neither agree nor disagree	30.00%	177
Tend to disagree	25.25%	149
Strongly disagree	14.75%	87
Don't know	3.22%	19
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>590</b>

## Q5 To what extent do you think Kidderminster Town Council acts on the concerns of local residents?

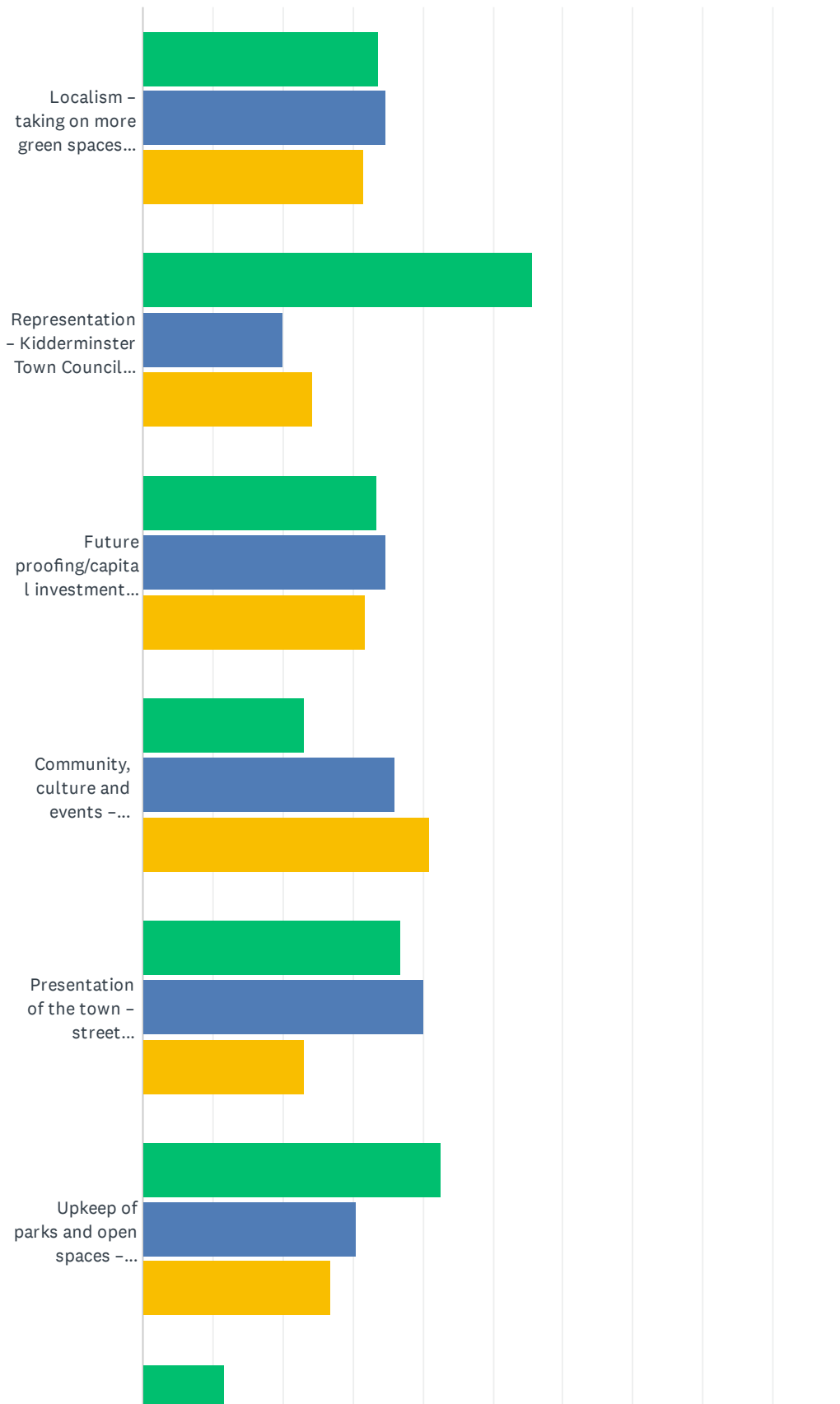
Answered: 580 Skipped: 92



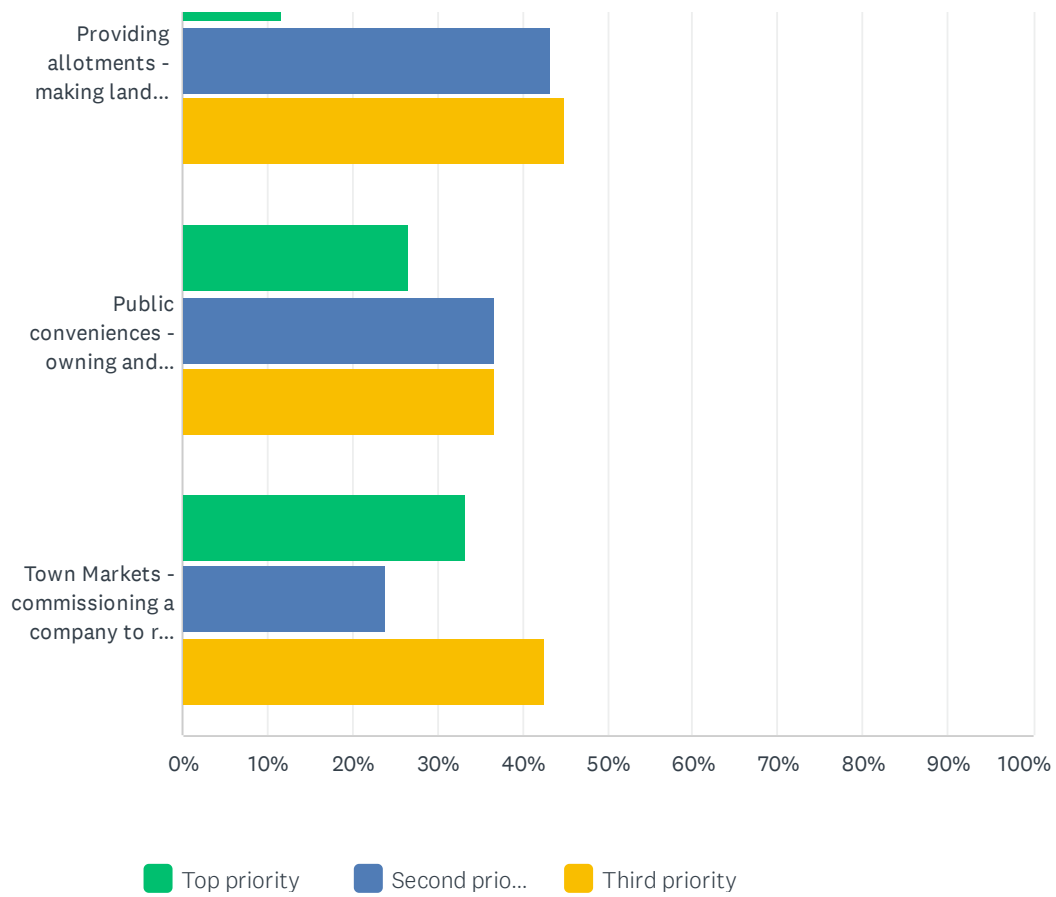
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A great deal	4.66%	27
A fair amount	30.52%	177
Not very much	40.00%	232
Not at all	17.24%	100
Don't know	7.59%	44
TOTAL		580

**Q6 From the following list, please select the top three areas of work which you feel we should prioritise and focus our energies and resources on:**

Answered: 488 Skipped: 184



## Have your say - our services



## Have your say - our services

	TOP PRIORITY	SECOND PRIORITY	THIRD PRIORITY	TOTAL
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Town Markets - commissioning a company to run a market in the town centre. This is currently LSD promotions.	33.33% 39	23.93% 28	42.74% 50	117

## Q7 How could we improve any of the areas of work you ranked in your top three in the last question?

Answered: 305    Skipped: 367

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Improve the litter problem and graffiti	12/2/2024 4:59 PM
2	work with BID to get more shops occupied. to provide a "warm hub" to get homeless people off the streets. Remove the town centre "record stacks" and replace with good seating. overnight street washing ( as on continent)	12/2/2024 4:53 PM
3	providing tribute groups as ..... town hall it has to pay its way.	12/2/2024 4:49 PM
4	Quicker action in deciding to solve problems that arise in green areas of the community-eg bridge in Springfield park. Better seating in the town centre.	12/2/2024 4:43 PM
5	Public conveniences: How much do you liaise with other providers? Swan Centre: Kidderminster has a talent for theirs being out of order busiest day of the week thursday/ market Day. Rowland Hill: out of order 9 months recently; frequently partially out of order since. ( Incidentally, escalators to both shopping centres often out of order.) Parks: Brintons Park: any publicity information about access needs to emphasise served by bus: -1. Incoming route No. 8 half hourly. 2. Nearby route No. 3- 3 buses/ hour, Sunday hourly.	12/2/2024 4:34 PM
6	the town council needs to challenge WFDC on their schemes. For instance, the tow park!! (Woolworths) and the Bull Ring car park. Also, the the town centre paving/ street furniture- it's rubbish, looks crap and is unsightly,	12/2/2024 4:26 PM
7	more hanging baskets and a floral display similar to what was there on Comberton Hill roundabout ( where the old Glades leisure centre was). Plant more trees in the parks and open spaces. More trees planted on Comberton Hill.	12/2/2024 4:23 PM
8	It would be good to get back to Kidderminster council al the services that used to be run by the old Kidderminster Town Council. Local items controlled by a local council.	12/2/2024 4:17 PM
9	continue to apply for funding/grants to continue the work being done.	12/2/2024 4:10 PM
10	work with heritage Charity to fund the waterfall. Use the empty shops, display items. Let schools use them to show their work, instead of being empty. keep the streets clean, collect litter and paint graffiti. Do something with the car park where the post office was. Let the police use a shop for local policing. Help people feel safe. there needs to be free activities for group[s] to use, people with mental health issues, learning disability and physical disability.	12/2/2024 4:04 PM
11	Take on more public toilets. get a real local market operator, not a 3rd party contractor. Town Centre cleaners, employed, not third party contractors, people who live here. use an empty shop for you to be there and accessible, have volunteers to help people fill in forms or signpost to services	12/2/2024 3:53 PM
12	More could be done to clean up Kidderminster	12/2/2024 3:48 PM
13	Better access from Comberton Hill to the town centre. The underpass is not that safe as an access route/.	12/2/2024 3:45 PM
14	Access from railway station through a grotty underpass does not encourage people to comew into town, a better access would encourage more footfall ( fill it in?)	12/2/2024 3:41 PM
15	Street Cleaning	12/2/2024 3:38 PM
16	not sure	12/2/2024 3:32 PM
17	Waste of money on the green space where Woolworths was demolished it will eventually turn into a litter and beer can waste land instead of spending money and turning those buildings into apartments no excuses about not enough of parking alot of people choose not to have a car either working from home or ideally near a great train station a chance there was completely wasted by people who make stupid decisions the town back in the day was a great place to shop now a town split in two part now with rows of closed down shops the other part sometimes hard to access because of the amount of traffic plus all the expensive parking which doesn't encourage shoppers the fines you pay if you park a minute over that's	12/1/2024 7:31 PM



## Have your say - our services

why people shop online no real future in kidderminster ever being a successful shopping area again.

18	Continue working with BID in promoting the Town to increase footfall and attendance at events	11/30/2024 4:50 PM
19	Stop wasting money on people and activities who abuse the system and don't want to be part of the community.	11/30/2024 4:04 PM
20	Ensure that views re the town are reflective of residents and their concerns are listened to at every level ie district, county too.	11/29/2024 6:57 AM
21	I think our parks and play areas should be a priority and have more exciting fun play areas for kids around every park giving our children more fun and entertainment. As well as more football goals and basketball hoops. Fixing broken play areas quickly when broken or vandalised.	11/28/2024 5:16 PM
22	Make it clearer whose responsibility it is for grass cutting, tree care, road signs, maintenance within the Kidderminster Town boundaries. Be a more powerful voice on planning applications and ensure less unapproved land grabs and property alterations by residents takes place. Example many years ago a near neighbour decided to incorporate a vehicle access directly from his property into Captains Pool Road and was forced to remove it and reinstate the pavement and kerb - just recently another person has decided to incorporate a parking place on land (which I think may be council property) and make a dropped kerb access onto Captains Pool Road which I understood was prohibited - how to regulate?	11/28/2024 2:22 PM
23	Presentation and events/markets could be improved with much more offered and certainly better promoted for attendance. Relying solely on Facebook for promoting events is not appropriate. More inventive methods of PR and communication should be explored working with local newspapers or newsletters going from schools or other groups. Working more closely with ALL the local groups within Kidderminster and improving stakeholder relations overall would certainly improve things. The Council is not very good at communicating the work that it does apart from posting on Facebook (which is the easiest option).	11/28/2024 1:09 PM
24	I do not believe Kidderminster Town Council represents value for money. It is a means the District Council can pass over services it cannot afford to run within the council tax increase limits, that parish councils such as KTC are not subject to. I believe KTC should be folded and Worcestershire to become a comprehensive unitary authority.	11/27/2024 2:47 PM
25	Prioritise and work with WFDC to utilise brown field sites, abandoned/derelict buildings and regeneration of the old town centre to provide services and homes	11/27/2024 8:49 AM
26	Encourage growing your own and encouraging local growers as the government policy is to destroy farming and cause food shortages, through land grabs and disadvantaging farmers.	11/26/2024 6:05 PM
27	Na	11/26/2024 4:30 PM
28	Get children of all ages involved with planting flowers plants trees in parks, such as a young gardening club. Upkeep of park furniture especially Borington Road park, which due to vandalism is now closed. Looking forward to seeing the new area in town where Woolworths was. Places like Shrewsbury have a dingle, lovely plants area where people can sit. At the minute we travel to Bewdley to their town park which is lovely.	11/26/2024 11:11 AM
29	Representing the needs and aspirations of residents.	11/26/2024 7:12 AM
30	Need to make the town of Kidderminster an attractive place to go. The building of multi occupancy dwellings is attracting the wrong type of people to the town centre. The green space that is supposed to be build in the wake of Woolworth and Littlewoods will just attract junkies and trouble. There is a major need to get a marquee store...Primark a shop made for Kidderminster. Even if it is rent free for a period of time to regenerate the old town. Look at what Worcester have done with their town.	11/25/2024 1:53 PM
31	Stop the joyriders in loud cars driving around at high speeds at night time	11/24/2024 9:18 AM
32	Our parks are in need of better investment, better toilets in brintons park, refreshments etc, St George need the paddling pool ungraded the list goes on	11/24/2024 8:50 AM
33	Keep these areas free of litter. More green spaces for fresh air, wildlife and exercise.	11/23/2024 10:37 PM
34	Protecting green belt areas. Making the town centre vibrant again - way too many empty shops	11/23/2024 9:06 PM
35	We don't really need 3 tiers of local councillors	11/23/2024 2:24 PM

## Have your say - our services

36	Cheaper rent for shops and markets so we can have more empty spaces filled to bring people back to our town	11/23/2024 1:33 PM
37	Planing to help with traffic congestion.	11/23/2024 12:54 PM
38	CCTV cameras everywhere . Security in local parks	11/23/2024 12:39 PM
39	Get more investment in town and get empty shops open with more traders other than charity shops	11/23/2024 12:18 PM
40	Na	11/22/2024 4:14 PM
41	Ensure public buildings are maintained and improved, enhance the floral displays in the town centre	11/21/2024 5:10 PM
42	Make Kidderninster an inviting place to be and visitors to visit, particularly the town centre.	11/20/2024 5:25 PM
43	Improve town centre. Get rid of record benches, install proper wooden benches.	11/20/2024 11:41 AM
44	Remove beggars etc to make Kidderminster a more appealing place to shop	11/19/2024 8:26 PM
45	Its great to see the current town Mayor out and about alot. It would be good to see future Mayors doing the same. When the town hall re opens it needs to be utilised to its full potential.	11/19/2024 10:08 AM
46	The christmas lights showcase was brilliant this year, however the lights themselves are dated and boring with many not working, these require money.	11/16/2024 11:43 PM
47	To have a vibrant town centre you need a more diverse shops, I think shops which sell more natural porduce, such has locally grown fruit and vegetables, which contain more organic products and more butchers which sell locally sourced meat. This would encourage more people into the town, who want to support local farmer's, and would be competition to the supermarkets, who at present have a monopoly. Also local parks could run events, for fitness and wellbeing and more could be done to encourage nature. If town centre was well presented, it would encourage more visitors to come.	11/15/2024 5:07 PM
48	Sack people who do not do their jobs properly. Sack racist, ineffective people. Have a follow up procedure, have people done what they should have?	11/14/2024 10:25 PM
49	Find a better street market provider	11/14/2024 11:49 AM
50	Clean up the town as a whole	11/13/2024 10:51 PM
51	Providing finance for St georges pool	11/13/2024 9:13 PM
52	Work with the private sector to attract more capital investment into retail space and physical community building projects. Continue to apply for Government grants to support the same.	11/13/2024 7:31 PM
53	making residents more aware of the role of the Town Council	11/13/2024 7:16 PM
54	Only when an item is started...	11/13/2024 4:26 PM
55	I feel there is too much reliance on the Friends groups to maintain the parks YOU are responsible for	11/13/2024 3:20 PM
56	Need to have more events from the town hall when it re opens. It is a disgrace that this has taken so long,	11/13/2024 2:41 PM
57	Focus on attractions for the town, theatre, a real concert venue that books B list acts	11/13/2024 2:19 PM
58	Well how our council tax as shot up year on year you must have plenty of works to keep the town clean!	11/13/2024 1:55 PM
59	We need to protect all of our green spaces, people need to be able to go to places and de-stress just by being in the open air. It is very important for our mental health health and our environment. As much as I see the need for housing, stop taking away our environment and use brown sites and concentrate on protecting our environment	11/13/2024 1:05 PM
60	Not sure bur know ow these things are important to local people	11/13/2024 11:54 AM
61	Representation, future proofing and Community and culture events are the three key areas of work for the Town Council which need to interlink to ensure that Kidderminster grows. Without establishing a clear picture of what services it needs to be responsible for to achieve the best for the town and then gaining agreement with the district and county councils how taking over this repsonsibility can come into effect is paramount - coming along with this would be financial resources to support it. Once this is clarified then future proofing and developing community awareness through events would be on a much firmer	11/13/2024 10:35 AM

## Have your say - our services

footing. Working with other organisations outside the council's remit such as SVR, KHFC or local heritage organisations such as the Museum of Carpet to develop community awareness is also key.

62	Improve facilities in parks to make them more attractive to visit- cafes, toilets etc. Other authorities manage this.	11/12/2024 6:32 PM
63	I think the 3 I ranked top should also, in one way or another, relate to and include all of the other options which are equally important	11/12/2024 4:12 PM
64	Remove all the drongos, druggies and drinks that loiter around the town centre making it feel an unwelcoming town that is full of lowlifes. Also campaign for the abolition of the District Council. It's ridiculous that we have three tiers of council. It is even more ridiculous that there is a Town Council planning committee that only acts as a consultee to WFDC where the decisions are actually made. Duplication at the tax payers' expense! Get rid! Also, ban councillors sitting on multiple authorities. If someone represents the same are at 2 or 3 different levels, what's the point? Yet more duplication.	11/12/2024 1:09 PM
65	More frequent litter picking. Liase with police for more visibility to deal with drunks and anti social behaviour. The market needs to expand and have more diverse products. Develop the former BHF site which has been an eyesore for years. Provide somewhere warm for the homeless.	11/12/2024 9:51 AM
66	The sense of community is missing from Kidderminster, people who live here talk about it badly and the town is rough	11/11/2024 4:29 PM
67	focus on the maintenance of the services you are responsible for	11/11/2024 11:50 AM
68	By listening to the people of Kidderminster before making major decisions that are likely to affect the overall well being of residents.	11/11/2024 10:23 AM
69	Street cleaning, litter bin emptying, general maintenance of public areas, parks etc to make Kidderminster a pleasant place to live and walk in.	11/11/2024 7:48 AM
70	Provide markets every day or 3 times a week of the quality they used to be. The Town is dying through lack of love for it and providing a vibrant number of independent shops. Parking too expensive to attract people. In Devon they are making parking for 4 hours £2 from 2 November to end of March 2025. You should to the same to attract people here.	11/10/2024 11:09 PM
71	Plenty of rubbish bins that are emptied.Could do with more toilets not just one lot.A good variety of market stalls to attract people	11/10/2024 9:31 PM
72	Stop spending money on the "old boys and your own seat" two projects have been completed on the Town Hall and we have no retailers in our shops! Reduce some rates and get some retailers interested. Approach someone like Primark get someone into the town to bring in shoppers and more investment into support for new businesses. Stop spending on projects that have nothing to do with 99% of residents.	11/10/2024 6:29 PM
73	Renew st George's pool!!! At no extra cost to public	11/10/2024 5:01 PM
74	Every town centre suffered through recent years but to attact new retail it has to be tidied up. The drinking groups, the awful seating on the record benches, litter all put people off. Will the lovey new park be blighted by the same nuisances?	11/10/2024 4:22 PM
75	Presentation of the town is critical, the litter picking especially around McDonalds on Weavers Wharf is critical, I walk through regularly having to step between dog mess, food waste such as squashed chips and cardboard litter from McDonald's meals. To add to the pleasure there are regularly rats running around even in daylight, it really is an utter mess doing nothing for the already low town image these days. I have grown up in Kidderminster and gradually seen a thriving market town reduced to this with do many empty shops and redundant buildings, it grieves me.	11/10/2024 8:42 AM
76	Tackling the ugly graffiti that is all over the town centre - underpasses, canal side etc.	11/9/2024 6:35 PM
77	There is a need to encourage shops/shopping in Kidderminster... this would provide employment, economic growth and improve the attractiveness of the town for all.	11/9/2024 12:10 PM
78	Kidderminster town centre is dying on its feet. Anything you can do to stop and reverse the rot to make Kidderminster a vibrant town again would be helpful. We need empty shops either refilled or repurposed. Worcester Street is depressing with so many empty shops.	11/9/2024 9:19 AM
79	Repair St George's Park paddling pool	11/9/2024 9:15 AM
80	Paddling pool in st George's Park	11/9/2024 9:06 AM

## Have your say - our services

81	Have a community sports facility club in Brintons park and reinstate bowling green.	11/9/2024 8:58 AM
82	Make public toilets more disable friendly	11/9/2024 6:35 AM
83	Stop wasting money! The service the KTC runs do not represent value for money. And don't waste money on that paddling pool. ALSO be honest and tell people the real costs, including annual running costs!!	11/9/2024 12:58 AM
84	more regular maintenance, listen to the local people what they want in the town centre. Be more concerned about the empty buildings and shops. Lobby for much lower parking costs, there is nothing in the town to pay and park for.	11/8/2024 11:23 PM
85	Cheaper parking	11/8/2024 7:00 PM
86	Knock down Rowland hill centre, it's a ghost centre, move businesses into Swan centre and create a town square in front of the town hall. A space for everyone, Christmas markets, music events, street food vendors etc. To bring people in from other towns etc	11/8/2024 6:42 PM
87	Provide more or allow more entertainment in town to support the few businesses left	11/8/2024 6:37 PM
88	More litter bins, more litter pickers, impose fines	11/8/2024 6:34 PM
89	It is important that the parks and green spaces we have already are protected and facilities within those parks are maintained. This should happen before new spaces are created eg the mess which was woolworths. Local communities need their local parks as it is a place where parents and their children can meet and socialise and bond the community together. For example St George's park paddling pool. My children enjoyed playing in the pool when they were young and spent many free days around the pool, my granddaughter has never had the pleasure of using this paddling pool and making friends with local children she may eventually go to school with.	11/7/2024 8:13 PM
90	By making sure the contracted work is completed to the highest standards and more patrols with stronger powers to stop dog fouling in the green areas.	11/7/2024 11:53 AM
91	Protect the remaining green spaces from devlopement dont waste money like you doing where old woolies was in worcester street and tidy kiddie up for vistor's my cousin was born in kiddeminster and was discusted when she visted last year	11/7/2024 10:46 AM
92	Encourage, assist and support residents to join community based groups to work towards building Kiddeminster into a safe and welcoming town we can be proud of.	11/7/2024 10:14 AM
93	Save the paddling pool at St Georges Park	11/6/2024 9:55 PM
94	Keep St George's paddling pool open. Ensure children have FREE events they can go to with their families / fun days & parents can leave them over a certain age. Keep streets clean, have a presence of PCSOs / police officers around more regularly. Have plants & hanging baskets in town. Plant MORE TREES. Make the town festive through all / most major festivals throughout the year.	11/6/2024 9:51 PM
95	By keeping St George paddling pool open,	11/6/2024 11:51 AM
96	Reconnect the town centre as you have now removed all fluidity of trading out of the town centre . The refurbishment of the Town hall whilst will improve the building has no bearing on any form of increased activity or trading to shops locally and the amount of money spent will never be return as the council need to look at every expenditure as business objective to return either funds or a return to traders within the high dt to make sure the Town centre can prosper.	11/5/2024 9:15 PM
97	Get rid of district council they are a complete waste of money	11/5/2024 7:53 PM
98	Let people know what you do	11/5/2024 7:10 PM
99	Regular inspections	11/5/2024 6:31 PM
100	Repair,clean and maintain the bus station. Also provide a dedicated cafe/toilets within the bus station area for the bus drivers. At the moment they have to stand in a bus stand.	11/5/2024 1:12 PM
101	rely less on the Friends groups and strive to maintain the Parks and green spaces you have acquired before taking on more	11/5/2024 11:20 AM
102	More things for young children example St George's park, so much has been done at other parks, why can't more be done at St George's park, or does that end of town not matter?	11/5/2024 10:57 AM
103	The current council do not appear to take into account the needs of the local community - prioritising projects which are important to them personally rather than which will secure the long term future of the town and surrounding area for generations to come.	11/5/2024 10:23 AM

## Have your say - our services

104	Difficult to choose 3 because many questions were one and the same. The town needs full overall improvement and cleaning because in it's current state it will not attract new shops and therefore employment	11/5/2024 9:45 AM
105	Personally I think you're doing a great job under the circumstances	11/5/2024 9:14 AM
106	Repair main road fencing damaged by car accidents cleanup the weeds	11/5/2024 6:15 AM
107	It would be a great benefit for the environment and local people if you could enhance biodiversity in parks and open spaces by habitat creation and measures to support wildlife species	11/4/2024 9:18 PM
108	Town presentation needs improving. The shopping center is discounted too many empty shops, dull and worn feel to the town center. EG Swan center white canvas roofing covers are old and dirty.	11/4/2024 8:13 PM
109	More needs to be done to improve the appearance of the town, e.g. much better cleaning of walkways / underpassages. Making owners of derelict open spaces and properties more presentable, e.g. empty site in Market Street etc.	11/4/2024 6:45 PM
110	By making sure that the empty buildings are made into habitable spaces for people to live or work	11/4/2024 6:38 PM
111	More toilets	11/4/2024 6:12 PM
112	Do a better job, especially removing litter and maintaining the streets.	11/4/2024 5:34 PM
113	My first priority was Presentation of the town because a positive and well maintained local environment is important for general wellbeing. I would like the council to take a welfare perspective on this and arrange forums/fairs centrally at the town hall involving voluntary groups, such as local environmentalists, parks groups etc, plus some input from youth workers and discussion with the local U3A representatives and other education or training advisors aiming to co-produce a happy town. My second priority was Community, culture and events; I would like to see the scope widened to free music, visual arts and/or spoken word events sponsored or promoted by the local authority as an adjunct to my first priority - a happy town. My third priority was providing allotments as I think the localisation and protection of food supply is a major issue, it could have been my first priority, but all three of my priorities are interchangeable anyway. Allotments are a crucial amenity which should also be seen in welfare terms as productive therapy which may be the only therapy there is for many people in Kidderminster, I think this would make Kidderminster a model townscape for the future as I see it. And I think a better place to be.	11/4/2024 5:15 PM
114	Don't waste money on St George's paddling pool, it only opens for main school holidays, spend money more wisely on something to use all year round	11/4/2024 5:00 PM
115	Don't waste our money on your meetings and meals.	11/4/2024 4:57 PM
116	Encourage people and/or companies to fill the empty shops in town. Try to get more police patrols in the town centre to discourage street drinking and other anti social behaviour.	11/4/2024 4:37 PM
117	Smarten up Kidderminster town centre and stop anti social behavior	11/4/2024 4:30 PM
118	We definitely need a park more policing	11/4/2024 4:12 PM
119	Provide more for kids to do ,plus get more shops open in town	11/4/2024 4:11 PM
120	I think all three areas could be improved before you contemplate taking anything else over from WFDC	11/4/2024 4:02 PM
121	Wave St George's pool!	11/4/2024 12:32 PM
122	Make Kidderminster a place people want to visit and invest in. The place is a mess. litter, anti-social behaviour. No one seems to care and respect the area, so how can they expect residents to.	11/4/2024 10:02 AM
123	Listen to the public opinion and keep our town clean pleasant.	11/4/2024 9:47 AM
124	Make things better for community for those less fortunate to go to with children to have fun more stuff for families to do in area instead of car parks and refurbishing buildings refurb a park new things for kids to play on and have fun	11/4/2024 9:28 AM
125	Remove the dirty old subways and replace them with large pedestrian crossings similar to Worcester and Birmingham	11/4/2024 8:34 AM
126	Keep the Paddling Pool open	11/4/2024 7:48 AM



## Have your say - our services

127	Preventing further shops becoming vape, fast food outlets, coffee, barbers and more charity shops that we do not need and keeping St George's pool open for the children who's parents may not be able to afford a swimming pool in the. Hot weather etc. Also the council need to stop spending our much earned money on unnecessary projects that's ongoing in the town centre	11/4/2024 7:48 AM
128	Kidderminster needs to be future proofed or people will simply re locate elsewhere	11/4/2024 7:44 AM
129	Toilets need a good jet wash with disinfectant they all smell disgusting, try to upgrade re use revamp some of existing areas /buildings keep paddling pools parks open and running for local children	11/4/2024 7:32 AM
130	Better facilities for children in parks. More accessible for disabled children. Keep paddling pool open at St George's	11/4/2024 1:52 AM
131	Keep on top of it	11/4/2024 1:27 AM
132	Maintaining and striving to keep our existing play areas. Provide places for our young teenage community to be active and safe. Keep our lighting safe for movement in the darker nights. Have an ongoing maintenance programme of road and pavement repairs throughout the Borough.	11/4/2024 12:38 AM
133	Town needs sprucing up and parks and open spaces need to be kept up to scratch. There is definitely some investment required to re-open the paddling pool in St George's Park	11/4/2024 12:17 AM
134	We love living in Kidderminster and we're very happy with the facilities and government services. It would be nice to see more effort put into mitigating some graffiti, cleaning streets and maintaining park facilities (including play areas and pools for kids)	11/4/2024 12:00 AM
135	Concentrate on the empty shops and areas where groups gather. The town itself needs a revamp not all tax payers money going on town hall and not finishing projects already started.	11/3/2024 10:11 PM
136	Keep the paddling pool open in St Georges Park. You wasted a fortune on a waterfall no one from outside town knows exists and no one cares about it Running. The paddling pool is essential for the children of our community. Friends of St George's Park put so much time and energy into maintenance but they need Help. It's our money going into taxes, we should have it spent on what the community Wants and our children need.	11/3/2024 9:36 PM
137	Keeping the town more tidy and providing areas solely for the homeless away from shop doorways.	11/3/2024 9:00 PM
138	Having toilets in the parks before paddling pools!	11/3/2024 8:54 PM
139	Lower rates for small business in the town centre to attract them and make the town centre great again, free parking on the lead up to Christmas.	11/3/2024 8:48 PM
140	Sort the parks out, more sensory driven activities at the local parks for SEND children, helping keep the swimming pool open at St George's park	11/3/2024 8:46 PM
141	Provide better care towards roads, amount of resurfacing needed is ridiculous. Help to make people of Kidderminster feel safer. Open more shops.	11/3/2024 8:44 PM
142	Bring back our local paddling pools	11/3/2024 8:37 PM
143	Providing a youth club stops the vandalism in the parks by teenagers as there bored.	11/3/2024 8:34 PM
144	Keep open	11/3/2024 8:31 PM
145	Preserve and maintain the parks, playgrounds and open spaces we already have	11/3/2024 8:16 PM
146	More public toilets needed for sure! Parks in need to improvement! Especially much needed paddling pool at St. George's	11/3/2024 8:14 PM
147	ST GEORGE'S PARK NEEDS THE PADDLING POOL OPERATIONAL FOR 2025	11/3/2024 7:24 PM
148	Stop hogging our grants with the pointless town hall renovation and save St George's park.. amongst other parks that'll most likely go the same way, you absolute bottom feeders xoxox	11/3/2024 6:32 PM
149	I am very happy with the work you are already doing, so just keep up the good work and don't neglect these areas.	11/3/2024 6:14 PM
150	Finish the jobs you start Crown house an eyesore Britons Park still not finished Old courthouse still not finished Woolworths site still finished Town Hall still not finished Piano building waiting not to be finished Worcester Street finished but a waste of money.	11/3/2024 6:08 PM

## Have your say - our services

151	St George's paddling pool	11/3/2024 5:49 PM
152	The look of the town to attract visitors and revenue, town centre run, down, no independent interesting shops, subways are beyond awful. Local people's green spaces need protecting vital importance to mental and physical health. There are not enough interesting and cultural events, nothing for kids. What's happened to our markets? We used to be well loved market town, with a fantastic indoor market, outdoors markets with lots of stalls, there's basically nothing now, we are still a country town, what about local produce a good farmers market too? No point doing these big fancy projects if there is nothing attractive to come to such as a pretty town, with great markets and interesting shops, coffee shops etc, book shops, instead we have endless charity, betting, vaping shops run down town centre marred by drug takers and violence, no market to speak of, unwelcome and dangerous subways.	11/3/2024 5:38 PM
153	Lowering rent for business, I've never ever seen any police presence in town which has resulted in drug addicts taking over the town especially outside Halifax, swearing, spitting, fighting, using crack in broad daylight, having episodes crawling across floor dribbling. All in front of young kids, town looks like a dump of run down boarded up shops and drug addicts and kids flying down street on bikes. Never any police presence patrolling which is why they hang out there. Market is boring and full of same old tat nothing useful or worth looking at. Money spent on a town hall that most local people don't and won't use or is a top priority. Parks without lighting or cctv and people getting, mugged, attacked etc crime feels like it's getting worse from 5 years ago	11/3/2024 5:33 PM
154	The town centre needs more care and Paddling pool in St Georges park needs saving and looking after	11/3/2024 5:30 PM
155	Work on town centre renovation and making more available for children and young adults	11/3/2024 4:27 PM
156	Clean the town , work to lower the absurd rents in the shops as they are all empty , improve things to do for children in the parks to help tackle antisocial behaviour	11/3/2024 4:22 PM
157	Support keeping paddling pool in At George's Park	11/3/2024 4:20 PM
158	Doing pretty much anything to the town centre would improve it, what is there for kids and families?	11/3/2024 4:15 PM
159	Get St George's pool back up and running	11/3/2024 3:41 PM
160	Clean up the town get shops other yhan supermarkets	11/3/2024 3:00 PM
161	Open st George's paddling pool	11/3/2024 2:43 PM
162	Re open st George's park. It is integral to local families and children.	11/3/2024 2:40 PM
163	Find the St George's park paddling pool. This is a huge asset to the area and a much loved and used pool and is a vital resource to the community	11/3/2024 2:38 PM
164	St George's park pool	11/3/2024 2:30 PM
165	Actually using them and advertising them and maintaining them. Stop selling land off for development and clean the streets, empty bins, clean graffiti off the walls, etc	11/3/2024 2:29 PM
166	Save the swimming pool loved by all residents	11/3/2024 2:28 PM
167	Be more efficient with the funding you have and stop wasting it!	11/3/2024 2:27 PM
168	More support for seniors ie meals, transport , local grocers can't buy fruit veg only from supermarkets Don't see old people walking about anymore 😊 which is sD	11/3/2024 2:26 PM
169	Save St George's pool.	11/3/2024 2:22 PM
170	Making town centre a more appealing and safe place to be	11/3/2024 1:50 PM
171	Bring back the paddling pool in st georges park	11/3/2024 1:46 PM
172	Re open St Georges paddling pool	11/3/2024 1:45 PM
173	I would like to see more mayoral events.	11/3/2024 1:42 PM
174	We constantly have a group of people drinking all day in town they get louder as the day goes by , nothing is done to stop this we constantly have young kids running a mock in Kidderminster as well as dug dealers but they are being left alone the new green space in town will be come a dossing ground for all of the above . Town is dying but nothing is being done about it we never see any police patrols and when we do they just let them carry on drinking all day	11/3/2024 1:42 PM
175	Look after the open spaces more. Make sure all play equipment is working and that children	11/3/2024 1:38 PM

## Have your say - our services

have somewhere safe and fun to play.

176	Give the children of the horsefair a swimming pool for summer, clean up so we aren't surrounded and living by and with rats.	11/3/2024 1:27 PM
177	Update what we already have to help improve them. Stop wasting money on car parks	11/3/2024 1:24 PM
178	Town is dirty , lots of homeless and drug takers. Canal tow path full of rats and needles. No lighting in park (Britons) unsafe . Where is the lottery funding spent ? Too much money in back pockets rather than improvements. Don't even know who local councillors are. Nothing for working middle class .	11/3/2024 1:24 PM
179	Remember, paddling pools, Libraries, public convenience should all be priorities.	11/3/2024 1:15 PM
180	Ensuring parks and paddling/splash pad facilities are upkept and functional. A new, modern skatepark built and designed by a professional company and with insite from actual skateboarders.	11/3/2024 1:08 PM
181	More areas for children and not removing valuable areas	11/3/2024 1:00 PM
182	Cleaning the streets dealing with derilect properties	11/3/2024 12:58 PM
183	Listen to the residents	11/3/2024 12:57 PM
184	Do something with the empty premises & Clean up the town	11/3/2024 12:45 PM
185	Toilets need to cleaned and in working order	11/3/2024 12:36 PM
186	I think the first impressions people have of Kidderminster on arrival is poor. An appalling bus station (for users and drivers), poor toilet facilities, litter (especially around the bus station and river by Tesco), abandoned land near the old Wilko store that could be brought into use as a seating area for the students or for pop-up retailers, etc. You should concentrate your energy on improving this and attracting visitors and improving the feel and facilities for residents and visitors alike.	11/3/2024 12:33 PM
187	Suuport st georges park and the pool	11/3/2024 12:28 PM
188	Re open the children's swimming pool	11/3/2024 12:27 PM
189	More things 2 do for the young people to keep them out of trouble and crime down	11/3/2024 11:48 AM
190	Better upkeep and better communication with the locals	11/3/2024 11:47 AM
191	Keep the pool at St George's park an build the bride on Springfield park these have been used since I have ever known and a lot of people rely on these! Parents can't always afford to take there children swimming and the pool is a excellent place to have in such hard times,	11/3/2024 11:38 AM
192	Get more toilets and open more toilets especially in the parks	11/3/2024 11:36 AM
193	Repair the paddling pool in St Georges Park.	11/3/2024 11:36 AM
194	Attract new retailers and do something about the substance misuse so people feel safer	11/3/2024 11:32 AM
195	Improving anti social behaviour moving on drug users police and security guards	11/3/2024 11:31 AM
196	Stop trying to close parks or their facilities that are used by children and families in some of the most deprived areas of Kidderminster. Promoting local culture and the local history of Kidderminster to include traditional events such as Christmas lights switch on and Remembrance Day services are really important so that these identities are not lost. Our carpet making heritage, wildlife areas and history should be celebrated better.	11/3/2024 11:29 AM
197	St George's Park Save our Paddling pool to bring happiness to many service users.	11/3/2024 11:23 AM
198	Keep St George's pool open for the community as many locals want the use of the pool and cannot always get to Brintons.	11/3/2024 11:14 AM
199	Listening to what people want	11/3/2024 11:13 AM
200	Restore the splash pool at st George's park. The brintons splash pad is too busy and oversaturated, a second one at st George's park would benefit many, plus a little coffee shop stand there too. The park is definitely not being utilised. Also the park needs dog poo bins.	11/3/2024 11:13 AM
201	Open the paddling pool back at St George's park, the poor kids have no where nowadays and you can see why children are getting in to trouble these days.	11/3/2024 11:11 AM
202	Ensuring that the pool at St. George's Park is returned to function	11/3/2024 11:10 AM



## Have your say - our services

203	applications to secure more funding- esp Youth programmes and facilities	11/3/2024 11:02 AM
204	You should be trying to make Kidderminster a place to want to live with a vibrant community and people who care about its residents	11/3/2024 11:00 AM
205	Repair and update parks. Repair St George's paddling pool. Provide park wardens in areas known for trouble, like Britons park so people feel safe visiting with their children. Hire people to cut grass properly. It is always left looking such a mess. Fix pot holes in the road properly, not cheaply where it quickly wears away again. Stop wasting money. For instance the old Woolworths site, building a pointless walk through which is going to look ridiculous surrounded by the buildings and put the money into other places that already exist but desperately need funding to repair or maintain.	11/3/2024 10:58 AM
206	St Georges paddling pool needs saving	11/3/2024 10:49 AM
207	The town centre needs a plan to revitalise and encourage back shoppers. It's full of druggies without a cop in sight. Too many closed shops. The area needs redevelopment, housing, open areas and a cess pit for the smackheads	11/3/2024 10:46 AM
208	To get the swimming pool at St George's park fixed and up and running again for 2026 summer. Things like this really bring the community together and we are teaching our children this too	11/3/2024 10:41 AM
209	Keep St George's Pool open!!!! For many families this is the only access to a pool their kids can get. Also, it gives access to a quieter pool than Brintons Splash Pad, for those kids that struggle with busy places. It's a fantastic community place to bring people together to have fun!	11/3/2024 10:37 AM
210	Get more information out on the social media.	11/3/2024 10:33 AM
211	Parks and green spaces are so vital for all age groups and across all social groups. Our children need places to play as more and more houses are built. Please come up with a plan for St Georges Park paddling pool. It's good to see plans for Brinton Park coming together. Thank you for the beautiful flowers in town. We could do with more community centres which could be used by many groups.	11/3/2024 10:31 AM
212	Improved maintenance	11/3/2024 10:20 AM
213	Open at George's pool	11/3/2024 10:20 AM
214	Get rid of the smack heads who drink in town centre who are high as kite drinking cans off beers in front of kids and robbing shops bring in a drinking ban in town	11/3/2024 10:16 AM
215	Stop wasting public money on woke projects	11/3/2024 10:15 AM
216	Improve parks . Improve anti social behaviour drug users in town	11/3/2024 10:07 AM
217	SAVE ST GEORGES PARKS POOL	11/3/2024 10:07 AM
218	Children's playgrounds and teen areas	11/3/2024 10:01 AM
219	Listen to the local communities. Stop wasting money on projects that won't benefit communities. Such as the green space that will go where the old Woolworths building was. I've not read one positive comment with regards to that waste of money.	11/3/2024 9:58 AM
220	Remembrance sunday to maintain and be celebrated more, the upkeep of paddling pools for children	11/3/2024 9:45 AM
221	I feel very strongly about saving the swimming pool located at St George's. It is the last pool of its kind in Kidderminster and local children enjoy this option over the warmer months. Although good communication appears to have been provided in your concerns, no real actions seem to have been taken to address possible ways in saving this feature in the park.	11/3/2024 9:43 AM
222	I feel there is a lack of activities for young children to do indoors. In or around Kidderminster	11/3/2024 9:42 AM
223	Sort out the homelessness and get the trans off the high street it's disgusting	11/3/2024 9:40 AM
224	Activities or play area for younger children (under 5s) as most is aimed at older children	11/3/2024 9:07 AM
225	The town is so rundown. I have lived in the area for over 60 years and I have never seen it look as bad as it does now. So many empty shops, parking is expensive- try reducing them or free periods to get life back into the town! Reduce the rates?	11/3/2024 12:37 AM
226	Seek funding from all possible sources. Support The Rose Theatre, keep the Town Hall active and open. Open up the canal as an asset for access and as an attractive route with	11/2/2024 10:30 PM

## Have your say - our services

facilities for boaters and walkers etc, preserve as many buildings as possible so we have a diverse historic town, promote footpaths. Support youth groups (Scouts etc that already exist and other supportive clubs for young people that develop their interests) Support SEND groups using parks and other public places (Town Hall) etc to develop skills.

227	Stop multiplying decisions on venues	11/2/2024 6:30 PM
228	Have working groups that invited the participation of non-councillors in the delivery of these services. In a way this is a bit like the parks friends' groups.	11/2/2024 1:09 PM
229	We would like the swimming pool back in the george's park	11/2/2024 9:50 AM
230	clean up the town centre and move the sleepers away	11/2/2024 8:49 AM
231	Don't agree with having a Town Council. Was happy with District and County. Added another level of bureaucracy that residents have to pay for	11/1/2024 7:47 PM
232	Listen to people, a lot of people don't feel safe.	11/1/2024 7:43 PM
233	Tidy up the town. It's not a welcoming place to visit.	11/1/2024 7:16 PM
234	Save st George's pool for a start!	11/1/2024 7:07 PM
235	Don't take over other areas or green spaces until the ones already obtained are of use to public. Let's get the pool back up and running in St George's park	11/1/2024 6:53 PM
236	Keep at George's park paddling pool.	11/1/2024 6:45 PM
237	Build on the old factory sites in town bringing people back into the town and not building on farmers fields.	11/1/2024 6:34 PM
238	Have a designated indoor market space	11/1/2024 6:01 PM
239	Get the waterfall on more Pick up where WFDC pulls out	11/1/2024 5:22 PM
240	Instead of creating a car park of the old post office which is an eye sore, do something which would make the town more attractive.	11/1/2024 4:23 PM
241	Keep the paddling pools open for children in the area	11/1/2024 2:21 PM
242	Upkeep of the town more. Removing graffiti and litter and making the town a nicer looking place	11/1/2024 1:34 PM
243	Town centre has many poorly maintained buildings that have been empty for many years. If the district council could be persuaded to release these for new uses, or the owners persuaded to tidy up the frontages it would make the town centre look tidier and more inviting. Also, a dedicated space for the market would be good, as having it spread throughout the town makes visiting the town centre on market days a crowded and unpleasant experience.	11/1/2024 1:19 PM
244	Work with the community more, understand their needs and help support ideas.	11/1/2024 11:52 AM
245	More police walks around the area for those to be made safe, such as Wood street.	11/1/2024 11:22 AM
246	Finish what you start! It's farcical the way one project starts before another one has finished. The delay to the refurbishment of the Town hall must have cost millions in lost revenue from weddings and music events. To keep using covid as an excuse is getting boring. What has happened to the Crown house car park idea or the car park that was to be created next to Iceland where there was a fire many years ago? There used to be a street cleaner years ago. Now it's left to voluntary groups to litter pick. If there is money in the budget for an expensive vehicle supposedly to carry tools and personnel to work on green space there must be money for a street sweeper. Encourage commercial premises in the town centre to keep their own outside areas clean. Run competitions for the best window display or best shop frontage. Other towns do. Stop bringing outside caterers in for town centres events. Use local businesses.	11/1/2024 11:18 AM
247	Dedicated Events team that put on events for the people of Kidderminster. Improve toilets, new facilities perhaps a staff member that cleans toilets and spend time in the town making the town look even better. I understand this may fall to the district but another person would help improve the town centre.	11/1/2024 10:14 AM
248	Ensure that areas of green belt land are not sold off for housing. Reuse brown field sites and keep land for farmers and green spaces	11/1/2024 8:51 AM
249	Have good communication with those that you represent.	11/1/2024 1:07 AM
250	Buy a power washer to get the worst graffiti off the walls and the subways. Encourage and	10/31/2024 10:55 PM

## Have your say - our services

help property owners on Green Street, Prospect Hill and the town centre to jolly up building exteriors by, for example, providing hanging baskets and brick paints. Help cheer up pieces of abandoned land by tidying them up a bit, and plonking garden decorations on them. Nag Primark to open up a shop in the town centre. Scare ruffians away from the town centre every day. Create public surveys about specific town council policies, projects and programmes. Build a small playground in Broadwaters Park.

251	Shops need filling. Subways need repairing, especially Mill Street. Swan centre toilets also needs upgrading, they are disgusting. Crime in town needs sorting.	10/31/2024 9:36 PM
252	Talking to people when building houses	10/31/2024 9:19 PM
253	Improve environment for pedestrians. Kidderminster is far too car orientated and some areas do not cater well for pedestrians. Another area for improvement is in acquiring and developing derelict buildings, particularly old industrial properties.	10/31/2024 8:28 PM
254	3 out of many that alone are not really going to make Kidderminster an attractive and interesting place to visit for commerce or leisure. I have no idea how it can move forward to attract me back. At times it feels threatening as much as it feels down at heel and neglected. I wouldn't venture after dark for anything.	10/31/2024 6:52 PM
255	Simply raise standards	10/31/2024 6:24 PM
256	Tidy up the town centre. Give very good initiatives for existing business and prospective to stay. Too many shops have closed.	10/31/2024 6:01 PM
257	Not enough cultural life, no bookshops, not safe in the winter after 5pm, get rid of stupid piles of pretend records that attract dirt, at the moment no trees to add greenery to the town,	10/31/2024 5:42 PM
258	Advertise and advise people how to get an allotment.	10/31/2024 4:20 PM
259	The town centre needs to be more regularly litter picked and cleaned.	10/31/2024 3:27 PM
260	Ensuring the renovation and re-opening of the pool at St George's park. It is a vital and well-used amenity for the community	10/31/2024 1:57 PM
261	Spruce up town open more shops and decent seating areas	10/31/2024 1:56 PM
262	Affordable housing close to centre, using existing buildings and stop building on green field until health, education and road chaos improves	10/31/2024 1:52 PM
263	Have a cleansing team to clear dog mess from parks and streets(not sending road sweeper to spread it! Spending money on things most people will use not your own interests in the town hall	10/31/2024 12:56 PM
264	Street cleaning, lick of paint and more green planters and mood lights.	10/31/2024 10:41 AM
265	The town is dieing who wants to go to a town when so much building work is happening. The clock cafe seating area has mould growth in the roof area just unhygienic lots of people stinking of drugs smoking puts you off going into town. Better to go merryhill more shops and nicer environment.	10/31/2024 9:37 AM
266	Draw plans to redevelop the old wood yard area in Park Lane from Matalan to Weavers pub with a bridge across the canal. Imagine Brindley Place in B'ham. Need seating and a focal point outside piano building. Thanks.	10/31/2024 7:18 AM
267	Stop wasting money and time on an outdated paddling pool. These cost c.£2.5-3k per week and money would be best spent on real projects for all.	10/30/2024 11:37 PM
268	Paddling pool in St George's Park and more communication with the friends group	10/30/2024 11:04 PM
269	Improve access to allotments. Regular street cleaning and property reporting. Monthly/weekly events. In touch/touch base at townhall or piano building.	10/30/2024 9:15 PM
270	This consultation is a good start	10/30/2024 8:01 PM
271	The town centre seems such a mess whenever I go there, it feels run down and a miserable place to shop. There really isn't a great choice of shops, and the car park fees are ridiculous. I'd rather drive to merry hill centre and have more choice of shops and free parking. Or take the train to Birmingham or Worcester.	10/30/2024 7:47 PM
272	Recruit volunteers to help run/maintain events/areas of the town. Both adult and children volunteers	10/30/2024 5:17 PM
273	Town Presentation needs to be in partnership with WFDC and the Police to keep the town looking clean, tidy and safe.	10/30/2024 1:11 PM

## Have your say - our services

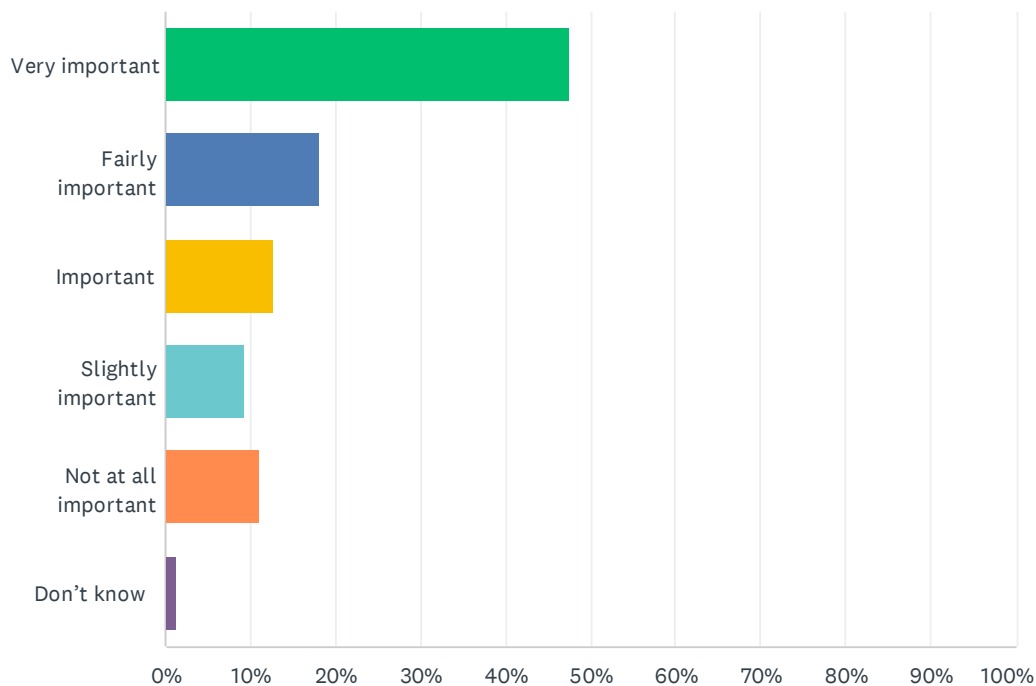
274	It's great that Kidderminster BID are putting on and promoting far more events. It's very noticeable. I think the last facebook post was great about upcoming events. It would be good when the town hall is open to use that for much more in terms of cultural activities with notable visitors. For example, John Cooper Clarke's performance was amazing and very well attended. Bewdley festival do some amazing events over the course of October, with some really great acts. Maybe something along these lines in the spring or summer would be good. Saving St George's Park paddling pool is a must. It's so well used during the summer months and is a valued asset to local parents and children.	10/30/2024 11:32 AM
275	The town centre has deteriorated and suffered because of poor decisions by the District Council. Better decisions and a vision for a more attractive town is needed. Proactive steps are need to attract an increase footfall . The BID needs to be supported and encouraged	10/30/2024 10:23 AM
276	The town and the town centre in particular has suffered from poor decisions by the District Council. It is a top priority to make the Town centre attractive and a desirable destination for our catchment area and we need initiatives to attract a greater footfall and also help local businesses and look at ways of saving costs . We need an efficient and effective Town Council . Also we need a much greater uniformed police presence ( I bet you are sorry that you asked!)	10/30/2024 10:07 AM
277	Re-open the paddling pool in St George's Park. Focus on maintaining the Parks we currently have rather than building a new one! The Town Centre needs a thorough clean (particularly around the British Heart Foundation shop); a few hanging baskets and Christmas lights don't really cut it.	10/30/2024 9:31 AM
278	Litter picking, unblocking drains to prevent flooding. Arresting druggies, moving on alcoholics. Help the homeless	10/30/2024 9:08 AM
279	Keep the paddling pool in st George's park for future generations	10/29/2024 9:24 PM
280	Ensuring that there is revenue funding for projects.	10/29/2024 7:54 PM
281	Build a better town centre ,, stop building houses and taking away green land and more police and order enforcement	10/29/2024 4:37 PM
282	Get 100% LED street lights powered by a company investing in non fossil fuel burning energy	10/29/2024 3:52 PM
283	Complete projects which have already begun instead of leaving things half finished for years	10/29/2024 10:59 AM
284	Better consultation with the friends' groups for the parks you currently have responsibility for.	10/29/2024 10:01 AM
285	Save St George's pool. The children in this town are getting less and less and resulting in kids getting into mischievous behaviour out of boredom.	10/29/2024 9:33 AM
286	Springfield Park used to have many events that attracted many people I feel St George's Park needs this along with the repair of the paddling pool there.	10/29/2024 8:42 AM
287	I would like to see a priority given to Civic and community events. There is very little going on anymore.	10/29/2024 8:41 AM
288	The town centre is a disgrace, reduce car parking fees and rates to encourage new business into the town centre, not just charity shops, vaping shops. Clean up the town centre and provide a safe space for those people on the streets taking drugs to ensure the town centre is more enjoyable and safe. You are encouraging more people into Kidderminster to buy houses however the town is so run down. Open up some more restaurants and cafes. Look at neighbouring towns such as Telford that have combined the town park and eateries with the shopping centre. Instead of people going out of town to shop in Merry Hill or Worcester encourage those business to come to Kidderminster by making the buildings more lucrative to use which in turn will generate business.	10/29/2024 8:01 AM
289	Re-opening & maintaining St George's pool. Renovate unused town centre building & make the area an attractive place to visit. Provide more opportunities for events in locality.	10/29/2024 7:48 AM
290	Put more money in to parks and green spaces	10/29/2024 7:25 AM
291	Get St George's park paddling pool up and running. It's a fairly low income area and children and families would benefit hugely from this in many ways	10/29/2024 7:12 AM
292	Keep st george's paddling pool open	10/29/2024 6:10 AM
293	Planning for the future, showing that our parks and green spaces have an important place in life for families to share family time.....and learn about community and sharing.	10/29/2024 5:23 AM

## Have your say - our services

294	They need to make Kidderminster a top priority. This town has gone down hill dramatically. No shops nothing it's a disgrace	10/29/2024 12:13 AM
295	By keeping the st. George's paddling pool and maintaining the toilets in market place also with adding an extra hour onto the toilet schedule especially during half terms / school holidays	10/28/2024 11:47 PM
296	Revamp parks ReOpen at George swimming pool for children	10/28/2024 7:32 PM
297	This should all be the responsibility of the district council why are we paying twice and extra layer of expenditure	10/28/2024 6:16 PM
298	KTC should have more say in the state of the town, empty shops and the use of buildings for the community	10/28/2024 6:08 PM
299	Make the town and surrounding areas worth visiting, without fear of being in the area	10/28/2024 5:56 PM
300	Make Kidderminster a nice place to live in again and encourage footfall into the town centre. Use capital expenditure on persuading WCC Highways to realise that the Wyre Forest area needs better transport links.	10/28/2024 4:11 PM
301	I'd like to see live bands in the town hall, buy cocktails, wine and hot drinks. Something a bit more upmarket.	10/28/2024 3:36 PM
302	There are several areas of the town which are very neglected @nd poorly maintained. Though not many of these are within the direct control of KTC, pressure should be brought to get improvements done. I am thinking about corner of Market Street-New Road; the former Wilkinsons; the area between the college and the Stour, the Bull Ring area and obviously Worcester Street.	10/28/2024 3:32 PM
303	I would like to see the town hall become a true regional asset and see plenty of events there.	10/28/2024 2:09 PM
304	Improve street cleansing, by giving the Town Council a more prominent role to ensure the Town is clean and well maintained.	10/28/2024 11:29 AM
305	Don't know.	10/28/2024 10:40 AM

**Q8** We are redeveloping the Town Hall, transforming the listed building into a bright new cultural, music and community space. Funding is thanks to a government grant. The project is progressing well and currently on target to reopen Summer 2025. Our ambition is for the venue to cater for all the community. We want it to provide a range of activities, events, performances, and learning opportunities. How important is it to you to that the Town Hall is used to its full potential?

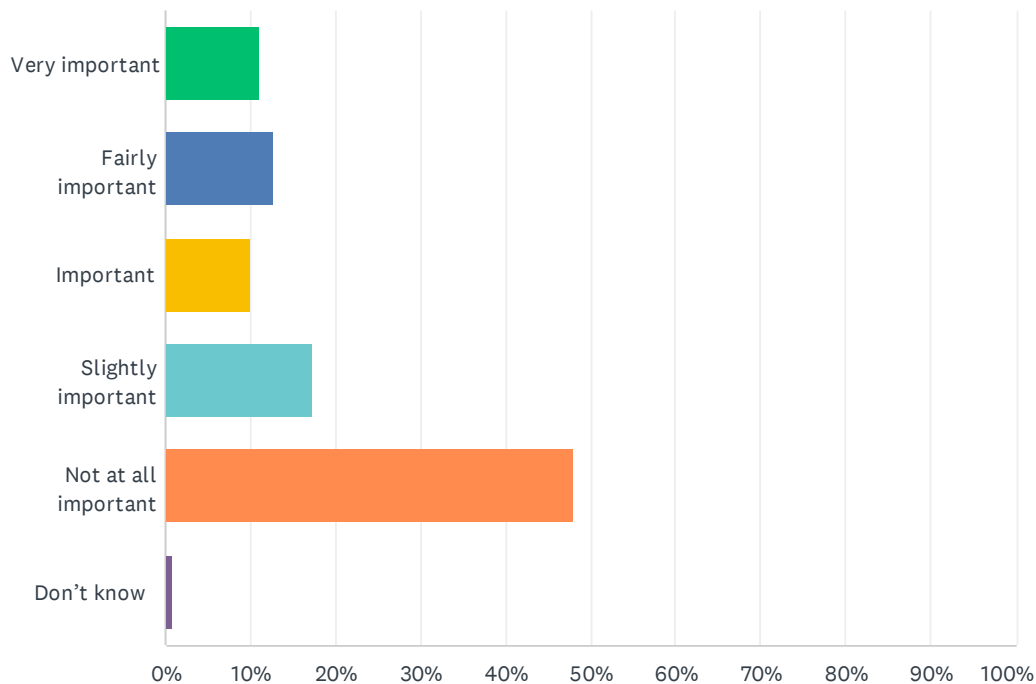
Answered: 480 Skipped: 192



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	47.50%	228
Fairly important	18.13%	87
Important	12.71%	61
Slightly important	9.38%	45
Not at all important	11.04%	53
Don't know	1.25%	6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>480</b>

**Q9** We own and maintain the water feature on the town's ring road. The Grade II listed feature does not run all the time, it is switched on to mark special occasions. This is due to the running costs, which are £3,750 a year. How important is it to you to have it switched on more frequently?

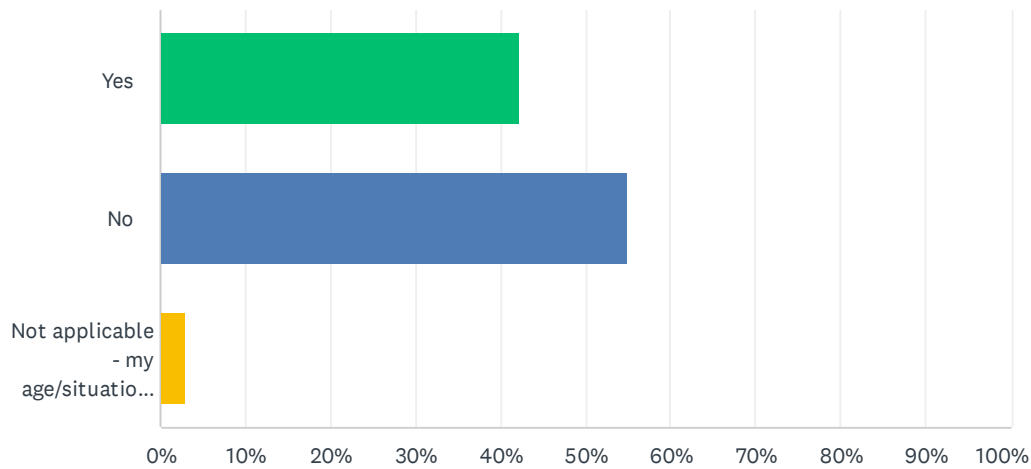
Answered: 477 Skipped: 195



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	11.11%	53
Fairly important	12.79%	61
Important	10.06%	48
Slightly important	17.19%	82
Not at all important	48.01%	229
Don't know	0.84%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>477</b>

## Q10 Would you be willing to pay more Council Tax ( 20 pence per year, per household) so we could switch the waterfall on more regularly?

Answered: 477 Skipped: 195

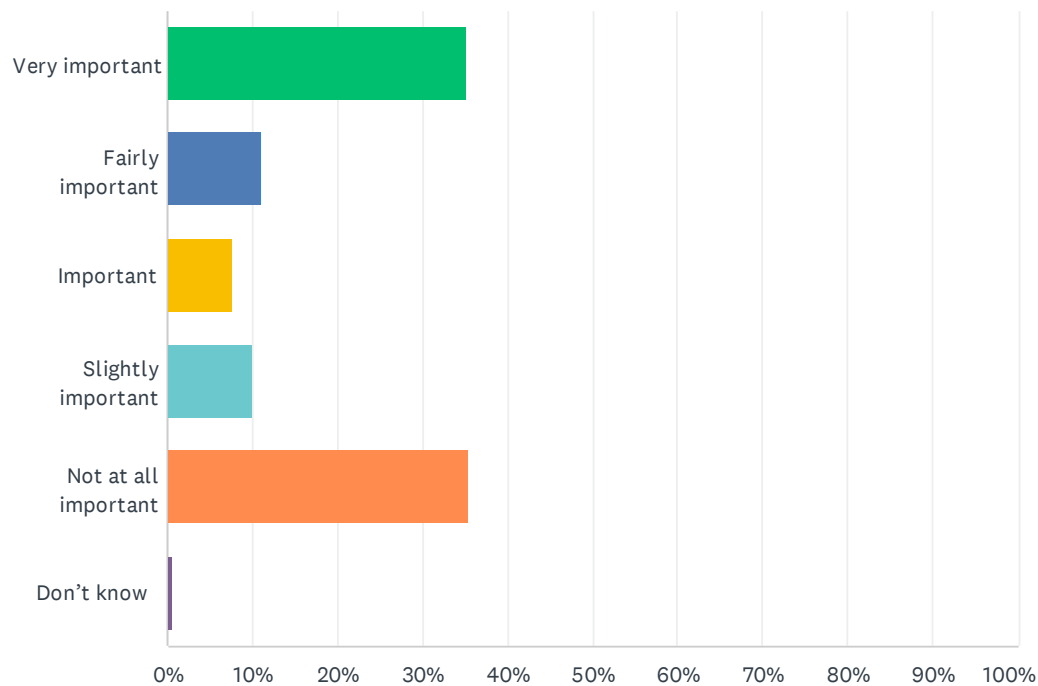


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	42.14%	201
No	54.93%	262
Not applicable - my age/situation means I am not required to pay Council Tax	2.94%	14
TOTAL		477



**Q11 We own and maintain St George's Park. The paddling pool there has been out of action since August 2022 due to health and safety concerns. To get it running again it is estimated to cost £156,000. We have a working group looking at ways we can fund the repairs. How important is it to you to reopen the paddling pool?**

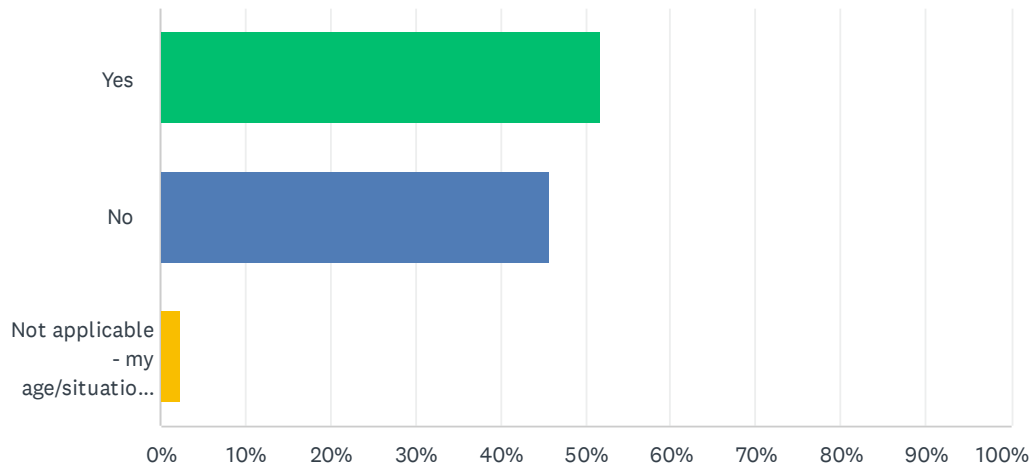
Answered: 480 Skipped: 192



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	35.21%	169
Fairly important	11.04%	53
Important	7.71%	37
Slightly important	10.00%	48
Not at all important	35.42%	170
Don't know	0.63%	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>480</b>

## Q12 Would you be willing to pay more Council Tax (£2 per household per year) to help fund the repairs and the ongoing maintenance and running costs?

Answered: 476 Skipped: 196



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	51.89%	247
No	45.80%	218
Not applicable - my age/situation means I am not required to pay Council Tax	2.31%	11
TOTAL		476

## Q13 Earlier in the questionnaire we outlined the services we are currently providing (question 6). Are there any other areas of work Kidderminster Town Council does not deliver/support currently that you would like to see us take on?

Answered: 226 Skipped: 446

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Develop the Bull Ring as an open space instead of a "temporary" car park introduce an element of free parking, say 2-5 pm to encourage people into the town centre. consider taking on an unused and ..... large premises in the town centre (Penny Black) for an indoor market rather than the street markets.	12/2/2024 4:57 PM
2	To ..... District Council	12/2/2024 4:51 PM
3	1. Dangerous eyesore/ Carpark in front of Blunts shoe shop 2. Regeneration of the town centre needs this area to be a priority for development for the community and as an asset for the area on a major entrance to the large shopping area (Weavers Wharf)	12/2/2024 4:46 PM
4	Have you had any influence/interest in the fenced-off wedge of land Market St. conveniences/ New Road/ Bridge Street-longstanding eyesore that epitomises unprepossessing Kidderminster.? No more KNEE JERK car parking provision though! Whilst it may be correct top sat that Wyre forest DC car parking tariffs do not produce a loss, it has to be said that nation-wide able-bodied parking is a heavily-subsidised service (driver pays £1.25 of every £6.70 cost of provision) consequently there id discrimination resulting in all too many "freebies" for already subsidised able-bodied motoring. how about redressing this by giving Event-discounts to evidence public transport travel?	12/2/2024 4:41 PM
5	Redevelopment of the town centre	12/2/2024 4:27 PM
6	Local amenities for local families. All areas covered by old town council to be covered by new town council. If the town council had car parks monies would be available to cover costs.	12/2/2024 4:19 PM
7	Why are the flowerbed in horsefield so poor compared these in town. Thanks to Horse and Proud we have lovely flowers boxs cared for with love	12/2/2024 4:14 PM
8	there needs to be good governance and oversight on spending and budgeting. there needs to be more education of local people to understand the responsibilities of the 3 tiers of local provision. I dont think its fair to ask what people dont understand. they need to be projects that remain on budget.	12/2/2024 4:07 PM
9	More needs to be done to let people know what KTC does and does not do. Not on political leaflets, from the salaried staff. open an office in town, Finepoint is not accessible for many. Take on more public toioulets. Nag your colleagues on whatever council is responsible to give better bus services. Frankly I believe that a town council should be given mor funding and to be responsible for small very localised servcies, on a ward basis, perhaps. The Town Hall should make enough money to pay for lots of small accessible services for everyone across Kidderminster, because the poorest who live here won't be using it, will they?	12/2/2024 3:59 PM
10	A local bus company to provide more transport	12/2/2024 3:48 PM
11	shuttel bus service from the railway station to the town centre	12/2/2024 3:46 PM
12	Many of the buildings in town look poorly maintained. Is there any way the owners of the buildings can can be made to keep the buildings in better order? A better underpass from Station Hill and the Birmingham Road- or better solution to both.	12/2/2024 3:43 PM
13	no	12/2/2024 3:33 PM
14	Fix potholes.	12/1/2024 7:32 PM
15	Support on a regular basis, however modest, towards core funding for the Carpet Museum Trust which operates the Museum of Carpet.	11/30/2024 5:01 PM
16	Greater say in planning for the town. Efforts to attract businesses and people	11/29/2024 6:59 AM

## Have your say - our services

17	Look at ways to combat the decline of the town centre. There are lots of empty shops and several homeless people sitting around & begging in the centre.	11/28/2024 7:48 PM
18	Looking after parks and making them presentable and usable and even better for children is a top priority in my opinion.	11/28/2024 5:19 PM
19	Not particularly	11/28/2024 2:27 PM
20	The Council needs to work more with local businesses and be seen to be supporting local businesses; more connectivity between businesses and events that will increase footfall into the town needs to be achieved. The Council needs to be more accessible for residents - perhaps there could be one afternoon a week whereby staff are available to answer questions or assist? Councillors can also help with this should they wish to with the acknowledgement that councillors also work and are essentially volunteers. Staff are paid to be there; councillors are not. Council needs to do more work with schools as it offers such a fantastic historical resource.	11/28/2024 1:13 PM
21	I have grave concerns that the council will squander 156K on the paddling pool which is circa 15% of the budget they have. Localism isn't working and the council should revert to a 2 tier system again.	11/27/2024 3:11 PM
22	I feel some services should be passed back to the District Council. Localism is a myth used to abdicate responsibility and side step legislation on council tax increases. A piecemeal transfer of small assets without consultation make democratic accountability for the lay person burdensome and confusing, further undermining the benefits of democracy and voting. Remember - localism is a myth! Localism is abdication!	11/27/2024 2:51 PM
23	Encouraging small businesses - getting the rates and costs of owning a business in the town to a level that makes businesses viable.	11/26/2024 6:08 PM
24	No	11/26/2024 4:31 PM
25	The Bull ring, make it a beautiful place for people to enjoy and be proud of, the carpark is a disgrace.	11/26/2024 11:15 AM
26	Helping to deal with vacant, obsolete and derelict buildings/ sites, especially in the Town Centre	11/26/2024 7:14 AM
27	The surrounding areas of Kidderminster are good. We need to make the town for people living in the area to spend money locally. We had an ugly building so demolished it to provide an unnecessary carpark that belongs in Beirut. Seems like councillors have an idea but no way of following it through.	11/25/2024 1:57 PM
28	The islands are awful, subways are flooded, graffiti everywhere, they are unsafe and make us feel vulnerable	11/24/2024 8:53 AM
29	Encourage the bull ring area to be developed. It looks an absolute mess with empty buildings and a scruffy water logged car park. It needs developing	11/23/2024 10:41 PM
30	Take responsibility for street cleans that were supposed to happen annually but never do.	11/23/2024 9:08 PM
31	Not sure	11/23/2024 12:40 PM
32	Pit on more entertainment around town and into parks	11/23/2024 12:20 PM
33	Get the shops/town thriving again I only go into town nowadays when needs must I used to love a good day out in town shopping the big indoor market & going for lunch It's just not the same anymore I know times change but we have a lovely town & I feel it's lost its sparkle ✨	11/23/2024 11:17 AM
34	No	11/22/2024 4:15 PM
35	Too many homeless people in town centre. More police presence required to ensure safety. More shopping opportunities within the town centre.	11/20/2024 5:26 PM
36	Run more disabled mini buses suitable for power chairs more frequently.	11/20/2024 11:44 AM
37	Lack of street cleaning	11/19/2024 8:36 PM
38	Kidderminster residents shouldn't be spending ridiculous amounts of money on a paddling pool!!!!	11/19/2024 10:09 AM
39	Splatterday at the town hall was great... bring it back! Crown house carpark and bull ring is a depressing entrance to the town centre, it is dated and messy.	11/16/2024 11:47 PM
40	Yes, campaign against 5g and it's masts, which are a major health hazard, they are not	11/15/2024 5:21 PM

## Have your say - our services

needed, the safety certificate they have are fraudulent, has the company no longer exists, will the town council take responsibility for any long term health issues from the radiation they emit. Also campaign with local residents against the game climate change net zero ideology. It is a green washing, money laundering scam. Which will make us all poorer, hungrier and sicker, with no hope for future generations, just digital feudalism. We need clean air, water and food, but Agenda 2030, sustainable development goals are polluting our skies, through geoengineering, which is also polluting our water and soil. Get educated, read the great reset and the 4th industrial revolution by Klaus Schwab of the WEF.

41	Keeping the druggies and alcholics out of the town centre, specifically by British heart foundation. Getting rid of racist bigots from the Town Council would help move the town forward.	11/14/2024 10:28 PM
42	No	11/14/2024 11:51 AM
43	Deliver current services better rather than take on more. 'Walk before you run'	11/13/2024 9:13 PM
44	Many towns (even those much smaller than Kidderminster) have literary, music, or other cultural festivals. Could we do something similar? How about promoting the town through a historical industry walk, highlighting the towns many industrial architectural sites. The walk could be sponsored by local businesses, who in turn could benefit from increased footfall in the town.	11/13/2024 7:35 PM
45	How can you entertain taking on more areas when you can't maintain the areas you already have?	11/13/2024 3:23 PM
46	Entertainment and activities to attract families and couples	11/13/2024 2:21 PM
47	Try and make the town more attractive for visitors, parking charges are high for that puts people off	11/13/2024 1:08 PM
48	Making sure that these things are accessible by all the community	11/13/2024 11:57 AM
49	No	11/13/2024 10:37 AM
50	public transport	11/12/2024 4:14 PM
51	Only if this wasteful and duplication-ridden system of having 3 councils is done away with, and KFC takes on district level services.	11/12/2024 1:13 PM
52	Why not have a local litter tax for fast food outlets, most of the litter comes from them. This would pay to clean it up.	11/12/2024 9:58 AM
53	Mental health services, not the NHS but services people aren't waiting 12 months to access, group work, focus groups etc	11/11/2024 4:32 PM
54	as I understand it, you have failed to maintain the paddling pool despite the support there is for it? This should be your main focus to get it open for the summer.	11/11/2024 11:56 AM
55	There seems to be a lack of support for small businesses in the Town.	11/11/2024 10:26 AM
56	Monitor unruly elements in the town - daytime mainly when elderly people are about.	11/10/2024 11:11 PM
57	Removing antisocial drunk's from the town centre I am only glad the park in place of Woolworths and BHS never completed because they would have over taken that instead. Although the unsightly hole is even worse than empty shops what a waste of money.	11/10/2024 6:33 PM
58	More community spaces! Maintained by the community	11/10/2024 5:02 PM
59	Only as highlighted previously	11/10/2024 8:44 AM
60	No	11/9/2024 7:42 PM
61	It seems like the Council is limited in its funding so I think it is more important to do well the services that were listed earlier before thinking about taking on extra responsibilities	11/9/2024 6:38 PM
62	There is a need to double down on supporting economic growth directly and supporting the efforts of partner bodies.	11/9/2024 12:13 PM
63	Paddling pools are outdated and not particularly sanitary places. I feel a splash pad would be safer and more exciting for young children. I would be prepared to pay extra council tax for one of those. Perhaps the town council should have more say about housing development - and other developments - in the town. The site of Crown House is almost as big a blot on the landscape as the demolished building itself. I seem to recall we were promised a green space to replace it. Kidderminster town is a depressing place in which to	11/9/2024 9:26 AM

## Have your say - our services

	shop. Lovely floral displays are welcome in summer but we need regeneration of the structure.	
64	No	11/9/2024 9:16 AM
65	No	11/9/2024 9:07 AM
66	Keep streets clean and try to discourage beggars	11/9/2024 6:39 AM
67	Live alternative music events in local parks/venues around town, generating revenue for the town council, a general good vibe and it would give the 'youth' around town something to do/ look forward to meaning they'll hopefully stop being as destructive to decorations about town etc	11/9/2024 1:40 AM
68	You need to run this council cheaper! There is no need for the cost wastage on the town council. Value for money, value for money, value for money??? It's our money, stop wasting it!!!!	11/9/2024 1:01 AM
69	You are not looking at the important areas that can benefit the local people. Where are the facilities for young people aged 12-18, they are non existent. no wonder kids roam around up to no good. I can remember the good days of a thriving youth centre open every night.	11/8/2024 11:28 PM
70	Encourage a proper market - selling local produce/goods etc. Not a 'market' flogging Elvis T Shirts, watch batteries and smelly dog bones. Remember - there are no shops anymore.	11/8/2024 7:13 PM
71	Empty shops	11/8/2024 7:02 PM
72	Parking for residents near the town, it has become a nightmare as workers use side streets for free parking. The Horsefair and surrounding streets like Baxter Avenue have cars parked on double yellows at junctions on Friday nights, it is dangerous	11/8/2024 6:45 PM
73	more events for the older people its all aimed at young people who have no pride in this town i was born and bread in this town over 60 years ago and its a disgrace its not changed for the better	11/7/2024 10:49 AM
74	Not at the moment concentrate on what you are doing and do it well	11/7/2024 10:16 AM
75	anti social behaviour in the town needs addressing, some sort of warden presence	11/6/2024 9:56 PM
76	N/A	11/6/2024 9:53 PM
77	I'd like to see more wild flower patches for bugs and pollinators plus save on the trimming	11/6/2024 8:35 PM
78	More shops, less barbers and charity shops!	11/6/2024 7:30 AM
79	Get our town centre and shops open because it is looking derelict	11/5/2024 7:56 PM
80	Don't know	11/5/2024 6:35 PM
81	short term low renting/leasing empty shops to prevent them sitting empty. Employing persons to daily collect/sweep up litter around the town-using hand carts not machines	11/5/2024 1:18 PM
82	I'd like to see you maintain the services you are responsible for currently	11/5/2024 11:22 AM
83	Regeneration of the town centre should be a priority. It is not a pleasant place to walk around.	11/5/2024 10:25 AM
84	Housing, bringing that back under council control because many can't access the private service	11/5/2024 9:49 AM
85	Numerous things but the local council would not do anything because all they think about is themselves.If they were not paid they would not be there	11/5/2024 9:47 AM
86	Pavements throughout the area are appalling, I have had several near misses on my mobility scooter due to the poor condition.	11/5/2024 7:48 AM
87	Make Worcester St a dining area.	11/5/2024 6:19 AM
88	More work to raise the profile of Kidderminster as a great place to live within a beautiful environment and with good transport links to Birmingham and the Black Country and Worcester	11/4/2024 9:20 PM
89	?	11/4/2024 8:16 PM
90	Yes more encouraging of children to be children in parks by having dogs having to be on short leash in all public spaces , roads parks etc And I would love to see dogs provided with their own area in parks where they can run, separated from the other users of the park especially children and older people who are easily knocked off their feet	11/4/2024 6:43 PM

## Have your say - our services

91	More cleaning in and around housing estate, more dog/ bins on streets, so people can put rubbish etc in bins and not the the grass	11/4/2024 6:18 PM
92	I think I've covered my expectations of the town council in the responses above .	11/4/2024 5:25 PM
93	Generally keep the town, residential areas clean and tidy.	11/4/2024 5:00 PM
94	Nk	11/4/2024 4:31 PM
95	See my earlier comments	11/4/2024 4:03 PM
96	car parks	11/4/2024 3:26 PM
97	.	11/4/2024 12:32 PM
98	Anything at all to make the town centre a destination	11/4/2024 10:31 AM
99	Just to maintain a clean, healthy and safe environment would be a great start. Stop wasting money on senior staff driving round seemly doing and contributing very little.	11/4/2024 10:05 AM
100	Mor bins around town and local area for rubbish more patrolling for alcohol abuse on streetsand ppl loitering in town and also pay more quality of toilets around town as they are in poor condition and really dont smell very nice at all and also young security guards going round town mainly stood about in shops chatting to staff for ages not even doin jobs would be helpful	11/4/2024 9:33 AM
101	Improving the bus service and providing free car parking to improve footfall	11/4/2024 8:40 AM
102	Litter picking	11/4/2024 8:09 AM
103	New "Green" space at top of town is waste money, plenty of empty derelict shops could be re vamped and have cheaper rents to encourage more businesses into town it's a dying dump if you walk around town	11/4/2024 7:38 AM
104	Feeling safe in the community is often voiced as an issue and perhaps working closer with those responsible would be of benefit	11/4/2024 7:33 AM
105	Street cleaning	11/4/2024 1:29 AM
106	Too many empty shops which look like the town look uninviting, uncared for and a waste of potential revenue and wealth creation for the area. Push to bring in unique specialist independent crafts/enterprises.	11/4/2024 12:44 AM
107	Only the paddling pool	11/4/2024 12:18 AM
108	To make Brintons Park safe for everyone. I'm not willing to pay more council tax for any projects previously mentioned. Increase each year isn't being justified or shown where it's all spent, accumulated funds need to be spend and shown where it's gone	11/4/2024 12:05 AM
109	You are spending thousands on revamping the town hall. Why couldn't some of our council tax money go to reopening the paddling pool in saint George's park.	11/3/2024 10:15 PM
110	Dementia cafes	11/3/2024 10:05 PM
111	We need garages to rent again for normal people, not just councillors. You sold off the taxpayers builders and they have been left to rot and get knocked down due to lack of promised maintenance. Social garages need building and maintaining- I've been waiting 6yrs for one!	11/3/2024 9:58 PM
112	Council needs to save money and reduce council tax, not allow more to be given to in from District. That's just a transfer of cost, not assets!	11/3/2024 8:57 PM
113	The barriers of the ring road are a disgrace along with the underpass on station hill. Also why are the lights left on at the council building when it's not in use, how much does that building cost the tax payers?	11/3/2024 8:51 PM
114	More help for SEND community, special needs, and having some more areas accessible to disabled individuals	11/3/2024 8:48 PM
115	Roads, homelessness, amount of unsafe places, more shops to bring Kidderminster more tourists.	11/3/2024 8:47 PM
116	We need more shops in town for people to spend money to put back into the pot and hold more community activities. Open one of the shops thats not being used and turn it in to a baby group on certain days and charge £2 per baby and then other days after school turn it into something else for the older children	11/3/2024 8:38 PM



## Have your say - our services

117	Fill the shops in the town as its a ghost town	11/3/2024 8:36 PM
118	No	11/3/2024 8:34 PM
119	Look after what we have please	11/3/2024 8:19 PM
120	Keeping the streets clean and antisocial behaviour and alcohol clear. I am scared to walk along the canal and underpasses.	11/3/2024 7:26 PM
121	See previous answer.	11/3/2024 6:33 PM
122	The car park by the old leisure centre is expensive and usually empty as it is slightly out of the way, since the leisure centre is no longer there. Businesses in the town centre would greatly benefit from free parking here at least for a 2-3 hour period.	11/3/2024 6:20 PM
123	I believe you have wasted money on capital projects and have failed to deliver much of any value	11/3/2024 6:11 PM
124	I don't know	11/3/2024 5:40 PM
125	Can't remember or go back to see but would just like to feel safer as it feels like Kidderminster is becoming run down and attracting crime	11/3/2024 5:36 PM
126	Cleaning supporting town centre and encouraging more supervision of town centre areas to stop antisocial behaviour	11/3/2024 5:32 PM
127	Dog mess and rubbish everywhere	11/3/2024 5:26 PM
128	Nothing as we need the current services to be ran properly first	11/3/2024 4:28 PM
129	Nothing because stuff is already in disrepair	11/3/2024 4:25 PM
130	Night accommodation for homeless ie pods one stop shelter somewhere for teenagers to go on a night instead of walking the streets and parks .	11/3/2024 2:32 PM
131	Spending all of the money on the town hall when you have to pay extortionate rates to park and there are barely any shops left is ridiculous. I would like to see Kidderminster cleaner and tidier with green space better maintained and more bins. Why were the bins removed around low habberley?	11/3/2024 2:31 PM
132	Cheaper rent to bring more shops to town. Town is a disgrace	11/3/2024 2:29 PM
133	Get more businesses back into the town centre with lower rates and other incentives- not more charity shops or food and drink!	11/3/2024 2:29 PM
134	Brintains park.	11/3/2024 2:23 PM
135	I do not want council tax rising anymore for projects that don't benefit the whole community. We don't need another paddling pool we have a perfectly good one in centre of Kidderminster at Brintons Park xxx	11/3/2024 1:54 PM
136	The subway at the bottom of the Birmingham rd is awful and once again full of drug dealers it's not safe to walk that way on your own	11/3/2024 1:43 PM
137	Rejuvenate the town centre on project at a time.	11/3/2024 1:40 PM
138	Clean up horsefair we're living with rats. community housing aren't listening	11/3/2024 1:29 PM
139	Top of town. The so called car park by M&S is an eyesore.	11/3/2024 1:25 PM
140	Just get the basics right, the rest will follow. Do not mention the waterfall or the paddling pool again. Just do it.	11/3/2024 1:20 PM
141	Skateboarding and similar sports to have more support and facilities.	11/3/2024 1:10 PM
142	Moving on drunks in town centre stops taking children into shops	11/3/2024 1:01 PM
143	No. Do not spread your responsibilities too wide. Focus on key areas otherwise it will be difficult to deliver everything.	11/3/2024 12:36 PM
144	Pot holes need sorting Maintaining the toilets in the park Need toilets in all parks Need more activity's and stuff to do for young people Need more shops for jobs	11/3/2024 11:52 AM
145	N/A	11/3/2024 11:48 AM
146	Pot holes, more activity's for the kids to keep the kids out of trouble	11/3/2024 11:41 AM
147	Springfield park bridge needs to be put back up for a lot of reasons	11/3/2024 11:40 AM



## Have your say - our services

148	Safer streets tackling anti social behaviour improvement of subways they are a mess and flood regularly	11/3/2024 11:36 AM
149	Removing the alcoholics and drug users within the town centre	11/3/2024 11:24 AM
150	Albert road is a road that is totally neglected by the council..it is open for Holy trinity school and the surface and condition is terrible. The road needs resurfacing and the disgusting gate needs painting. It makes our whole road look tatty and the residents of Albert road call the fence the Zombie fence. Considering our road is used daily for the school I am disgusted it's left in such poor condition.	11/3/2024 11:16 AM
151	Paddling pool. Look after parks better.	11/3/2024 11:12 AM
152	the paddling pool is outdated and unhygienic so not that. Arts/ Music/ sports provision open to	11/3/2024 11:04 AM
153	Yes all the unfinished projects	11/3/2024 11:01 AM
154	Council seem to fund unwanted features ( no curb by Barclays is dangerous, the record seating in town is dangerous too - especially for partially sighted. Benches / plants would look better ) more public events should be held ( Xmas lights is popular )	11/3/2024 10:24 AM
155	Not enough public toilets, not enough street cleaning in town.	11/3/2024 10:22 AM
156	Consider the impact on road users when utility companies want to dig up the road. Get a bit of coordination between them rather than one company dig up the road then soon after another company restricts access as it wants to dig up the road. Don't permit too many road closures or restrictions across the whole town at the same time. Much better planning is required.	11/3/2024 10:19 AM
157	Hole town is a shit hole need to drop a bomb on it	11/3/2024 10:18 AM
158	More youth clubs	11/3/2024 10:08 AM
159	Maintaining grass verges	11/3/2024 10:02 AM
160	Going back to your last question about the st, George's paddling pool to say that it would cost £156,000 to get it operational is ludicrous. That is one of the main problems the council are so out of touch with costs it has been highlighted numerous times that that figure is incorrect. Maybe they've had a quote for that but so many local business have offered to help complete works for free but most likely someone in the council will be getting a nice brown envelope if that project gets the green light and is awarded to their contractor of choice.	11/3/2024 10:02 AM
161	Lots of homeless people, making elderly young and ladies worried about walking around locally	11/3/2024 9:47 AM
162	Helping with housing, looking after homeless on the street	11/3/2024 9:44 AM
163	Social problems are the main issue. Drugs, homelessness and crime. There is no point maintaining things or making things pretty when they will just be vandalised	11/3/2024 9:37 AM
164	Toddlers sessions /play	11/3/2024 9:08 AM
165	The area where crown house used to be. It got knocked down and then a make shift car park appeared. Dreadful	11/3/2024 12:42 AM
166	Areas where the town meets the river or the canal making these waterways a feature they've been at the back of buildings too long. Where accessible with benches and walkways where in accessible improving biodiversity and wildlife. Make the owners of the chapel next to Blunts restore it and use it, even if not for Church use. The car park where the old Office block was now a scruffy Car Park and eyesore.	11/2/2024 10:41 PM
167	Not the actual canal or the river (as that's already managed I believe by canal and rivers trust) but any areas that border onto this feature that could be enhanced for wildlife (if not easily accessible) or recreation with benches and walkways for the benefit and enhancement of the town centre. Both water features have been at the back of buildings too long. Improve near Limekiln Bridge. Improve the catastrophe that is the site of the old post office building (white office block) Improve or drive the owners to improve the chapel next to Blunts.	11/2/2024 10:36 PM
168	Keeping town clean and vagrant free	11/2/2024 6:31 PM
169	1. Might as well transfer all parks and green spaces from WFDC to utilise economies of scale. 2. Closer police liaison/accountability 3. Look for areas where WFDC or WCC is	11/2/2024 1:16 PM

## Have your say - our services

failing residents and businesses (eg bus transport) and find ways to support (eg subsidise free buses on Saturdays).

170	street cleansing in the centre and access ways into the town that are neglected like the passage between Market Street and Bridge Street	11/2/2024 8:53 AM
171	I'm not completely sure what is under your legislation or others.	11/1/2024 10:16 PM
172	The concrete parking in town looks horrendous. Needs changing	11/1/2024 8:14 PM
173	No as I do not think a town council is necessary	11/1/2024 7:49 PM
174	Take a leaf from the enthusiasm of other town councils. Kidderminster seems to be apathetic about organising events for everyone.	11/1/2024 7:20 PM
175	Not at this stage	11/1/2024 6:54 PM
176	Think you mentioned them all when I had to pick Top 3 but they are all important	11/1/2024 5:24 PM
177	Bins along canal for dog poo.	11/1/2024 4:25 PM
178	No	11/1/2024 1:35 PM
179	Do more on wood street make it cleaner and safer	11/1/2024 11:24 AM
180	Support local traders. Encourage people to have pride in their town. People won't look after something that they don't feel part of.	11/1/2024 11:21 AM
181	community engagement, what do people of the district really want and how can we help. Why pay for something that the WFDC already do, what are there gaps and can we fill them.	11/1/2024 10:17 AM
182	No	11/1/2024 8:52 AM
183	Anything that could improve the town centre for uncultured shoppers (such as I). Consult the public about every big change you make to the town centre; it is too easy to make mistakes.	10/31/2024 11:00 PM
184	Subways need cleaning and revamped. Empty shops need filling. Shoplifting needs dealing with more quickly. Unblocking drains in all streets across Wyre Forest.	10/31/2024 9:40 PM
185	That is a ridiculous amount of money for a paddling pool	10/31/2024 9:22 PM
186	No, better concentrate on what you already do	10/31/2024 8:31 PM
187	Could do with a well organised indoor market in preference to that shambles of sloping canvas down High St & along Vicar St etc. If I were a business paying the level of rates for a shop premises I would take it amiss that the access and frontage to my business was hidden behind the mess of stalls	10/31/2024 6:59 PM
188	Promoting the town in a manner which would get decent restaurants and shopping to invest in the town	10/31/2024 6:27 PM
189	More police in town day and night.	10/31/2024 6:05 PM
190	need to attract private retailers. No choice when shopping as the town mainly has the multiples. Bewdley and Stourport and Droitwich have more independents than Kidderminster.	10/31/2024 5:46 PM
191	Disabled access (inclusive) play equipment in parks, including wheelchair swings, floor level accessible trampolines (aka wheelchair trampolines), sensory play equipment (drum/chime/rain sticks etc.), and more SEN communication graphic boards	10/31/2024 3:14 PM
192	Car park in bull ring Eye sore	10/31/2024 1:59 PM
193	Facilities for youngsters	10/31/2024 1:54 PM
194	I know you will say the money wasted on the town hall was a grant however it is still taxpayers money and could & should of been used for the projects you have just asked me if I would be happy to pay extra for, Says it all doesn't it	10/31/2024 1:01 PM
195	Encouraging shops to come back. Clean the ceiling structure of mould where you sit to eat at the clock cafe if you can't close it down and offer a better cafe in the town. Cosy cafe is good but their premises is too small on the ground floor. The town is dying it needs urgent resuscitation.	10/31/2024 9:42 AM
196	The market auctions were brilliant and always packed on Thursdays; a new venue would be nice.	10/31/2024 7:25 AM

## Have your say - our services

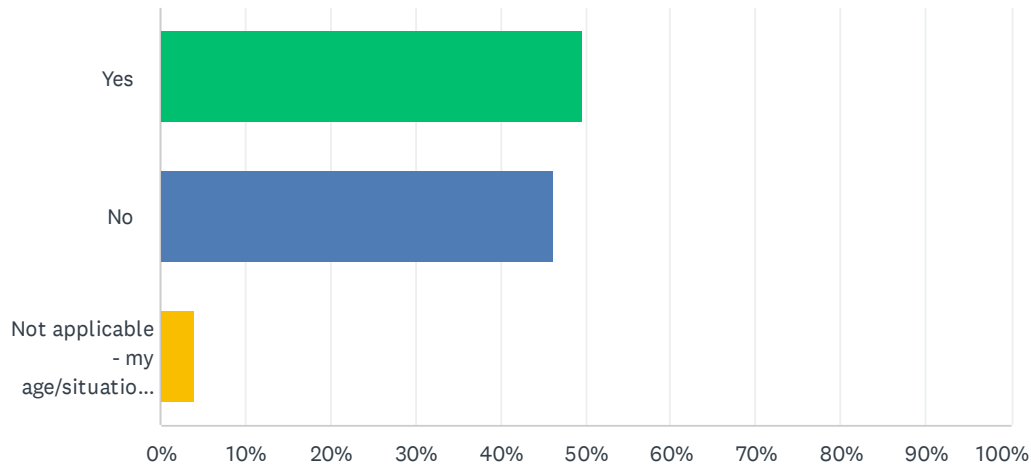
197	Brinton park, Springfield park, puxton marsh, funding KDYT	10/30/2024 11:42 PM
198	Concentrate on improving what you have	10/30/2024 8:06 PM
199	Dementia cafe and more schemes for people with dementia/Alzheimer's disease	10/30/2024 7:50 PM
200	Develop a way to use events/services to bring the elderly and young together so they can help each other. Frequently the elderly are lonely and they have a vast knowledge they care share with the young. Life is all to internet related, we need to go back and remember a time before it existed.	10/30/2024 5:22 PM
201	Work with the Local Police and Community Safety Partnership at WFDC to make the town safe and reduce the homelessness on the streets.	10/30/2024 1:15 PM
202	There are no enough electric charging points around town. I'd like to see more at the roadside parking bays in town (which they have in Ludlow for example). There's also a lack of space for performance arts, the Rose Theatre only have certain groups performing there. The Civic in Stourport is very expensive to hire. There's not really a space for amateurs to perform in larger productions. I also think that more needs to be done to attract larger retailers to the town centre and if that is not possible then repurposing the space for residential dwellings, I don't understand why the Piano building for example isn't being made in to shops and cafes on the ground level with apartments on other levels. We don't need more office space, there are many empty offices in Kidderminster already. That could have been used for housing (although, that probably isn't the town council).	10/30/2024 11:42 AM
203	The District council treated Broadwaters and St George's park most unfairly in transferring section 106 funds belonging to them to other projects. They handed over a poorly maintained paddling pool . The town council needs to take active steps to right this wrong	10/30/2024 10:26 AM
204	The state of the Paddling pool is an utter disgrace and is a great loss to the community. The responsibility for its condition lie's fairly and squarely with the Wyre forest district council. The District also treated Broadwaters very unfairly. Tens of thousands of section 106 money due to this area was unfairly and unjustly transferred to projects in other parts of the District . The responsibility for the necessary work on the pool should have been undertaken by the District Council before this "asset" was transferred to the Town Council. The District Council behaved in a shameful and underhand way and needs to be held accountable. The District council has been most unfair to Broadwaters and to George's Park in particular	10/30/2024 10:17 AM
205	I feel you shouldn't take over things (such as Parks and green spaces) from the District Council when you don't have capacity or the funds for the ones you already have.	10/30/2024 9:35 AM
206	Kidderminster Town Council is very stagnant and archaic. It does Not represent the diverse population as a whole. It would be good to see the Town Hall used for FREE and INCLUSIVE activities when it is finished. Hopefully, the completed town hall will include a community coffee shop accessible to all.	10/30/2024 9:14 AM
207	Take more care with the look of the town ,, clearing edges before they become overgrown	10/29/2024 4:40 PM
208	Helping reduce energy wastage	10/29/2024 3:54 PM
209	Instead of the waterfall and padding pool the water feature play areas used in St.Mary Stevens park, Stourbridge and the Riverside at Worcester seem to be very popular. Would they be ,safer and more cost effective to run??	10/29/2024 11:23 AM
210	Do what you already do better before taking on new areas.	10/29/2024 10:03 AM
211	Spending all that money on a paddling pool is ridiculous! We already have 2 in Wyre forest that residents can enjoy.	10/29/2024 9:31 AM
212	Bring back the indoor market Encourage independent shops in town	10/29/2024 8:44 AM
213	Encourage more clothes shops back into the town centre. Which would create more jobs and wealth in the town once again. Reduce the car parking to encourage people into town. Do something with the concrete car park outside Marks and Spencer the old crown building. What a site!	10/29/2024 8:06 AM
214	Parking charges; offering more affordable off peak parking.	10/29/2024 7:50 AM
215	Facilities for youth and elderly or adults with additional needs	10/29/2024 7:14 AM
216	We need more shops	10/29/2024 6:11 AM
217	Council have had more than enough money out of us and we have to pay for everything.	10/29/2024 12:14 AM
218	Who know what the town council delivers the costs out way the benefits	10/28/2024 6:17 PM

## Have your say - our services

219	Have no idea what the town council are responsible for. Should be district council not another layer of council expenditure	10/28/2024 6:12 PM
220	Making the area safe, so people are not afraid to enter	10/28/2024 5:59 PM
221	Swan Centre and Rowland Hill centre management	10/28/2024 4:14 PM
222	I think the Town Council should run a permanent indoor market - a revenue source for TC and a means for people to try a business idea. Other authorities already do this. It would also be a means of occupying another empty premises.	10/28/2024 3:40 PM
223	More public toilets in town centre!	10/28/2024 3:35 PM
224	I think that re opening the paddling pool in at George's park is a complete waste of money.	10/28/2024 2:07 PM
225	Take on the management of Brinton Park.	10/28/2024 11:31 AM
226	No, we currently pay WFDC to provide these services, the Town Council taking them on means we would be paying WFDC to do less with out Council Tax.	10/28/2024 10:41 AM

## Q14 Would you be willing to pay more Council Tax to enable us to take on the work you have suggested?

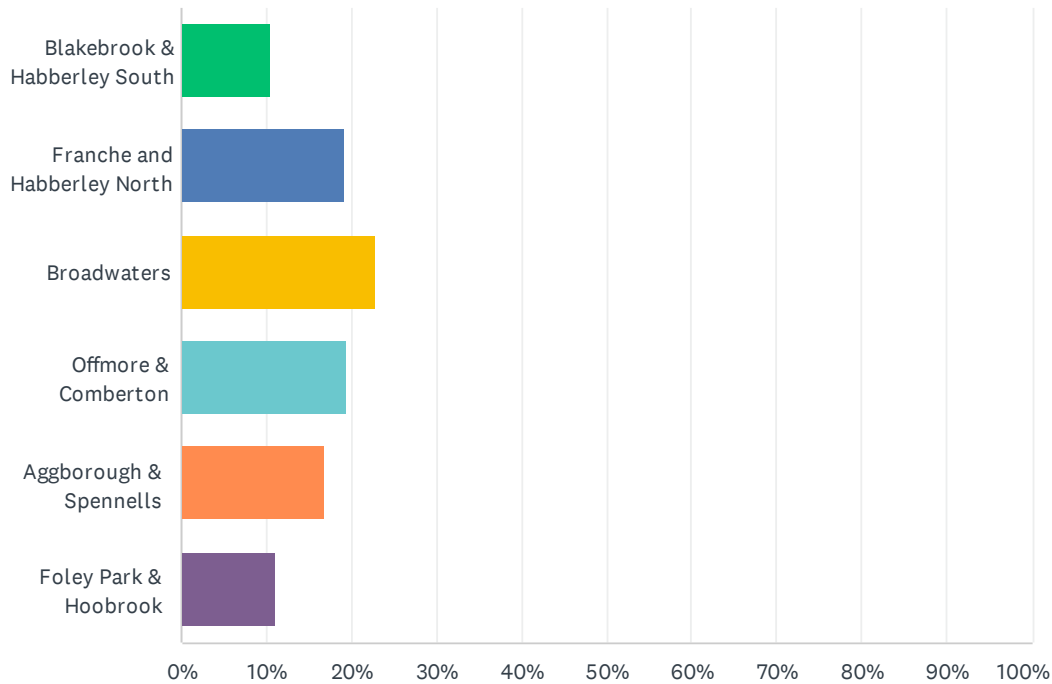
Answered: 451 Skipped: 221



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	49.67%	224
No	46.34%	209
Not applicable - my age/situation means I am not required to pay Council Tax	3.99%	18
TOTAL		451

## Q15 Which area of the town do you live in? If you are not sure you can check on our map. Map of Kidderminster areas

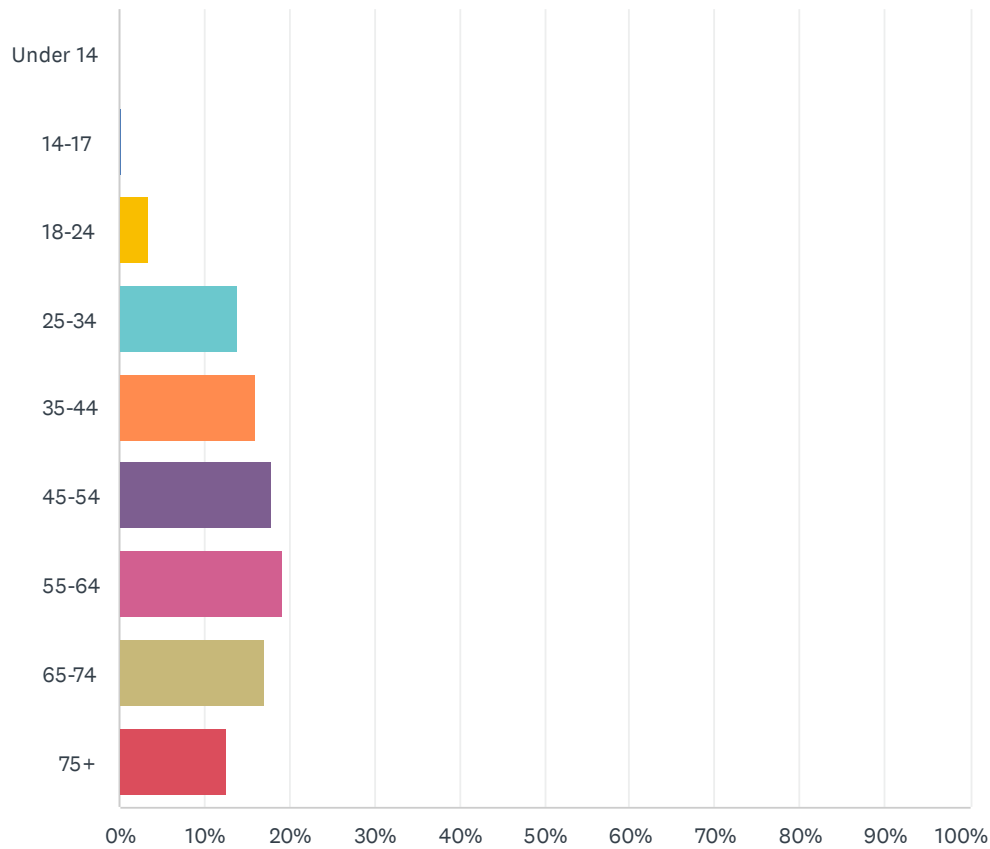
Answered: 446 Skipped: 226



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Blakebrook & Habberley South	10.54%	47
Franch and Habberley North	19.28%	86
Broadwaters	22.87%	102
Offmore & Comberton	19.51%	87
Aggborough & Spennells	16.82%	75
Foley Park & Hoobrook	10.99%	49
TOTAL		446

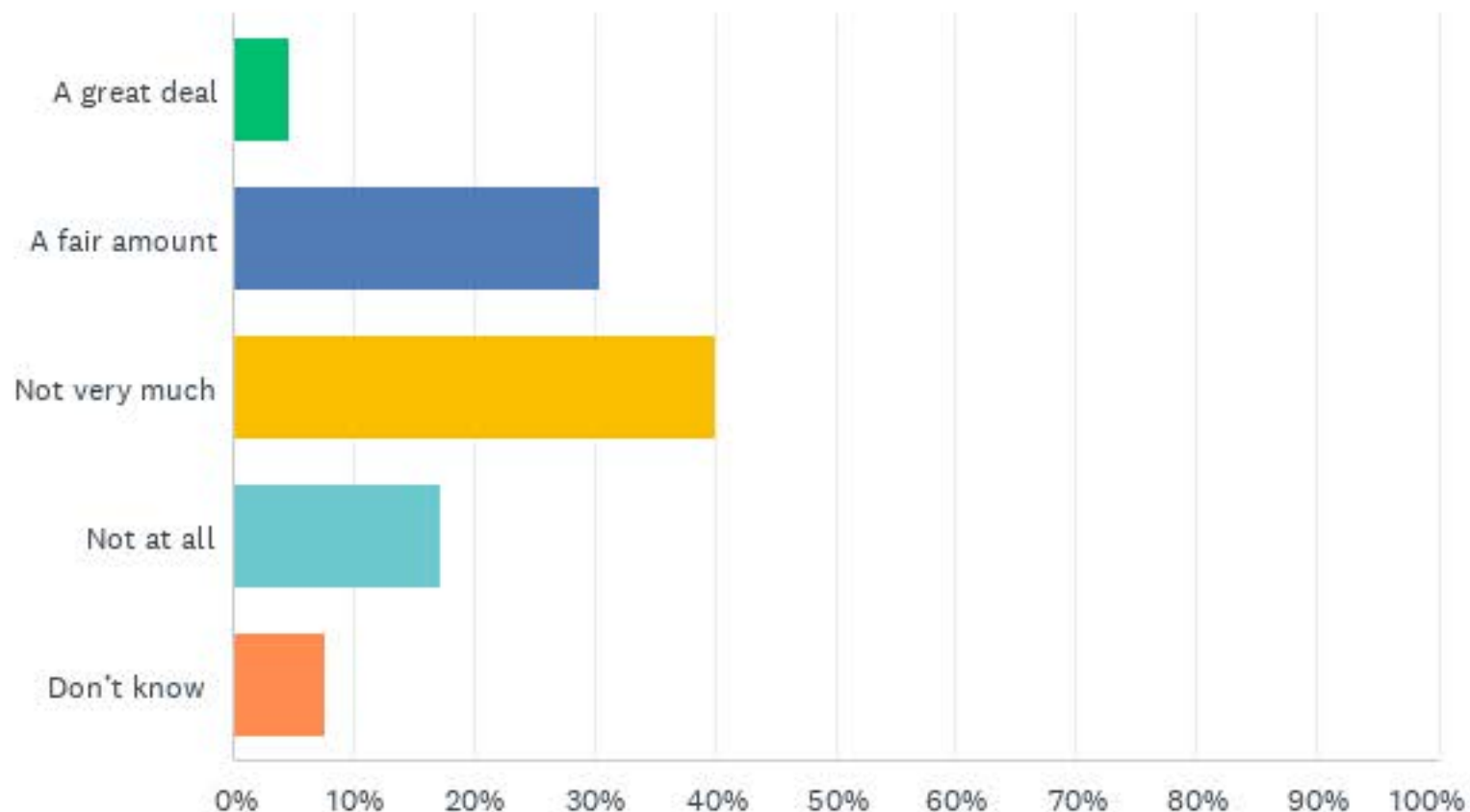
## Q16 Which age range do you fall into?

Answered: 448 Skipped: 224



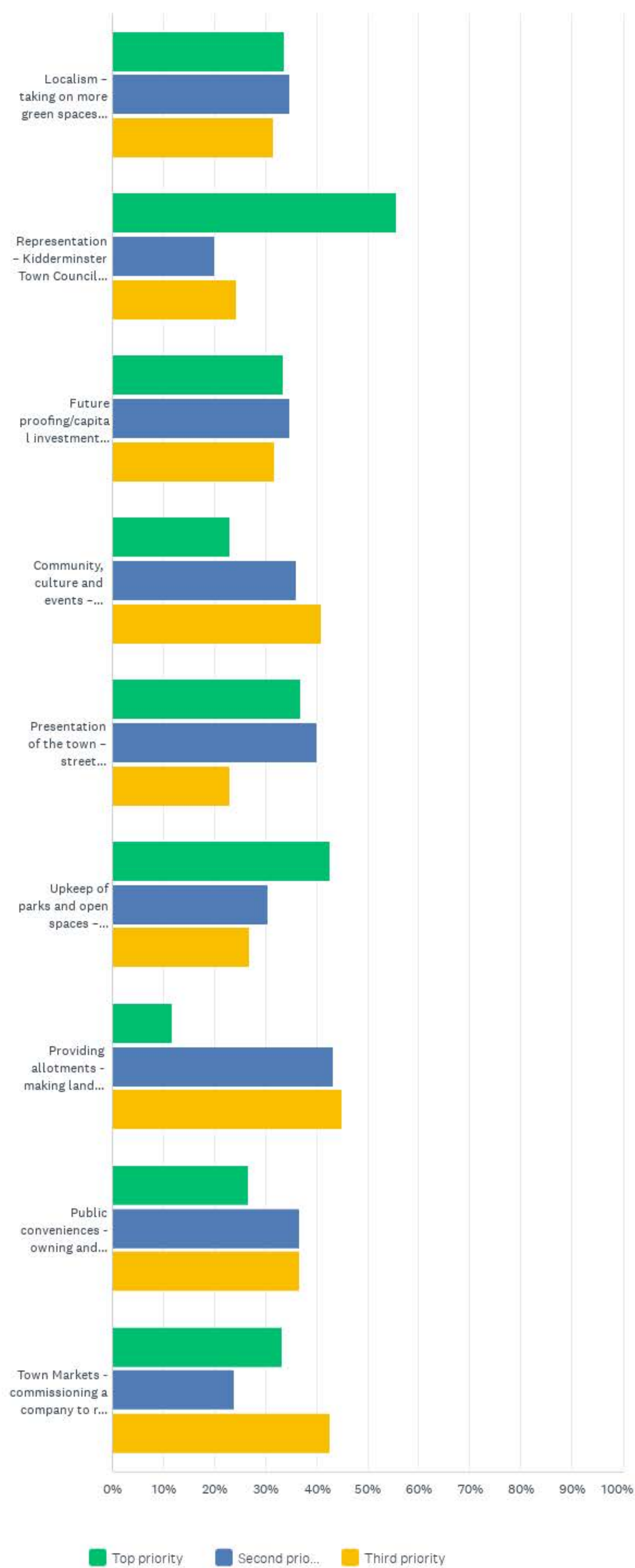
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 14	0.00%	0
14-17	0.22%	1
18-24	3.35%	15
25-34	13.84%	62
35-44	16.07%	72
45-54	17.86%	80
55-64	19.20%	86
65-74	16.96%	76
75+	12.50%	56
TOTAL		448

## Q5 To what extent do you think Kidderminster Town Council acts on the concerns of local residents?

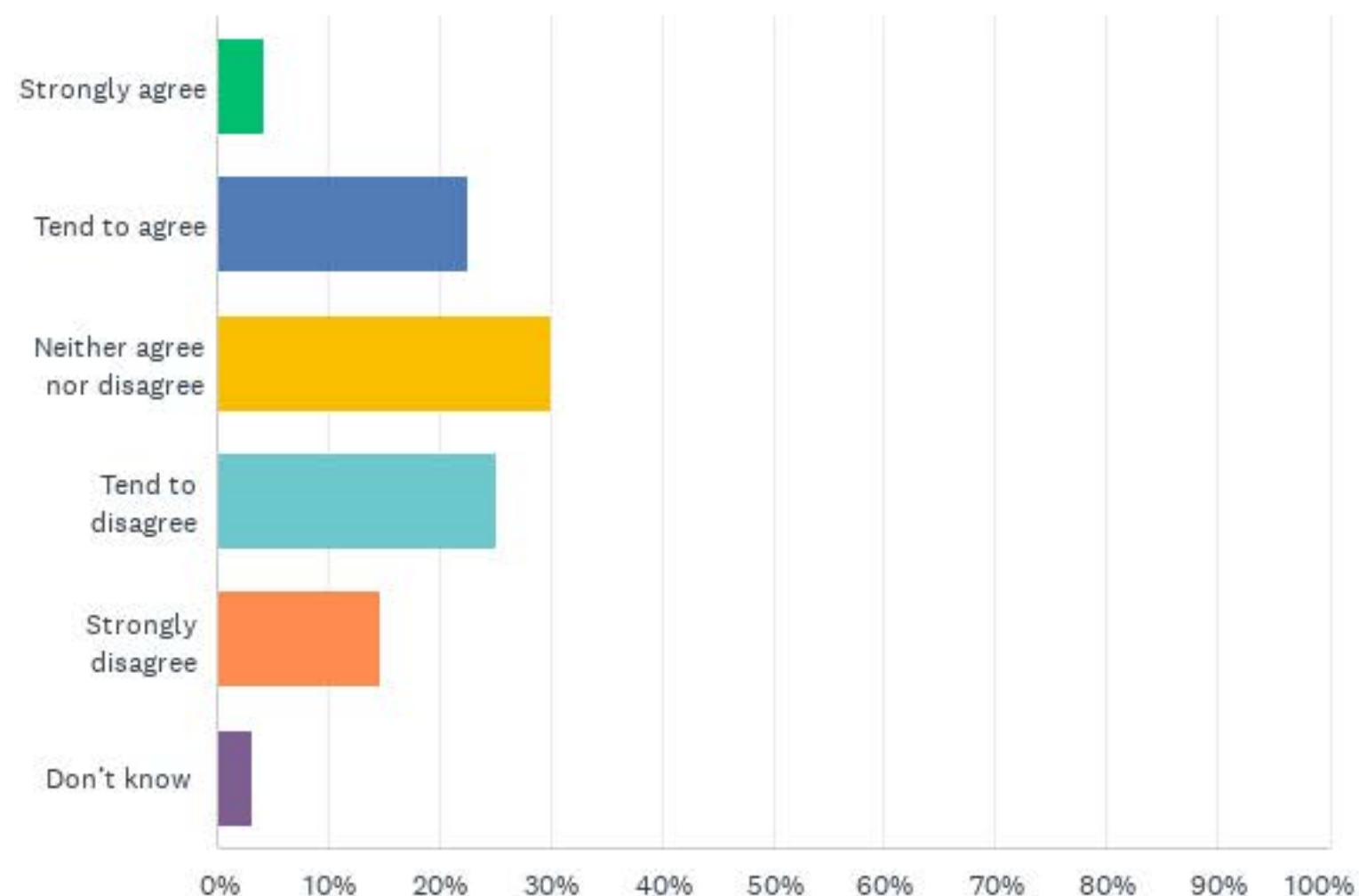




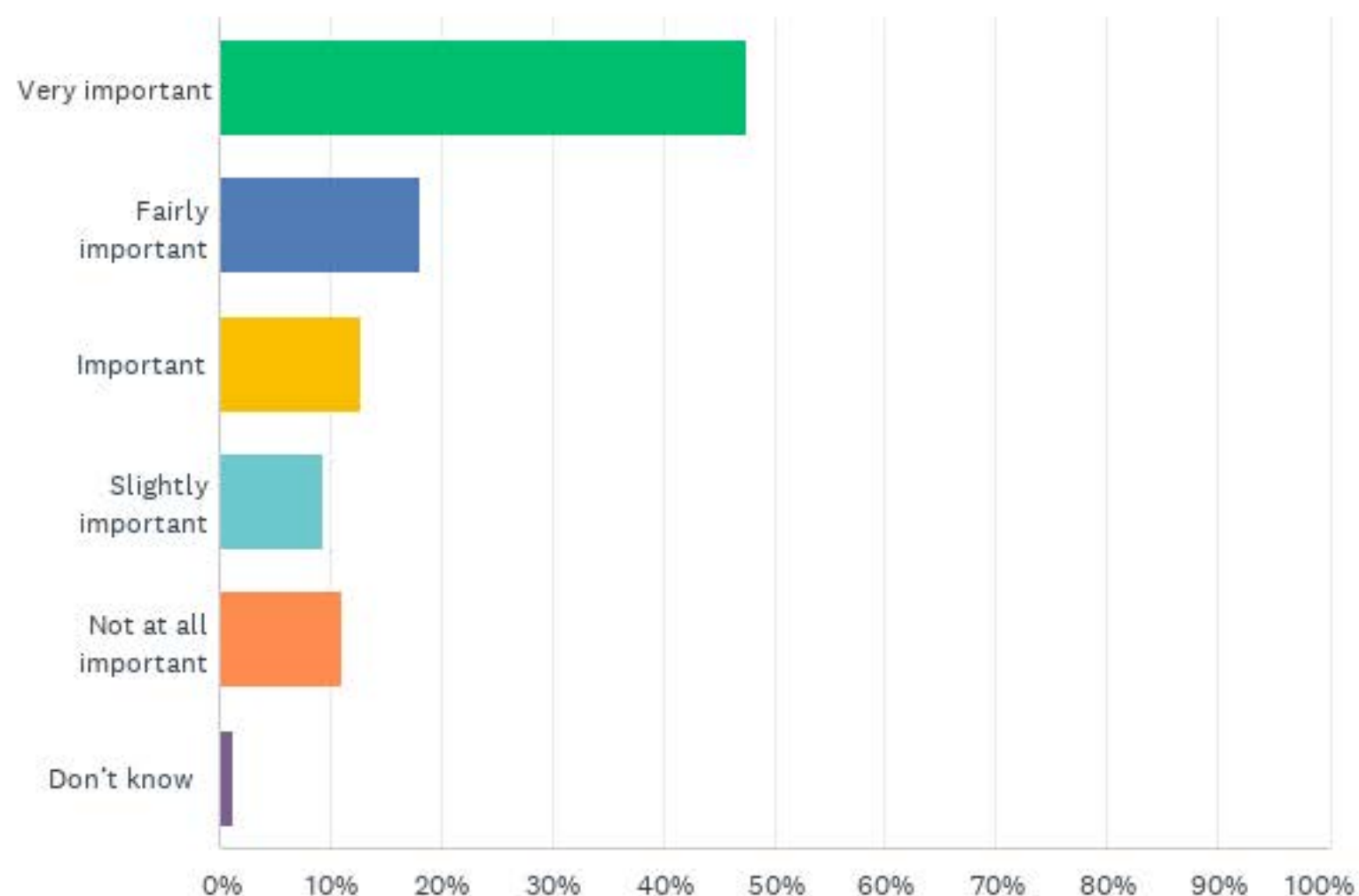
Q6 From the following list, please select the top three areas of work which you feel we should prioritise and focus our energies and resources on:



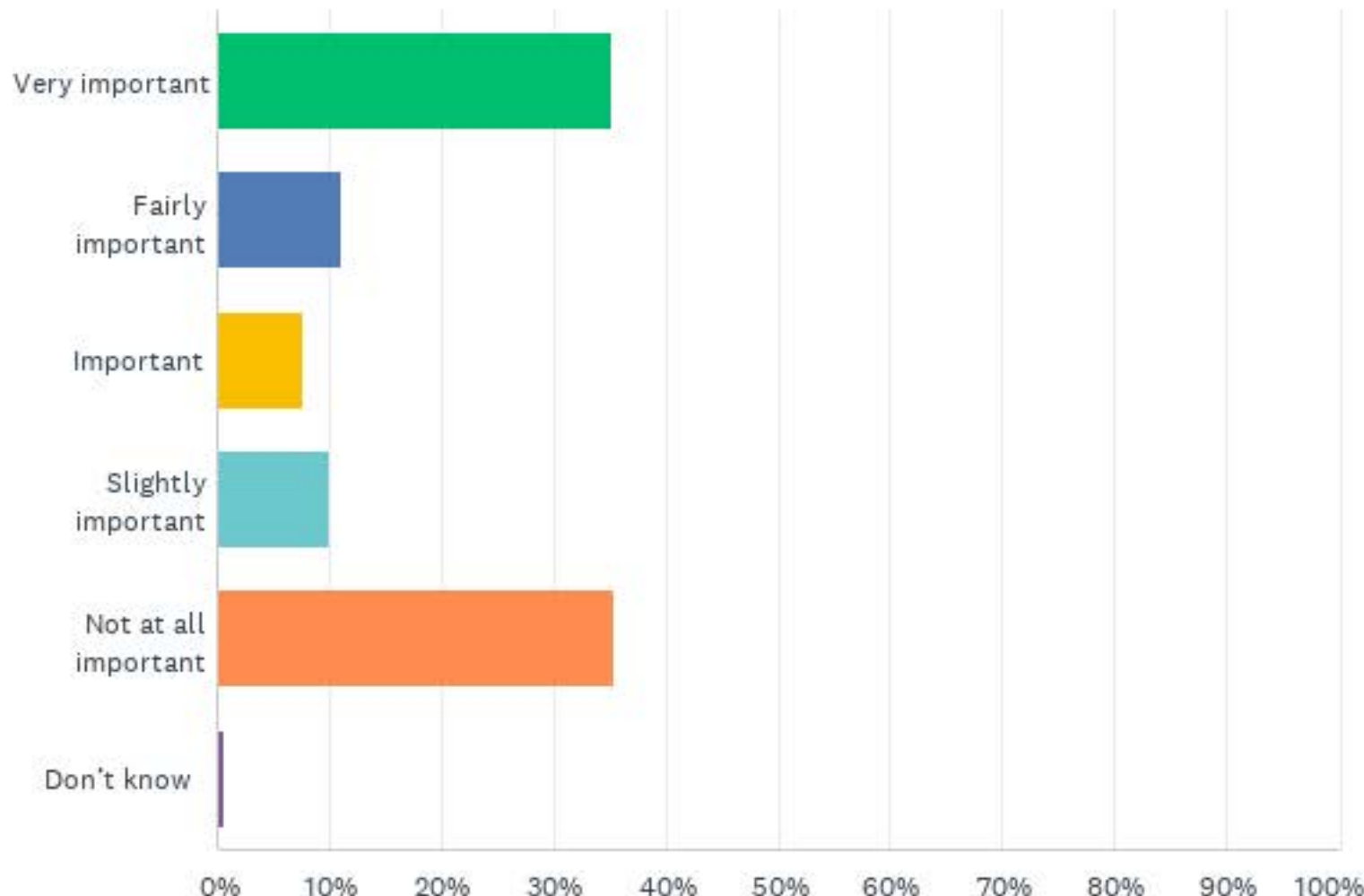
Q4 In considering the next question, please think about the range of services Kidderminster Town Council provides to the community as a whole, as well as the services your household uses. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Kidderminster Town Council provides value for money?



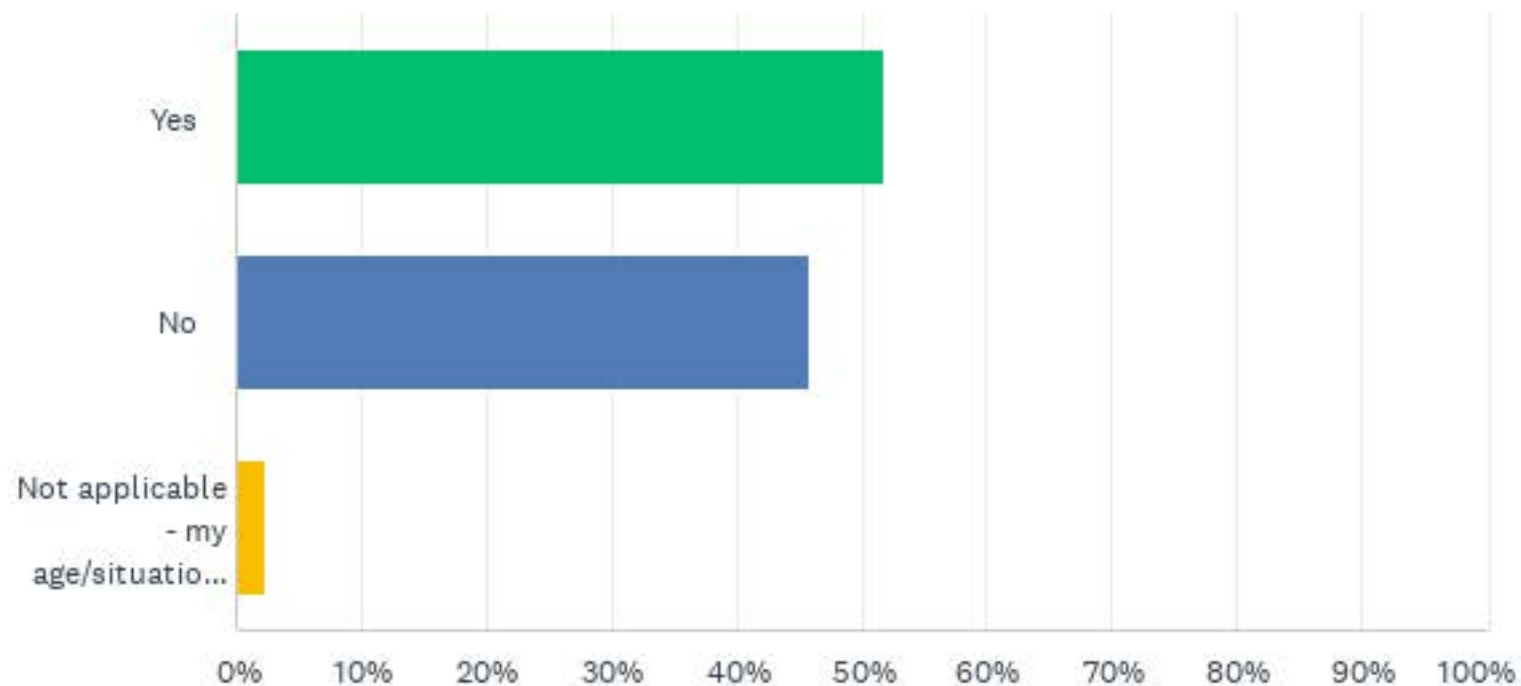
Q8 We are redeveloping the Town Hall, transforming the listed building into a bright new cultural, music and community space. Funding is thanks to a government grant. The project is progressing well and currently on target to reopen Summer 2025. Our ambition is for the venue to cater for all the community. We want it to provide a range of activities, events, performances, and learning opportunities. How important is it to you to that the Town Hall is used to its full potential?



Q11 We own and maintain St George's Park. The paddling pool there has been out of action since August 2022 due to health and safety concerns. To get it running again it is estimated to cost £156,000. We have a working group looking at ways we can fund the repairs. How important is it to you to reopen the paddling pool?

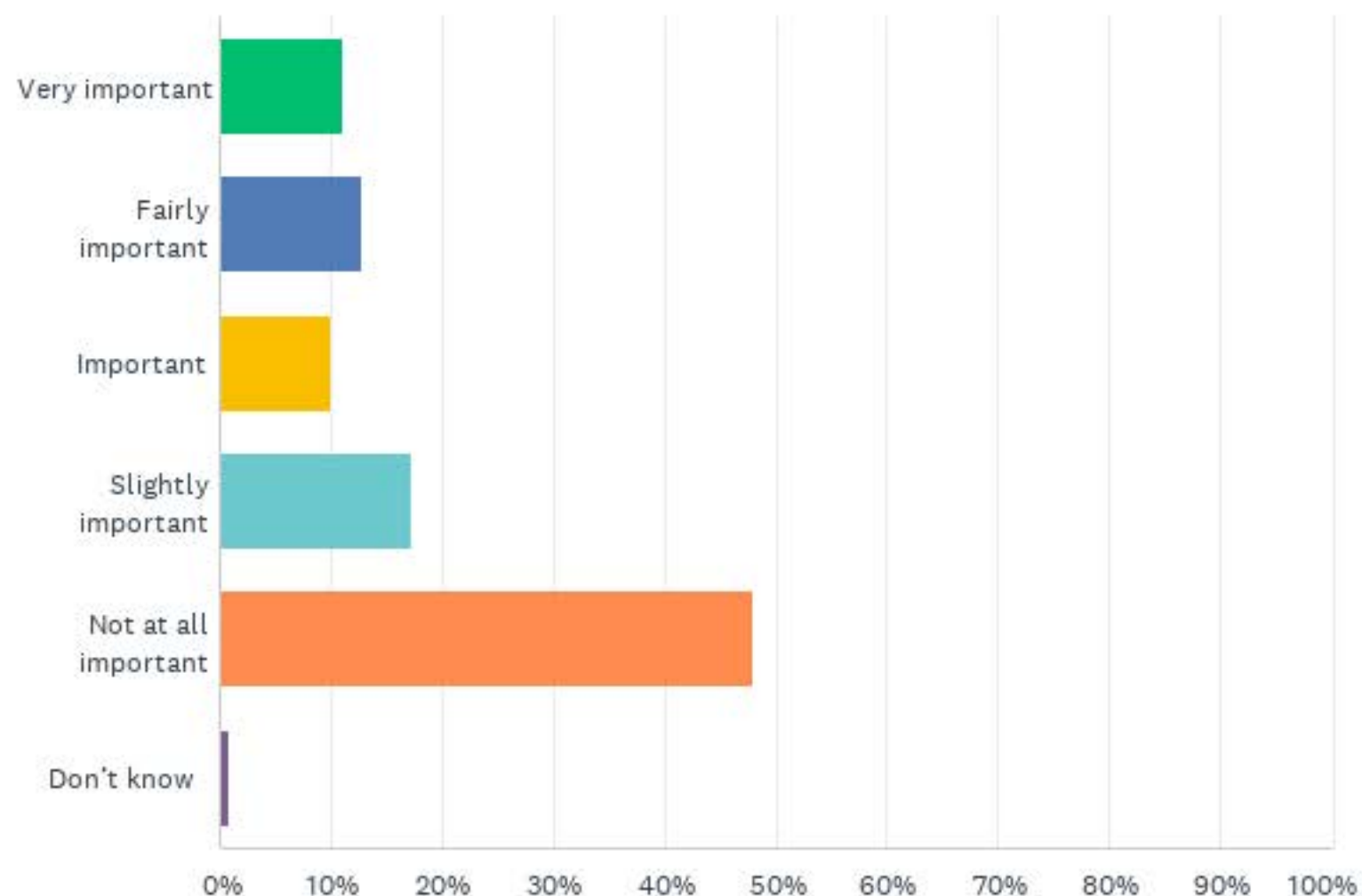


Q12 Would you be willing to pay more Council Tax (£2 per household per year) to help fund the repairs and the ongoing maintenance and running costs?

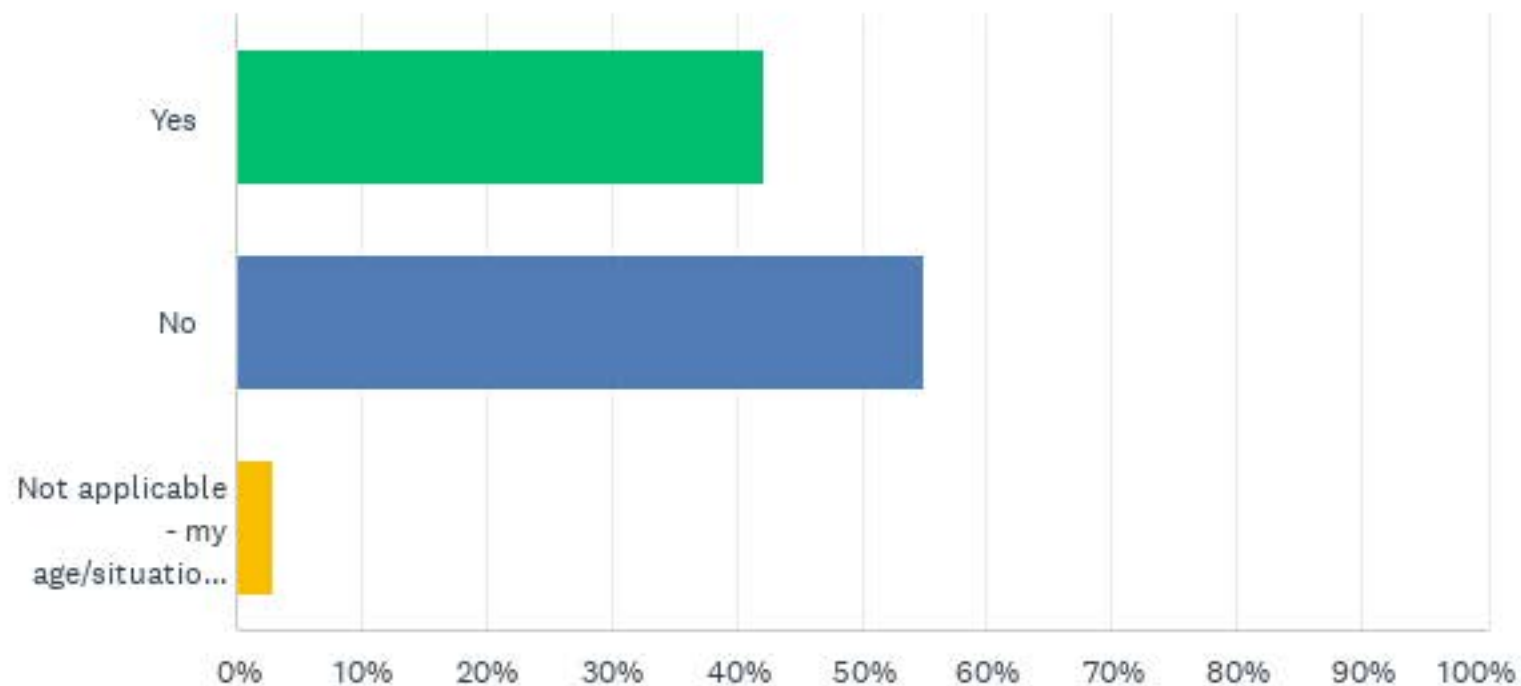




Q9 We own and maintain the water feature on the town's ring road. The Grade II listed feature does not run all the time, it is switched on to mark special occasions. This is due to the running costs, which are £3,750 a year. How important is it to you to have it switched on more frequently?



Q10 Would you be willing to pay more Council Tax ( 20 pence per year, per household) so we could switch the waterfall on more regularly?



**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025**

**PUBLIC REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS**

**Agenda Item 8: Vision 2025-2029**

To approve the Council's Vision 2025-2029

**1. BACKGROUND**

At the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May the Council approved a proposal to prepare a Strategic Plan for the rest of this Council's term of office. Such a plan should:

- Provide clear guidance for members, public and staff
- Inform and direct budget, policies and other decision-making (an Action Plan for members and Officers of the Council)
- Give clear guidance to everyone regarding the functions, services, aims and objectives of the Council, and
- Result in better quality decision-making.

The Council resolved to set up a Vision Working Group and set the Terms of Reference for the Working Group at the Council meeting on 26th June.

It was agreed that the Working Group would consult/ survey the public on spending priorities for the Council, to assist in their recommendations.

The consultation has since been completed and a report presented at this meeting.

**2. DISCUSSION/ COMMENT**

The Council requires the Vision to include a mission statement for the Town Council, and set out its aims, objectives and priorities for the Council from 2025 to 2029.

Issues:

- Resources required to deliver objectives, particularly where additional functions, services, objectives are approved
- Member support and promotion required to ensure effective delivery
- Public support, as measured through the consultation
- Delivery- detailed plans, aims, deadlines, KPI's, and
- Regular reporting to monitor progress or problems arising, and
- A review mechanism to respond to new issues which might arise or deal with delivery problems



### 3. SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS

- 3.1 The Working group met on 3 occasions to draft the Vision/ Strategy and the public consultation to inform/ advise members. The report on the Consultation has been considered and the Vision works to reflect the outcomes. The draft Vision is attached, for consideration by the Council.
- 3.2 Most of the Vision relates to current services and functions of the Town Council. However, where additional or new services/ functions are proposed these may have to wait for next year's budget ( such as Kidderminster in Bloom, if approved).
- 3.3 When the Aims and objectives of the Vision are approved, officers will prepare an action plan for delivery, to be approved by the Council.
- 3.4 Regular monitoring will demonstrate progress against the aims and objectives of the Vision. It is recommended that this should be covered by the Finance and Overview committee and that the Committee's terms of reference be updated to include this.
- 3.5 There should be an annual review of the Vision, at the October meeting of the Council, to keep the Vision relevant and updated.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The attached Vision sets out a work programme and a plan of action for the Council, from 2025 to 2029.

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

- A. To Approve the draft Vision, 2025 to 2029,
- B. To direct Officers to prepare an action plan for the delivery of the vision, and
- C. To amend the Terms of Reference of the Finance and Overview Committee so that the Committee can approve the Action Plan and monitor progress on its delivery.

Hugh Peacocke  
Chief Executive Officer

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

### Vision/ Strategy 2025-2029

#### *Providing services to the people of Kidderminster*

- 1. Help to make Kidderminster a more attractive, welcoming, safe and well cared for town**
  - 1.A Providing services/ amenities and working with other partners and stakeholders to help to deliver a well-presented and safer town centre
  - 1.B Provide outstanding parks, playgrounds and public spaces
  - 1.C Provide public toilets
  - 1.D Run vibrant markets
  - 1.E Provide allotments
  - 1.F Provide value for money services for the communities we serve, by maximising income and controlling costs.
  - 1.G Consider further devolution of services from other tiers of local government wherever we feel that this is in the best interests of the communities we serve.
- 2. Make Kidderminster Town Hall a key community and civic asset**
  - 2.A To make the Town Hall accessible and inclusive for all our communities
  - 2.B Protecting and preserving the Town Hall, its artefacts and its heritage, on behalf of all of our communities.
  - 2.C Providing top class culture and entertainment events,
  - 2.D Supporting the community use and enjoyment of the Town Hall
  - 2.E To provide accessible, inclusive Civic Offices to deliver services for the people of Kidderminster
- 3. Foster a real sense of community and Civic Pride**
  - 3.A. To be “The Voice of Kidderminster”, by:
    - By lobbying and working in partnership with WFDC, WCC, Kidderminster BID, and others on matters relating to Kidderminster
    - Responding to public consultations on behalf of the people of Kidderminster,
    - Fulfilling our role as a statutory consultee for planning applications within the parish area,
    - Raising concerns with the relevant local and national organisations on behalf of the people of Kidderminster
  - 3.B Upholding the Civic and Mayoral heritage of Kidderminster
  - 3.C Inspiring Civic events and Mayoral calendar
  - 3.D Enjoyable and inclusive community events
  - 3.E Celebrate and recognise individual and community achievements
  - 3.F Encourage and support contributions to our public and community life
  - 3.G Promote “Kidderminster in Bloom”
- 4. Take actions to address the climate emergency**
  - 4.A. To Ensure the activities of the Town Council are carbon neutral by 2035.
  - 4.B Promote biodiversity across our parks and open spaces
  - 4.C Actively encourage and support actions that will make Kidderminster as a whole more environmentally sustainable.

- 5. **Provide focused support for young people, the elderly, minorities and the vulnerable**
  - 5.A. Provide funding to organisations which support these groups in Kidderminster
  - 5.B. Support and promote initiatives to make Kidderminster a more inclusive town
-

<i>Delivering Services to the People of Kidderminster</i>
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1. Help make Kidderminster an attractive, welcoming, safe and well cared for town					
Aims		Current (Y/N)	Planned (Y/N)	Notes	What are we doing/ will do
1.A Providing services/ amenities and working with other partners and stakeholders to help to deliver a well-presented and safer town centre		Y	Y	High priority in survey.	Working with WFDC, the BID, WMP re Town centre issues. (Safer, Cleaner Kidderminster)
		Y	Y		Street furniture, memorials, street cleaning, hanging baskets, floral displays, Lengthsman, street sweeping
		N	?		Promote a Kidderminster in Bloom competition?
1B. Provide outstanding parks, playgrounds and public spaces		Y	Y	High priority in survey.	Providing 3 parks, with playgrounds and other facilities. Working closely with Friends Groups.
			Y		Planning to take on other parks and open spaces.
			Y		Achieve Green Flag Status for our parks.
1C. Provide public toilets		Y	?	Market Street	Future provision in Town Hall only? Charge for use?
1D. Run vibrant markets		Y	?	Rental income	Proving market space
1E. Provide allotments		Y	Y	Contractor	Providing allotments
					Kidderminster in Bloom? Allotments competition?
1F. Provide value for money services for the communities we serve, by maximising income and controlling costs.		Y	Y		Budget setting,
					Budget monitoring and control
					Financial Regs.,
					Quarterly reporting.
1G. Consider further devolution of services from other tiers of local government wherever we feel that this in in the best interests of the communities we serve.		N	Y		Negotiating with WFDC
Percentage of Town Council Revenue Budget: 38%					

2. Make Kidderminster Town Hall a key community and civic asset					
Aims	Current (Y/N)	Planned (Y/N)		Notes	What are we doing/ will do
2A. To make the Town Hall accessible and inclusive for all our communities	Y	Y		Transformation Project	Completing the Town Hall transformation project (Total cost £11.5M) to make the Town Hall a valued civic, cultural and community amenity
2B. Protecting and preserving the Town Hall, its artefacts and its heritage, on behalf of all of our communities.	Y	Y		Annual revenue costs	Running and Maintaining. Loan Charges (£140K), Re-opening 2025 (£120K)
2C. Providing top class culture and entertainment events,	N	Y		Includes £100,000 one-off costs for re-opening.	Hiring a business development manager to attract first class events and drive income generation through sales, including the Courtyard bar and café.
2D. Supporting the community use and enjoyment of the Town Hall	N	Y		Discount rates at off peak times.	To provide education, culture, community value we will encourage use by community groups, schools, volunteer, charity and not-for-profit organisations.
2E. To provide accessible, inclusive Civic Offices to deliver services for the people of Kidderminster	N	Y		We are installing a new lift in the town Hall to improve accessibility	Profile the return to the Town Hall and the services the Town Council provides
Percentage of Town Council Revenue Budget: 45%					

3. Foster a real sense of Community and Civic Pride				
Aims	Current (Y/N)	Planned (Y/N)	Notes	What are we doing/ will do
3A. To be “The Voice of Kidderminster”,	Y	Y	High priority in survey.	Lobbying and working in partnership with WFDC, WCC, Kidderminster BID, and others on matters relating to Kidderminster
				Responding to public consultations on behalf of the people of Kidderminster.
				Fulfilling our role as a statutory consultee for planning applications within the parish area.
				Raising concerns with the relevant local and national organisations on behalf of the people of Kidderminster
3B. Upholding the Civic and Mayoral heritage of Kidderminster	Y	Y		Civic protocols; regalia, civic team; Mayor’s allowances
3C. Inspiring Civic events and Mayoral calendar	Y	Y		Mayor-making; Remembrance Sunday, Mayor’s services, charities and functions.
3D. Enjoyable and inclusive community events	Y	Y		Includes Christmas lights, Santa in the Town, staff costs.
3E. Celebrate and recognise individual and community achievements	N	Y	Largely promotional work, which could be done at little cost.	“Letters from the Mayor”?
3F. Encourage and support contributions to our public and community life	N	?	We used to have Community Awards	Resources would be required. From 2026?
3G. Promote “Kidderminster in Bloom”	N	Y	Council and community	Resources would be required. From 2026?
Percentage of Town Council Revenue Budget:12%				

4. Take actions to address the climate emergency					
Aims	Current (Y/N)	Planned (Y/N)		Notes	What are we doing/ will do
4A. Ensure the activities of the Town Council are carbon neutral by 2035 or before?	N	?		On agenda for Full council in January 2025	
4B. Promote biodiversity across our parks and open spaces	Y	Y			Biodiversity Policy adopted. Working Group set up.
4C. Actively encourage and support actions that will make Kidderminster as a whole more environmentally sustainable	Y	Y			Work with other interested Organisations/ Groups
Percentage of Town Council Budget: 3%					
5. Provide focused support for young people, the elderly, minorities and the vulnerable??					
Aims	Current (Y/N)	Planned (Y/N)		Notes	What are we doing/ will do
5A. Provide funding to organisations which support these groups in Kidderminster	N	Y			Ward grants? Council grants?
5B. Support and promote initiatives to make Kidderminster a more inclusive town	N	Y		Ward grants? Council grants?	The Town Hall will be more accessible when re-opened. Consult relevant groups regarding these issues, where they arise.
Percentage of Town Council Budget: 2%					

**Kidderminster Town Council**

**Vision Working Group**

**Terms of Reference**

**1. Scope**

Kidderminster Town Council wishes to adopt a vision for the Council from 2025 to 2029.

**A. Setting the Vision:**

The Vision will include a mission statement for the Town Council, and set out its aims, objectives and priorities for the 2025 to 2029 Council. ( The attached draft was considered by the Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.)

It will direct, influence and inform decision-making and budget making for the Council.

It will provide an action plan for officers and members.

**Benefits of a Vision:**

- Clear guidance for members, public and staff
- Informs and directs budgets, policies and other decision-making (Action plan)
- Clear guidance as to what's in and what's out
- Better quality decision-making.

**Issues:**

- Resources
- Member support
- Public support
- Delivery- detailed plans, aims, deadlines, KPI's, reporting.

The working group will provide an opportunity where officers, Members and Non-Members can bring together their knowledge, skills and experience in pursuit of providing information and evidence to provide the Council with relevant recommendations to assist in making its Vision.

This may include a public consultation regarding the services, finances and priorities for the Council over the 4-year term.

Where the Working Group considers necessary, it may establish sub-groups or topic groups to take forward any particular area or matter and report back to them.

**B. Monitoring and Review**

The Council will monitor the delivery of the Vision against targets and deadlines by way of reports to the Finance and Overview Committee.



There will be an annual review which will be lead by the Working Group, commencing in September each year and concluding as part of the annual budget-making process.

## **2. Governance Arrangements**

The Working Group will comprise of 5 elected Kidderminster Town Council members.

The Working group may invite other members, non-members and any relevant consultants or advisors, as it sees fit.

The Chief Executive Officer will support the Working Group.

Working Group meetings do not require Public Notice and Access; however, the Working Group may invite other persons to advise on any matter within its remit.

The working group shall undertake the following roles and functions: -

1. Appoint its own Chair, must be an elected Kidderminster Town Council member.
2. Choose to engage with non-working group member councillors, non-councillors and outside bodies who might provide advice and guidance.
3. Arrange meetings/ workshops/ brainstorming exercises as it deems necessary.
4. The group does **not** have delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the Town council.
5. Where necessary, to provide recommendations to the Council from time to time on matters within the Terms of Reference.

## **3. Amendments to Terms of Reference**

Amendments to the Terms of Reference may only be made by the Full Council.

## **4. Terms of Reference (meetings)**

- Minutes will be kept, and a copy supplied to each member of the group as soon as reasonably practicable.
- All representatives should actively participate in the meetings and be committed to following through actions allocated to them.
- Meeting to last no longer than one hour, unless the Group agrees a longer time, within the hour.
- Please arrive in readiness for the meeting to start promptly at the allocated time.

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025**

**PUBLIC REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS**

**1. Agenda Item 8: Budget 2025-26**

**To Approve** the Annual Budget and the level of the precept levied

**1. Overview**

The budget for 2025-26, like this year, will be dominated by capital expenditure, which is almost entirely on the Town Hall project.

The overall figures in the attached draft budget are as follows:

	<b>Budget 25-26</b>	
	Expenditure	Income
Revenue	1,424,286	135,000
Capital	2,305,858	2,370,858
Precept	0	1,224,286
Total	3,730,144	3,730,144

The full details of the budget for 2025-26, along with projections for 2026-27 and 2027-28 are attached.

**2. SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS**

A) The capital expenditure above, totalling £2,370,858, is made up as follows:

- |      |   |            |
|------|---|------------|
| i.   | Town Hall Transformation Project:   | £1,986,162 |
| ii.  | The remainder of the "Journey through Kidderminster" Project (NLHF funded)  | £ 119,696  |
| iii. | Town Hall re-opening costs:<br>Which will be financed from the Council's reserves, and  | £ 100,000, |
| iv.  | St. George's Park Paddling Pool re-instatement:<br>(The £150,000 towards the re-instatement of the paddling pool at St. George's Park is to be funded by external sources; if the funding is not achieved, the expenditure will not be incurred). | £ 150,000. |
| v.   | Section 106 spend   | £ 15,000   |

B) **The revenue expenditure** totalling £1,424,286 gives an indication of the costs of delivering the Town Council's services after the Town Hall project has been completed. It is funded almost entirely by the precept (90%).

The largest elements of the Council's revenue expenditure are as follows:

i.	Staff costs:	£523,026 (37%)
ii.	Contracts and SLA's:	£240, 400 (17%)
iii.	Loan Charges:	£150,000 (11%)
iv.	Utilities, rates, contracts, Town Hall:	£141,000 (10%)
v.	Insurances:	£ 33,500 (2%)
vi.	Christmas Lights:	£ 30,700 (2%)

The Revenue budget allocations for 2025-26 are as follows:

i.	Corporate Services:	£243,468 (net)
ii.	Operational Services:	£347,774 (net)
iii.	The Town Hall:	£459,505 (net)
iv.	Civic, Community and Events:	£173,539 (net)
Total:		£1,224,286 (precept)

C) **The Precept** is the amount of money that this Council requires the District Council to collect from Council Taxpayers in our parish to pay towards the services that we provide on their behalf.

The precept proposed in the draft budget is £1,224,286, which amounts to £68.95 per Band D Household in Kidderminster (3% of a household's total Council Tax bill).

(Average Band D across the UK for 2024 was £89.18

Local Council Band D payments this year ranged from 0 to £402)

(For information, Band D represents the precept total divided by the tax base, which is the number of households liable to pay Council tax. In some years the Council Tax base could be expected to rise by 1 to 1.5%, which would reduce pressure on the precept. However, this year, the rise was only 13 households, giving a total of 17,757. The reasons given for such a low increase this year are as follows:

*'Kidderminster had a lot of HMO's (houses in multiple occupation) - these used to be banded as separate flats however the VOA have now merged them into 1 property per HMO so KTC have lost a lot.*

*Also there has been a large increase in discounts and exemptions, Martin Lewis keeps pushing these on television and we have had a large increase in take up.'*

### **3. MAIN CHANGES IN BUDGET 2025-26**

**A) Staffing Costs:** The Staffing Committee approved a total budget of £523,026 in order to accommodate proposals for the Council's staff restructure. This represents an increase of 15%, which includes an increase in staff numbers, as well as provision for salary increases and increased national insurance costs.

Staffing costs are 37% of the total revenue budget. The LGA reports that staffing costs range from 40% to 60% of Council revenue budgets. However, when considering this, outsourcing, contracts, SLA's, etc. should also be taken into account.

In budget 2025-26 staff costs have been allocated across the various services and functions of the Council to better illustrate the direct costs of provision.

#### **B) Re-opening the Town Hall**

The Council plans to return to the Town Hall in mid-May 2025 and to re-open for events business from September. This will require substantial expenditure to ensure that the Town Hall properly reflects the transformation project. Elements of the project were removed as part of the value engineering exercise before the contract was signed (essential items, such as sound and lighting and a lift) while parts of the town Hall outside the scope of the contract will require decorating to complement the transformed areas. The draft budget proposes to spend £100,000 on these works, but rather than levy all this on the precept, it will be funded through the Council's reserves.

The re-opening of the Town Hall also gives rise to a range of ongoing costs, such as cleaning contracts, utilities costs and business rates, most of which were not required in this year's budget.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Finance and Overview Committee of the Council met on 16<sup>th</sup> January and recommended that the Council approves the attached draft Budget for 2025-26 and resolves to raise a precept of £1,224,286 for the financial year 2025-26

Hugh Peacocke  
Chief Executive Officer

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Cost Centre	Cost Code	Description	Expenditure			Income			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
			Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Est Expenditure	Est Income	Est Expenditure	Est Income
*		Staff costs	455,643		523,026				558,717		575,479	
Cost Centre	Cost Code	Description	Expenditure			Receipts			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
			Budget 24-25	Projected	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected	Budget 25-26				
K100- Corporate Services	11010	Staff re-allocation	149,626	140,000	117,158				125,188		128,960	
	49015	Staff training	4,000	5,500	7,000				5,150		5,350	
	43031	Office expenses	3,100	4,500	5,000				3,000		3,200	
	13080	Relocation costs- Staff travel	2,500	2,500	1,000				0		0	
	43030	stationery	700	500	600				618		640	
	45010	postage	1,710	1,100	1,100				1,144		1,200	
	43014	Print management	650	750	750				800		860	
	45030	mobile phones	1,650	1,650	1,800				1,800		1,950	
	44010	Audit Fees- External & Internal	2,520	4,500	5,200				5,500		6,000	
	44430	Legal	5,000	3,000	3,000				3,100		3,300	
	44430	SLA_ Legal	8,150	8,150	8,500				8,500		9,000	
	44420	SLA Finance	29,000	29,000	29,000				0		0	
	44410	SLA ICT	29,200	30,500	31,100				33,000		34,000	
	21510	MS Outlook licenses	3,500	3,800	4,300				4,700		5,000	
	23700	Office rent	19,500	14,000	4,000				0		0	
	44450	HR Advice	4,000	4,000	4,500				4,700		5,000	
	88650	Interest Received			0	-20,000	25,000	15,000	0	18,000		19,000
*	43070	Elections	45,760	58,760	12,000				12,000		12,000	
	48020	NALC/SLCC	3,400	3,400	3,500				3,700		3,900	
	49030	Insurances	30,000	6,000	8,500				9,000		9,000	
	41000	Contingency	30,000	10,000	0							
	11080	Contingency for pay awards	23,000	15,000	0							
	11010	Planning Committee Staff reallocation	0	0	10,461				11,174		11,510	
		<b>Sub Total 1</b>	<b>343,966</b>	<b>346,610</b>	<b>258,468</b>	<b>-20,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>233,075</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>240,869</b>	<b>19,000</b>

Cost Centre	Cost Code	Description	Expenditure			Income			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
K200 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES			Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Est Expenditure	Est Income	Est Expenditure	Est Income
Parks	11010	Staff re-allocation	93,300	88,000	57,533				61,459		63,303	
*	21410	Parks GMC	60,000	60,000	65,000				85,000		90,000	
	?	Grant towards transfer works						15,000		20,000		20,000
	21010	R & M	65,000	50,000	55,000				70,000		80,000	
*	41010	Equipment Purchase & Repair	3,000	3,000	10,000				15,000		16,000	
	41020	Parks Furniture	1,000	1,000	3,500				6,500		7,500	
*	21034	St Georges Paddling Pool Upkeep amd maintenance	10,000	4,500	0				0		0	
		St. George's Park Paddling Pool reinstatement			150,000							
*	?	St Georges Paddling Pool Ext funding	0	0	0	0	0	150,000	0		0	
	?	Play equipment safety	3,500	4,000	5,000				7,500		8,000	
	?	Play equipment sinking fund			0				15,000		17,500	
	?	Uniforms and PPE			1,000				1,050		1,100	
	85090	EMR (S. 106)				10,000	10,000	15,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
	?	Tennis Club Maintenance Support		2,000	2,000				2,000		2,000	
Public Realm	11010	Staff re-allocation			33,997			0	36,317		37,406	
	21430	St Mary's Churchyard (WFDC)	14,000	14,000	14,500				15,000		15,500	
	21030	Statues & Memorials	1,500	1,500	1,750				1,850		2,000	
	42040	Street Furniture R & M	5,200	3,500	4,000				4,200		4,500	
	21031	Clock Tower Oxford Street	2,900	2,900	3,200				3,300		3,500	
	21032	Maintenance of war memorials	1,000	1,000	1,000				1,030		1,100	
	27041	Public conveniences	36,050	33,000	35,000				36,500		38,000	
	11010	Public Conveniences- staff re-allocation			5,753				6,146		6,330	
	21411	Lengthsman Expenditure	4,500	6,500	7,500				7,800		8,000	
	11010	Lengthsman salary re-allocation			5,230				5,587		5,755	
	84410	Lengthsman income				4,500	6,500	7,500		7,800		8,000
	4110	Materials	2,000	2,000	2,100				3,000		2,300	
	42041	Grit bins	1,000	1,000	1,050				1,100		1,200	
	21421	Hanging flowers and planting contractor	15,000	15,000	16,000				17,000		18,000	
	?	Defibs	500	500	550				600		650	
	?	Water feature	3,750	3,750	4,100				4,300		4,400	
*	?	Tree works	5,000	7,000	12,500				13,000		14,000	
	?	Biodiversity works			2,000				2,100		2,200	
	31010	Vehicle and plant hire	12,000	9,500	10,700				11,050		11,400	
	23700	Equipment storage unit	6,000	3,000	12,000				35,000		36,000	
	?	Street sweeping contract	6,000	6,000	6,150				6,400		6,600	
	?	Cleaning statues	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000		7,000	
Market	?	Market R & M	1,500	1,500	1,550				1,650		1,710	
	11010	Market salary reallocation	0	0	5,230				5,587		5,755	
	87100	Market Rent				11,000	10,000	10,000		11,000		11,000
	?	Allotments contractor	5,000	5,000	5,150				5,400		5,600	
	11010	Allotments salary reallocation			5,230				5,587		5,755	
		<b>Subtotal 2</b>	<b>358,700</b>	<b>329,150</b>	<b>545,274</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>26,500</b>	<b>197,500</b>	<b>521,013</b>	<b>56,800</b>	<b>548,063</b>	<b>57,000</b>

Cost Centre	Cost Code	Description	Expenditure			Income			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
K300 - Town Hall			Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Est Expenditure	Est Income	Est Expenditure	Est Income
Revenue	11010	Salary Allocation- Town Hall R & M	127,717	120,000	65,378				69,840		71,935	
	11010	Salary Allocation Income Generation Town Hall	0	0	118,727				126,829		130,634	
	11010	New staff	62,000	55,000	0							
	42010	Clothing and uniforms	0	0	1,000				300		500	
	?	Sinking Fund	25,000		0				15,000		15,000	
	21010	R & M	10,000	2,000	8,000				11,000		12,000	
	22030	Electricity	22,880	15,000	20,000				21,000		22,000	
	22040	Gas	5,210	6,000	9,000				10,500		11,000	
	24010	Business rates	0	0	38,000				42,000		45,000	
	25030	Water and Sewage	13,528	13,000	15,000				16,000		17,500	
		Waste Disposal			4,000				4,400		5,000	
	75000	Loan Charges	163,000	100,000	150,000				150,616		150,616	
	26020	Alarms maintenance	900	900	3,500				3,600		3,750	
		Lifts maintenance, service, inspections			4,500				5,000		5,500	
		Window Cleaning			2,000				2,100		2,200	
	27040	Cleaning contract	0		28,000				31,000		32,500	
	27050	Hygiene and towel services	300	300	3,000				3,200		3,400	
	28010	Insurance	0	97,000	25,000				15,000		15,000	
*	41510	Water dispenser	0	0	1,000				1,050		1,100	
	44440	SLA Facilities management	11,500	11,500	22,000				23,000		23,000	
		Organ maintenance			3,000				3,300		3,500	
	44029	Organist honorarium	400	400	400				440		440	
NLHF Project	21510	Licenses	200	200	500				600		650	
	49010	Marketing & Design	2,000	2,000	7,000				7,000		7,000	
*		Event staff			18,000				35,000		36,000	
Transformation project	?	A Journey through Kidderminster-Expenditure	249,696	130,000	119,696	249,696	130,000		0		0	
	?	EMR- "Journey Through Kidderminster" Income						119,696		0		
	87110	Registrars rent				3,000	3,000	7,500		10,000		10,000
	?	Re-opening the Town Hall			100,000			100,000	0		0	
	44075	Project	7,507,422	7,954,621	1,750,044				0		0	
	44076	Consultant	45,000	45,000	0				0		0	
	?	Transformation O/S	1,530,000	0	0				0		0	
	?	Podium	400,000	300,000	226,118				0		0	
	88200	PWLB Loan				1,500,000	1,500,000	0		0		
	84006	LUF Grant				6,807,442	6,807,442	0		0		
	?	LUF Additional transfer				425,000	425,000	0		0		
	44074	Project support	80,000	50,000	10,000				0	0	0	
	13030	Recruitment	8,000	5,000	0				0		0	
	?	Town Hall income						80,000		140,000		145,000
	?	EMR - "Town Hall Transformation Project"						1,986,162		0		
		<b>Subtotal 3</b>	<b>10,264,753</b>	<b>8,907,921</b>	<b>2,752,863</b>	<b>8,985,138</b>	<b>8,865,442</b>	<b>2,293,358</b>	<b>597,774</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>615,224</b>	<b>155,000</b>



Cost Centre	Cost Code	Description	Expenditure			Income			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
			Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24- 25	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24- 25	Budget 25-26	Est Expenditure	Est Income	Est Expenditure	Est Income
<b>K400 - Civic, Communities &amp; Events</b>												
Civic	11010	Salary Allocation			47,072				50,285		51,793	
	42020	Mayor and Civic Budget	10,000	10,000	10,000				10,000		10,000	
*	13085	Mayor's allowance	6,860	6,860	6,860				6,860		6,860	
	31010	Mayoral car hire/ travel	4,000	1,000	0				0		0	
		Civic Regalia		3,500	2,500				2,700		3,000	
	12810	Town Crier	500	500	550				600		600	
Events	49130	Christmas Lights provision	23,000	20,000	30,000				31,000		32,000	
	22030	Christmas Lights Electricity	600	600	700				800		900	
	48021	Christmas Lights Switch on	2,000	3,700	3,500				3,700		4,000	
	11010	Salary Allocation			40,796				43,580		44,887	
	48023	Remembrance Sunday	1,000	4,000	4,500				5,200		5,500	
	48021	Santa in the Town Hall	2,000	2,000	2,000				2,100		2,300	
	?	Flag flying			1,000				0		0	
	?	VE Day 80th Anniversary			2,000				0		0	
	?	Advertising			2,000				2,200		2,500	
Community	48041	Ward Grants	9,000	9,000	9,000				9,000		9,000	
	41545	Twinning	500	500	600				600		600	
	11010	Salary Allocation			10,461				11,174		11,510	
		<b>Subtotal 4</b>	<b>59,460</b>	<b>59,960</b>	<b>173,539</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>179,799</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>185,450</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>11,026,879</b>	<b>9,643,641</b>	<b>3,730,144</b>				<b>1,531,661</b>		<b>1,589,607</b>	
<b>Total KTC income</b>						<b>8,990,638</b>	<b>8,916,942</b>	<b>135,000</b>		<b>186,800</b>		<b>193,000</b>
<b>From Reserves</b>	<b>?</b>					<b>1,011,525</b>		<b>2,370,858</b>		<b>18,000</b>		<b>18,000</b>
<b>To reserves</b>	<b>?</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				
<b>K001- Precept</b>	<b>54001</b>					<b>1,024,716</b>		<b>1,224,286</b>		<b>1,326,861</b>		<b>1,378,607</b>
			Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Budget 24-25	Projected outturn 24-25	Budget 25-26	Est Expenditure	Est Income	Est Expenditure	Est Income
			Expenditure			Income			Budget 26-27		Budget 27-28	
% increase in precept								19		8		4
Balanced Budget						0		0		36,000		0
Band D per household/annum					57.75			68.95	11.20			
Band D per household/ week					1.11			1.33	0.22			
% of Council Tax					2.6			3.0				

	<b>Budget 25-26</b>	
	Expend	Income
Revenue	1,424,286	135,000
Capital	2,305,858	2,370,858
Precept	0	1,224,286
Total	3,730,144	3,730,144

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025**

**PUBLIC REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS**

**Agenda Item 10. Climate Change (Appendix 7)**

To consider how the Council might react to climate change.

**1. BACKGROUND**

On 15th September 2021 the Council declared a climate emergency and committed to doing the following:

- Continue to work with our partner authorities to review and update all relevant policies
- To establish a Member Group to assist the future revision of the plan and report annually
- This Council agrees the target of reaching net carbon neutral by 2050 in line with the Government's target.

This review will help to re-focus the Council's aims and objectives regarding Climate Change and the target of Carbon Neutrality.

**2. DISCUSSION/ COMMENT**

**2.1 The Climate Emergency**

The Climate Emergency refers to the urgent and significant threat posed by climate change, which is primarily driven by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes. This situation has led to rising global temperatures, increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events (such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods), melting ice caps, and rising sea levels.

The consequences of the climate emergency are far-reaching, affecting ecosystems, biodiversity, agriculture, water resources, and human health, while also exacerbating social inequalities. Scientific consensus indicates that immediate action is needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Recognizing the climate emergency calls for transformative changes across all sectors of society, including energy, transportation, and urban planning, to create sustainable solutions and foster resilience against the impacts of climate change. The urgency of this situation has prompted governments, organisations, and communities worldwide to mobilize efforts aimed at achieving carbon neutrality and mitigating environmental damage.

## 2.2 What can the Town Council do to respond to Climate Change?

The Town Council's Vision for 2025-2029 states that the Council will take actions to address the climate emergency, including the following:

- A. To Ensure the activities of the Town Council are carbon neutral by 2035.
- B. To promote biodiversity across our parks and open spaces
- C. To actively encourage and support actions that will make Kidderminster as a whole more environmentally sustainable.

### A. TO ENSURE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ARE CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2035.

#### A.1 Carbon Neutrality

Carbon Neutrality requires the Council to balance the amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emitted with an equivalent amount of CO<sub>2</sub> removed from the atmosphere, resulting in a net-zero carbon footprint.

This is typically achieved through a combination of reducing emissions (by improving energy efficiency, using renewable energy sources, and altering consumption habits) and offsetting any remaining emissions through measures such as reforestation, carbon capture, or purchasing carbon credits.

The goal of carbon neutrality is to mitigate the impact of climate change by ensuring that the total greenhouse gas emissions produced do not exceed the emissions that are effectively removed or offset.

#### A2 Steps towards Carbon Neutrality by 2035

##### 1. Assess Current Carbon Footprint

- Conduct an audit of current Green House Gas emissions across all operations of the Council
- Identify key areas of emission (energy use, transportation, waste, etc.)

##### 2. Set Clear Goals

- Establish specific, measurable targets for reducing emissions
- Set interim goals leading up to 2035 to track progress

##### 3. Energy Efficiency Improvements

- Invest in energy-efficient technologies and practices.
- Upgrade facilities with energy-efficient lighting, heating and ventilation systems, and appliances.

##### 4. Transition to Renewable Energy

- Shift to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric
- Switch to Green Energy Suppliers
- Consider purchasing renewable energy credits (RECs) to offset energy use.

##### 5. Sustainable Transportation

- Promote the use of public transportation, cycling, and walking.

- Transition Council vehicles and machinery to electric or hybrid models.

#### 6. Waste Reduction and Management

- Implement recycling and composting programmes to minimise landfill waste.

#### 7. Carbon Offsetting

- Invest in carbon offset projects that sequester carbon, such as reforestation or renewable energy projects in developing regions.

#### 8. Employee Engagement and Education

- Foster a culture of sustainability within the organisation through training and awareness programs.

#### 9. Partnerships and Collaboration

- Collaborate with and support other organisations, partners and stakeholders to share best practices and resources.

#### 10. Monitoring and Reporting

- Establish a system for regular monitoring of emissions and progress towards goals.
- Report findings transparently to maintain accountability.

### B. TO PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY ACROSS OUR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

The Council has already made substantial progress in this regard. A Biodiversity Working Group has been formed and a Biodiversity Policy approved. The Council's Operational services team are delivering these objectives and aims.

The Biodiversity Working Group could be requested to present an Annual Report on Policy Delivery.

### C. TO ACTIVELY ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT ACTIONS THAT WILL MAKE KIDDERMINSTER AS A WHOLE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE.

1. The Council could set up, support or participate in groups, partnerships or forums promoting these aims for Kidderminster.
2. The Council will include groups working for environmental sustainability in the criteria for Ward Grants

### 3. LEGAL OR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- A. The Council has resolved to exercise the General Power of Competence and accordingly, there are no legal implications arising from the recommendations arising in this report.

- B. The budget proposals for 2025-26 include specific provision for expenditure on biodiversity works. £9,000 is also provided for Ward Grants (£500 per Councillor) which could be used to support projects promoting or delivering on these objectives.

Carbon emissions, waste minimising, green energy and reuse recycle alternatives should be criteria for the Council when awarding contracts or procuring goods and services.

#### 4. THE TOWN HALL

The Town Hall will generate most of the Council's carbon emissions in the future. Reducing carbon emissions in old historic buildings presents several challenges due to their unique architectural features, materials, and preservation requirements.

A) Some of the difficulties encountered include:

- Building Materials and Structure

- Some parts of the Town Hall use materials that may not be energy-efficient or compatible with modern insulation techniques, leading to higher heat loss or gain.
- Structural limitations may restrict the addition of energy-efficient systems or retrofitting.

- Preservation Regulations

- The Town Hall is a listed building which limits modifications, making it challenging to implement modern energy-efficient technologies.

- Aesthetic Considerations

- Modern energy-efficient solutions may not align with the aesthetic qualities of historic architecture
- Changes that alter the visual appearance of the Town Hall may not be acceptable.

- Financial Constraints

- The cost of retrofitting historic buildings to improve energy efficiency can be prohibitive, especially when considering the need for specialised materials and techniques.

B) Measures to Address These Problems

- Conduct Energy Audits

- Perform energy audits to identify areas of energy loss and prioritise upgrades that can be implemented without compromising the Town Hall's historic value.

- Implement Insulation Solutions

- Use non-invasive insulation methods, such as interior storm windows or breathable insulation materials, to improve thermal performance while preserving the building's appearance.

- Utilise Renewable Energy Sources

- Explore options for integrating renewable energy solutions, such as solar panels or geothermal heating, designed to blend with the building's historic character.
- Procure supplies from green energy sources

- Preserve Existing Features
  - Focus on enhancing and maintaining existing architectural features, such as large windows, to improve natural ventilation and daylighting while minimizing energy use.
- Government Incentives and Grants
  - Utilise available funding sources, grants, and tax incentives aimed at improving energy efficiency in historic buildings to offset costs.

## 5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and should lead by example by working to achieve the objectives set out in the Council Vision 2025-2039, as stated above.

In order to achieve the Council's goal of making its activities carbon neutral by 2035, the recommended approach would be for the Council to reduce its emissions as far as practical by taking whatever of the above measures are economically viable and sustainable and to purchase carbon offsets for the remaining emissions.

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

- i. To expand the remit of the Biodiversity Working Group to present an Action Plan to address the climate emergency, including actions to deliver the following:
  - A. To Ensure the activities of the Town Council are carbon neutral by 2035.
  - B. To promote biodiversity across our parks and open spaces
  - C. To actively encourage and support actions that will make Kidderminster as a whole more environmentally sustainable, and
- ii. That the Working Group presents the draft Action Plan for approval at the October meeting of the Council.

Hugh Peacocke  
Chief Executive Officer

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**KIDDERMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**Council meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Agenda Item 12: St Georges Paddling Pool Update**

**1. Aim**

To provide key issues and updates, St Georges Paddling Pool.

**2. Background**

Following the closure of the paddling pool in 2022, numerous meetings have taken place to discuss the future of the pool, captured in brief below,

- **September 2022**

A report submitted to the services committee with a recommendation resolved to appoint the external inspection of the pool.

- **November 2022**

Received condition report – carried out by UK Diveworks, swimming pool specialists.

Resolved to recommend closure to Full Council, based on cost of repairs and upgrades.

- **December 2022**

Resolved to preserve the pool for one year and not dug up, in order to give the community time to seek external funding.

- **November 2023**

allocated partial funds from the paddling pool expenditure, budget £10,000, to be utilised to engage a fundraising consultant to seek external funding, and in the absence of any grant funds becoming available before end of term of the Council, any decision on the pool future to be deferred for consideration by the new Town Council after elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

- **May 2024**

Council resolves to work towards reinstating the much-loved St. George's Park Paddling Pool with the aim of reopening it as soon as is sustainably possible.

- Council further resolves to consider that, once reopened the Paddling Pool should operate for the same period (May to September) as the Stourport Paddling Pool and Brinton Park Splash Pad.



Council therefore instructs the Services Committee to work with Officers and our external funding consultant, the community and businesses to achieve the reinstatement and reopening. This should include a full financial forecast of oncosts to ensure sustainability is achieved.

Having regard to the expected petition from “The Save Our Paddling Pool” group: That the Operational Services Committee, at its meeting on 5th June 2024, should set up a Working Group, to make recommendations regarding this matter. The “Save Our Paddling Pool” group should be included in the membership of the Working Group.

St. Georges Paddling Pool should be a standing item on the Full Council Agenda until this is resolved.

- **June 2024**

Full Council agreed paddling pool working group,  
Council Members appointed,

- Cllr S. Miah
- Cllr B. Brookes
- Cllr S. Hollands
- Cllr V. Caulfield,

Non-Council Working Group Members:

1 Cllr Fran Oborski  
2 Peter Young  
3 Nigel Grace

- **July 2025**

Working Group and Members of Save the Paddling Pool group met on Wednesday 24 July to review Severn Trent Application.

- **12<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Unfortunately, Kidderminster Town Council were notified with the disappointing news that the application submitted had not been approved for funding.

- **October 2024**

Paddling Pool Working Group met on the 31 October.

Unable to formally elect chair, due to low numbers

Notified of Severn Trent unsuccessful outcome

Discussed alternative funding, agreed not to pursue as only offering small amounts of grants.

Lottery Funding update, to be discussed further at the next meeting.

Presentation from the Co-Op

- **November 2024**

Email update received from Co-op representative, who explained without an element of trading income (pay to use), or looking to incorporate with another service, for example a café, this wouldn't be the appropriate option, therefore has been discounted.

- **10 December 2024 – Services Committee Update**

Committee agreed and all Members notified that as external funding had not yet been secured, that the paddling pool would remain closed for 2025.

Members agreed for the paddling pool working group to continue to look at alternative options.

Member agreed to support a deep clean of the pool to include surround, allocated £2,000- from K004 21034 St Georges Paddling Pool Expenditure

- **29 January 2025 – Working Group Meeting**

Elect Chair

Operational update

Co-ops Grant funding, notify of Outcome

Consider alternative Funding – National Lottery Grant

Consider next steps

- **Week commencing 13 January 2025**

Undertaking deep clean of the pool and surround, to visually improve the area whilst the pool is preserved.

Paddling Pool will remain on the Services agenda for reviews and updates.

**Adam Stockhall – Public Realm and Operations Manager**  
**16<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

# COUNCIL MEETING BOOKINGS

MAY 2025 – APR 2026

DATE	COMMITTEE	Venue
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Meeting	St George's Church
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	Planning	Kidderminster
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Town Council	TBC
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Services	TBC
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Town Hall	TBC
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Staffing	TBC
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Finance & Overview	TBC
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Planning	TBC
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> August	Planning	TBC
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Town Hall	TBC
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Events	TBC
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Finance & Overview	TBC
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Town Council	TBC
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Planning	TBC
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Town Hall	TBC
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Staffing	TBC
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Services	TBC
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Events	TBC
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Finance & Overview	TBC
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Town Council	TBC
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Planning	TBC
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Planning	TBC
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Finance & Overview	TBC
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Town Council	TBC
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Planning	TBC
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Planning	TBC

**Kidderminster Town Council**

Work Programme for Full Council Meetings for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

**Standing Items on each (ordinary meeting) agenda:**

1. Apologies
2. Declarations and Dispensations
3. Questions/ Petitions from members of the Public
4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting and noting Committee minutes
5. Town Mayor's Report
6. Town Hall Update
7. St. George's Paddling Pool update

**Other items of Business**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Item</b>
<b>23 May 2024</b>	<b>Committees and appointments</b> Review terms of reference and memberships of any Committees that the Council wishes to appoint
	<b>To make appointments to outside bodies</b>
	<b>To review Standing Orders and make any amendments agreed.</b>
	<b>Approve Member-Officer protocol</b>
	<b>Strategic Risk Register</b>
<b>26 June 2024</b>	<b>End of Year Statutory Accounts</b> To receive the Annual Return, Approve each section of the Annual Governance Statement and adopt the accounts and the Mayor to sign them, To note the date for the exercise of electors' rights
	<b>To review the Council's Financial Regulations</b>
	<b>To set up the Strategy / Vision working Group</b>
	<b>Civic and community events</b>
	<b>Appointments to Outside bodies</b>
	<b>Approve Bio-diversity Policy</b>
<b>23 October 2024</b>	<b>Budget for 2024/25- Timetable</b> Councillors are invited to make the RFO aware of any particular projects that may need to be undertaken in 2025/26, so that they may be referred to the relevant Committee for consideration
	<b>Town Centre Team WMP</b>
	<b>Kidderminster BID Presentation</b>
	<b>Asset Register</b>
	<b>Public Consultation</b>
	<b>Community Governance reviews</b>
	<b>External Auditor</b>
	<b>Timetable for Budget 25-26</b>
	<b>To appoint a member to the Community Liaison Group (Energy &amp; Resource Park)</b>
<b>22 January 2025</b>	<b>Town Council Vision 2025-2029</b>
	<b>2025/26 Budget and Precept</b>
	<b>Climate Change</b>
	<b>Schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2025/26</b>

<b>16 April 2025</b>	<b>KDYT presentation</b>
	<b>Nomination of Mayor Elect and Deputy Mayor</b>
	<b>Annual Review of Strategic Risk register</b>
	<b>Review of Committees' Terms of reference for 25-26</b>