# Budget 2023/24

https://say.falkirk.gov.uk/tcc/budget-2023-24

This report was created on Wednesday 15 February 2023 at 13:16

The activity ran from 16/12/2022 to 02/02/2023

Responses to this survey: **1149**

## Which of the following best describes you?

**describe you**

There were 1148 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| I am a resident of Falkirk Council area | 1072 | 93.30% |
| I work in the Falkirk Council area | 54 | 4.70% |
| I study in the Falkirk Council area | 2 | 0.17% |
| I represent a community or an organisation(s) | 6 | 0.52% |
| Other | 14 | 1.22% |
| Not Answered | 1 | 0.09% |

**If you selected "Other", please provide more information**

There were 16 responses to this part of the question.

**If you represent a community or organisation(s), please tell us which**

There were 10 responses to this part of the question.

## Where do you live?

**Where do you live?**

There were 1108 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Airth | 9 | 0.78% |
| Avonbridge | 6 | 0.52% |
| Bainsford | 24 | 2.09% |
| Banknock | 4 | 0.35% |
| Bo'ness | 110 | 9.57% |
| Blackness | 7 | 0.61% |
| Bonnybridge | 57 | 4.96% |
| Brightons | 35 | 3.05% |
| California | 4 | 0.35% |
| Camelon | 32 | 2.79% |
| Carron | 43 | 3.74% |
| Carronshore | 15 | 1.31% |
| Denny | 49 | 4.26% |
| Dennyloanhead | 8 | 0.70% |
| Dunipace | 8 | 0.70% |
| Falkirk | 170 | 14.80% |
| Glen Village and Hallglen | 23 | 2.00% |
| Grangemouth | 81 | 7.05% |
| Greenhill | 0 | 0.00% |
| Haggs & Longcroft | 1 | 0.09% |
| Head of Muir | 13 | 1.13% |
| High Bonnybridge | 0 | 0.00% |
| Langlees | 5 | 0.44% |
| Larbert | 146 | 12.71% |
| Laurieston | 15 | 1.31% |
| Letham | 1 | 0.09% |
| Maddiston | 28 | 2.44% |
| Polmont | 55 | 4.79% |
| Redding | 31 | 2.70% |
| Reddingmuirhead | 15 | 1.31% |
| Rumford | 7 | 0.61% |
| Shieldhill | 11 | 0.96% |
| Skinflats | 0 | 0.00% |
| Slamannan | 12 | 1.04% |
| Standburn | 1 | 0.09% |
| Stenhousemuir | 69 | 6.01% |
| Torwood | 1 | 0.09% |
| Wallacestone | 6 | 0.52% |
| Westquarter | 5 | 0.44% |
| Whitecross | 1 | 0.09% |
| Not Answered | 41 | 3.57% |

**If other, please specify.**

There were 39 responses to this part of the question.

## What do you think the Council’s top 3 priority areas should be for allocating budget?

**Ranking of 'rank the items'**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item | Ranking |
| Education: Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools | 1.98 |
| Older people’s services (e.g. home care and residential care) | 0.81 |
| Leisure and Culture (e.g. sport centres, libraries and museums) | 0.72 |
| Roads maintenance and street lighting | 0.40 |
| Housing and homelessness | 0.37 |
| Waste collection and recycling | 0.36 |
| Support for vulnerable young people and adults | 0.34 |
| Job creation and community regeneration | 0.27 |
| Services for people with disabilities | 0.24 |
| Parks and open spaces | 0.14 |
| Enabling communities to get involved in council decision making and supporting them with participatory budgeting | 0.08 |
| Promoting energy efficiency and carbon reduction initiatives | 0.08 |
| Promoting sustainable and active transport | 0.07 |
| Street cleaning | 0.06 |
| Support and training for job seekers | 0.02 |

**rank the items - Education: Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools**

There were 851 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 654 | 56.92% |
| 2 | 118 | 10.27% |
| 3 | 79 | 6.88% |
| Not Answered | 298 | 25.94% |

**rank the items - Older people’s services (e.g. home care and residential care)**

There were 475 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 95 | 8.27% |
| 2 | 264 | 22.98% |
| 3 | 116 | 10.10% |
| Not Answered | 674 | 58.66% |

**rank the items - Support for vulnerable young people and adults**

There were 224 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 42 | 3.66% |
| 2 | 84 | 7.31% |
| 3 | 98 | 8.53% |
| Not Answered | 925 | 80.50% |

**rank the items - Services for people with disabilities**

There were 153 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 30 | 2.61% |
| 2 | 58 | 5.05% |
| 3 | 65 | 5.66% |
| Not Answered | 996 | 86.68% |

**rank the items - Housing and homelessness**

There were 226 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 60 | 5.22% |
| 2 | 81 | 7.05% |
| 3 | 85 | 7.40% |
| Not Answered | 923 | 80.33% |

**rank the items - Leisure and Culture (e.g. sport centres, libraries and museums)**

There were 458 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 98 | 8.53% |
| 2 | 179 | 15.58% |
| 3 | 181 | 15.75% |
| Not Answered | 691 | 60.14% |

**rank the items - Roads maintenance and street lighting**

There were 273 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 46 | 4.00% |
| 2 | 100 | 8.70% |
| 3 | 127 | 11.05% |
| Not Answered | 876 | 76.24% |

**rank the items - Waste collection and recycling**

There were 253 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 39 | 3.39% |
| 2 | 85 | 7.40% |
| 3 | 129 | 11.23% |
| Not Answered | 896 | 77.98% |

**rank the items - Street cleaning**

There were 34 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 7 | 0.61% |
| 2 | 17 | 1.48% |
| 3 | 10 | 0.87% |
| Not Answered | 1115 | 97.04% |

**rank the items - Parks and open spaces**

There were 113 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 9 | 0.78% |
| 2 | 34 | 2.96% |
| 3 | 70 | 6.09% |
| Not Answered | 1036 | 90.17% |

**rank the items - Job creation and community regeneration**

There were 180 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 33 | 2.87% |
| 2 | 65 | 5.66% |
| 3 | 82 | 7.14% |
| Not Answered | 969 | 84.33% |

**rank the items - Support and training for job seekers**

There were 13 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 3 | 0.26% |
| 2 | 6 | 0.52% |
| 3 | 4 | 0.35% |
| Not Answered | 1136 | 98.87% |

**rank the items - Enabling communities to get involved in council decision making and supporting them with participatory budgeting**

There were 59 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 11 | 0.96% |
| 2 | 15 | 1.31% |
| 3 | 33 | 2.87% |
| Not Answered | 1090 | 94.87% |

**rank the items - Promoting energy efficiency and carbon reduction initiatives**

There were 56 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 9 | 0.78% |
| 2 | 16 | 1.39% |
| 3 | 31 | 2.70% |
| Not Answered | 1093 | 95.13% |

**rank the items - Promoting sustainable and active transport**

There were 52 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| 1 | 7 | 0.61% |
| 2 | 17 | 1.48% |
| 3 | 28 | 2.44% |
| Not Answered | 1097 | 95.47% |

## Are there any services that you feel should be protected from reductions in budget?

**be protected**

There were 620 responses to this part of the question.

## Where would you target spend reductions?

**expect spend reductions**

There were 715 responses to this part of the question.

## At the start of 2022 we ran a survey on the last budget. A lot has changed in that time and we want to understand if the views expressed at the start of the year have changed or not.

**likert on questions - We should operate fewer buildings to save money**

There were 1138 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Strongly agree | 382 | 33.25% |
| Agree | 415 | 36.12% |
| Undecided | 168 | 14.62% |
| Disagree | 116 | 10.10% |
| Strongly disagree | 57 | 4.96% |
| Not Answered | 11 | 0.96% |

**likert on questions - We should support community led services**

There were 1141 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Strongly agree | 354 | 30.81% |
| Agree | 508 | 44.21% |
| Undecided | 184 | 16.01% |
| Disagree | 64 | 5.57% |
| Strongly disagree | 31 | 2.70% |
| Not Answered | 8 | 0.70% |

**likert on questions - We should reduce operating hours**

There were 1143 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Strongly agree | 130 | 11.31% |
| Agree | 388 | 33.77% |
| Undecided | 263 | 22.89% |
| Disagree | 283 | 24.63% |
| Strongly disagree | 79 | 6.88% |
| Not Answered | 6 | 0.52% |

**likert on questions - We should merge schools**

There were 1144 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Strongly agree | 252 | 21.93% |
| Agree | 326 | 28.37% |
| Undecided | 210 | 18.28% |
| Disagree | 178 | 15.49% |
| Strongly disagree | 178 | 15.49% |
| Not Answered | 5 | 0.44% |

## Below are some ways that Falkirk Council could prioritise the allocation of funding. Please tell us how fair you think these options are.

**allocating budget - Targeting resources at those who need them most**

There were 1142 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 780 | 67.89% |
| Neutral | 258 | 22.45% |
| Unfair | 104 | 9.05% |
| Not Answered | 7 | 0.61% |

**allocating budget - Focus investment in geographic areas with most low-income households**

There were 1141 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 397 | 34.55% |
| Neutral | 431 | 37.51% |
| Unfair | 313 | 27.24% |
| Not Answered | 8 | 0.70% |

**allocating budget - Focus investment in geographic areas with the highest child poverty rates**

There were 1137 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 629 | 54.74% |
| Neutral | 341 | 29.68% |
| Unfair | 167 | 14.53% |
| Not Answered | 12 | 1.04% |

**allocating budget - Deliver fewer universal services with those that remain delivered to a higher standard**

There were 1138 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 373 | 32.46% |
| Neutral | 519 | 45.17% |
| Unfair | 246 | 21.41% |
| Not Answered | 11 | 0.96% |

**allocating budget - Focus investment on climate change solutions**

There were 1143 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 302 | 26.28% |
| Neutral | 453 | 39.43% |
| Unfair | 388 | 33.77% |
| Not Answered | 6 | 0.52% |

**allocating budget - Target resources into services that are used by the most people**

There were 1137 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 705 | 61.36% |
| Neutral | 319 | 27.76% |
| Unfair | 113 | 9.83% |
| Not Answered | 12 | 1.04% |

**allocating budget - Target resources into services that are used by the highest number of people experiencing disadvantage**

There were 1135 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fair | 517 | 45.00% |
| Neutral | 436 | 37.95% |
| Unfair | 182 | 15.84% |
| Not Answered | 14 | 1.22% |

**other ways to prioritise**

There were 246 responses to this part of the question.

## Are you aware that Council Tax Reduction (CTR) is available for households on a low income, and that those in receipt of CTR are protected from any increase in Council Tax?

**ctr**

There were 1141 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Yes | 720 | 62.66% |
| No | 421 | 36.64% |
| Not Answered | 8 | 0.70% |

## Would you support an increase of £1.25 per week (equivalent of 4% on Band D charge) in Council Tax if it helped reduce the amount of cuts to Council services?

**increase**

There were 1146 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Yes | 730 | 63.53% |
| No | 301 | 26.20% |
| Not sure | 115 | 10.01% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 0.26% |

## What are the biggest worries or concerns for you and your family?

**biggest worries or concerns**

There were 901 responses to this part of the question.

## What are the biggest worries or concerns for your community and local area?

**concerns for your community**

There were 805 responses to this part of the question.

## What is your gender?

**Gender**

There were 1118 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Female | 695 | 60.49% |
| Male | 411 | 35.77% |
| Other (please specify) | 12 | 1.04% |
| Not Answered | 31 | 2.70% |

**If other, please specify...**

There were 18 responses to this part of the question.

## What is your age?

**Age**

There were 1125 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Under 16 | 1 | 0.09% |
| 16-24 | 32 | 2.79% |
| 25-44 | 512 | 44.56% |
| 45-64 | 466 | 40.56% |
| 65 or over | 114 | 9.92% |
| Not Answered | 24 | 2.09% |

## Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

**Sexual orientation**

There were 1078 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Heterosexual or Straight | 994 | 86.51% |
| Gay or Lesbian | 35 | 3.05% |
| Bisexual | 27 | 2.35% |
| Other (please specify) | 22 | 1.91% |
| Not Answered | 71 | 6.18% |

**If other, please specify...**

There were 40 responses to this part of the question.

## What is your ethnic group?

**Ethnicity**

There were 1096 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| White Scottish | 839 | 73.02% |
| White British | 202 | 17.58% |
| White Irish | 5 | 0.44% |
| White other | 24 | 2.09% |
| Gypsy and Traveller | 0 | 0.00% |
| Polish | 7 | 0.61% |
| Mixed or multiple ethnic groups | 5 | 0.44% |
| Pakistani | 2 | 0.17% |
| Indian | 1 | 0.09% |
| Bangladeshi | 0 | 0.00% |
| Chinese | 0 | 0.00% |
| Other Asian | 0 | 0.00% |
| African | 1 | 0.09% |
| Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British | 0 | 0.00% |
| Black, Black Scottish or Black British | 0 | 0.00% |
| Other Black | 0 | 0.00% |
| Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British | 1 | 0.09% |
| None of the above | 9 | 0.78% |
| Not Answered | 53 | 4.61% |

**If none of the above, please specify**

There were 20 responses to this part of the question.

## What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?

**Religion**

There were 1089 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| None | 680 | 59.18% |
| Church of Scotland | 225 | 19.58% |
| Roman Catholic | 110 | 9.57% |
| Other Christian | 48 | 4.18% |
| Muslim | 3 | 0.26% |
| Buddhist | 1 | 0.09% |
| Sikh | 0 | 0.00% |
| Jewish | 0 | 0.00% |
| Hindu | 1 | 0.09% |
| Pagan | 8 | 0.70% |
| Other (please specify) | 13 | 1.13% |
| Not Answered | 60 | 5.22% |

**If other, please specify...**

There were 31 responses to this part of the question.

## What is your employment status?

**Employment**

There were 1111 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Student | 23 | 2.00% |
| Employed / self-employed | 842 | 73.28% |
| Not employed and looking for work | 13 | 1.13% |
| Not employed and not looking for work | 33 | 2.87% |
| Apprentice/ training | 2 | 0.17% |
| Retired | 166 | 14.45% |
| Other (please specify) | 32 | 2.79% |
| Not Answered | 38 | 3.31% |

**If other, please specify...**

There were 37 responses to this part of the question.

## Are you a British / United Kingdom citizen?

**British citizenship**

There were 1118 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Yes | 1099 | 95.65% |
| No | 19 | 1.65% |
| Not Answered | 31 | 2.70% |

## Are you a national of another country?

**National of another country**

There were 137 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| EU national | 120 | 10.44% |
| Refugee | 0 | 0.00% |
| Asylum seeker | 0 | 0.00% |
| Other (please specify) | 17 | 1.48% |
| Not Answered | 1012 | 88.08% |

**If other, please specify...**

There were 20 responses to this part of the question.

## Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness, or a learning disability, which you expect to last for 12 months or more?

**Physical/mental health**

There were 1103 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Yes | 262 | 22.80% |
| No | 826 | 71.89% |
| Don't know | 15 | 1.31% |
| Not Answered | 46 | 4.00% |

## If yes, does your condition or illness reduce your ability to carry out day to-day activities?

**Reduction to day to day activities**

There were 523 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Yes, a lot | 70 | 6.09% |
| Yes, a little | 138 | 12.01% |
| Not at all | 315 | 27.42% |
| Not Answered | 626 | 54.48% |

## How well do you feel you understood the following aspects of the survey?

**Understood aspects of survey - Purpose**

There were 1135 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fully understood | 995 | 86.60% |
| Partially understood | 130 | 11.31% |
| Didn't understand | 10 | 0.87% |
| Not Answered | 14 | 1.22% |

**Understood aspects of survey - The questions asked**

There were 1113 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fully understood | 895 | 77.89% |
| Partially understood | 213 | 18.54% |
| Didn't understand | 5 | 0.44% |
| Not Answered | 36 | 3.13% |

**Understood aspects of survey - How my views will be used**

There were 1118 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Fully understood | 716 | 62.32% |
| Partially understood | 324 | 28.20% |
| Didn't understand | 78 | 6.79% |
| Not Answered | 31 | 2.70% |

## How much influence do you think the survey results will have over any decisions made about the budget?

**How much influence**

There were 1140 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| A strong influence | 33 | 2.87% |
| Some influence | 442 | 38.47% |
| No influence | 665 | 57.88% |
| Not Answered | 9 | 0.78% |

## Overall, how would you rate this survey?

**Rate survey**

There were 1140 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Very good | 57 | 4.96% |
| Good | 412 | 35.86% |
| Average | 488 | 42.47% |
| Poor | 116 | 10.10% |
| Very poor | 67 | 5.83% |
| Not Answered | 9 | 0.78% |

## How would you describe the length of time it took you to complete the survey?

**Length**

There were 1126 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Too long | 46 | 4.00% |
| Just right | 1021 | 88.86% |
| Too short | 59 | 5.13% |
| Not Answered | 23 | 2.00% |

## Where did you hear about this survey?

**Where did you hear**

There were 1131 responses to this part of the question.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Total | Percent |
| Falkirk Council Website | 205 | 17.84% |
| Newspaper | 31 | 2.70% |
| Twitter | 219 | 19.06% |
| Facebook | 443 | 38.56% |
| Snapchat | 2 | 0.17% |
| Instagram | 4 | 0.35% |
| Community organisation | 44 | 3.83% |
| Poster | 6 | 0.52% |
| Leaflet | 11 | 0.96% |
| At school or college | 34 | 2.96% |
| Word of mouth | 92 | 8.01% |
| People's Panel | 61 | 5.31% |
| Falkirk Council staff | 48 | 4.18% |
| Other | 60 | 5.22% |
| Not Answered | 18 | 1.57% |

## Join the People's Panel

**Email address**

There were 223 responses to this part of the question.