Redditch Borough Council - Budget Consultation for 2026/27

This survey was launched to give residents/businesses of Redditch Borough an opportunity to have their say on how the Council should spend the money it has available.

The survey ran from 17 November 2025 to 29 December 2025. An invite was sent directly to all members of the Community Panel, links were sent to partners to share with their contacts and the survey was publicised in local media and numerous times on social media. A total of 143 valid surveys were returned from the panel, resulting in a response rate of 31.4%, and 143 surveys were received from the general public. The final figure of 286 completed surveys for analysis.

			2025 Survey		2024
Q no.	**Question**	**Responses**	**Total Responses**	**%**	**%**
Q1 (283)	**Are you a resident of Redditch Borough and/or have a business based here?**	Resident of Redditch Borough	277	97.9%	99.7%
		Have a business based here	23	8.1%	6.5%
Q2 (279)	**Please tell us where you live or where your business is located.** **(Please note, if you live and have a business in the Borough, please only tell us where you live)**	Abbeydale	2	0.7%	2.2%
		Abbey Park	1	0.4%	0.9%
		Astwood Bank	7	2.5%	3.8%
		Batchley	32	11.5%	8.4%
		Brockhill	7	2.5%	2.2%
		Callow Hill	8	2.9%	3.4%
		Church Hill North	13	4.7%	3.1%
		Church Hill South	12	4.3%	3.4%
		Crabbs Cross	7	2.5%	2.5%
		Enfield	2	0.7%	0.6%
		Feckenham	2	0.7%	0.9%
		Greenlands	12	4.3%	5.3%
		Headless Cross	27	9.7%	8.4%
		Hunt End	12	4.3%	3.1%
		Ipsley	2	0.7%	1.3%
		Lakeside	4	1.4%	1.9%
		Lodge Park	8	2.9%	3.1%
		Matchborough East	10	3.6%	5.0%
		Matchborough West	6	2.2%	3.1%
		Oakenshaw	3	1.1%	1.6%
		Oakenshaw South	7	2.5%	2.2%

		Riverside	9	3.2%	1.6%
		Smallwood	3	1.1%	0.6%
		Southcrest	12	4.3%	5.0%
		St. Georges	1	0.4%	0.0%
		Town Centre	8	2.9%	3.1%
		Walkwood	5	1.8%	1.9%
		Webheath	18	6.5%	9.7%
		Winyates East	12	4.3%	3.4%
		Winyates Green	8	2.9%	2.8%
		Winyates West	11	3.9%	2.2%
		Wire Hill	1	0.4%	0.3%
		Woodrow North	5	1.8%	1.6%
		Woodrow South	2	0.7%	1.3%
Q3	**How important are the current Redditch Borough Council priorities to you? (***A description of each priority was provided***)**				
Q3a (282)	**Economy, Regeneration & Prosperity**	Extremely important	136	48.2%	-
		Very important	87	30.9%	-
		Somewhat important	51	18.1%	-
		Not so important	6	2.1%	-
		Not at all important	2	0.7%	-
Q3b (284)	**Green, Clean & Safe**	Extremely important	154	54.2%	-
		Very important	95	33.5%	-
		Somewhat important	30	10.6%	-
		Not so important	4	1.4%	-
		Not at all important	1	0.4%	-
Q3c (281)	**Community & Housing**	Extremely important	119	42.3%	-
		Very important	89	31.7%	-
		Somewhat important	50	17.8%	-
		Not so important	16	5.7%	-
		Not at all important	7	2.5%	-
Q4 (284)	**Which services do you think it is important for the Council to invest in?** **Please note that Highways and Social Care are not included as they are Worcestershire County Council functions**	Community and Voluntary Sector	39	13.7%	14.3%
		Community Parks and Open Spaces	112	39.4%	40.7%
		Community Safety	149	52.5%	49.1%
		Environmental sustainability	44	15.5%	15.5%
		Events and Arts Activities	32	11.3%	13.4%
		Housing	110	38.7%	41.9%
		Local Economic Development and Employment	111	39.1%	34.8%

	Please pick your top 3 most important.	Maintenance of the Landscape and Environment	106	37.3%	46.0%
		Strategic Housing	24	8.5%	-
		Waste and Recycling	104	36.6%	30.4%
		Welfare and Financial Support	63	22.2%	24.8%
		Other (please specify) E.g. Infrastructure, social care, public transport	18	6.3%	-
Q5	**How important are the following council services to you when considering how Redditch Borough Council manages its budget?** (A description of each service area was provided)				
Q5a (275)	**Business Transformation & Organisational Development**	Extremely important	32	11.6%	-
		Very important	61	22.2%	-
		Somewhat important	116	42.2%	-
		Not so important	52	18.9%	-
		Not at all important	14	5.1%	-
Q5b (282)	**Community & Housing Services**	Extremely important	111	39.4%	-
		Very important	91	32.3%	-
		Somewhat important	57	20.2%	-
		Not so important	16	5.7%	-
		Not at all important	7	2.5%	-
Q5c (271)	**Corporate Services**	Extremely important	13	4.8%	-
		Very important	29	10.7%	-
		Somewhat important	112	41.3%	-
		Not so important	89	32.8%	-
		Not at all important	28	10.3%	-
Q5d (275)	**Environmental Services**	Extremely important	95	34.5%	-
		Very important	130	47.3%	-
		Somewhat important	40	14.5%	-
		Not so important	7	2.5%	-
		Not at all important	3	1.1%	-
Q5e (272)	**Financial & Customer Services**	Extremely important	52	19.1%	-
		Very important	99	36.4%	-
		Somewhat important	100	36.8%	-
		Not so important	18	6.6%	-
		Not at all important	3	1.1%	-
Q5f (275)	**Legal, Democratic & Elections Services**	Extremely important	25	9.1%	-
		Very important	59	21.5%	-
		Somewhat important	141	51.3%	-
		Not so important	43	15.6%	-

		Not at all important	7	2.5%	-
Q5g (276)	**Planning & Leisure Services**	Extremely important	47	17.0%	-
		Very important	112	40.6%	-
		Somewhat important	102	37.0%	-
		Not so important	12	4.3%	-
		Not at all important	3	1.1%	-
Q5h (274)	**Regeneration & Property**	Extremely important	58	21.2%	-
		Very important	113	41.2%	-
		Somewhat important	84	30.7%	-
		Not so important	17	6.2%	-
		Not at all important	2	0.7%	-
Q5i (269)	**Regulatory Services**	Extremely important	28	10.4%	-
		Very important	73	27.1%	-
		Somewhat important	132	49.1%	-
		Not so important	30	11.2%	-
		Not at all important	6	2.2%	-
Q5j (259)	**Rubicon Leisure**	Extremely important	47	18.1%	-
		Very important	69	26.6%	-
		Somewhat important	88	34.0%	-
		Not so important	40	15.4%	-
		Not at all important	15	5.8%	-
Q6 (283)	**Do you support fees and charges (such as hire costs) rising by 4% to keep them in line with inflation and rising staffing costs?**	Strongly agree	39	13.8%	13.7%
		Agree	99	35.0%	34.2%
		Neither agree nor disagree	75	26.5%	22.0%
		Disagree	50	17.7%	18.9%
		Strongly disagree	20	7.1%	11.2%
Q7	**In order to maintain services, what level of increase to Redditch Borough Council's proportion of Council Tax do you support?**				
Q7a (251)	**Increase of 1.99%**	Agree strongly	44	17.5%	27.1%
		Agree	99	39.4%	34.6%
		Neither agree nor disagree	57	22.7%	17.3%
		Disagree	26	10.4%	9.4%
		Disagree strongly	25	10.0%	11.7%
Q7b (248)	**Increase of 2.99%**	Agree strongly	41	16.5%	18.2%
		Agree	45	18.1%	19.8%
		Neither agree nor disagree	50	20.2%	11.3%

		Disagree	49	19.8%	16.6%
		Disagree strongly	63	25.4%	34.0%
Q8 (156)	**Please let us know your suggestions for investing in the Borough to increase prosperity and enhance appeal for residents and businesses alike.**	This was an open question and the comments will be analysed separately			
Q9 (120)	**Please let us know any other comments on the budget or ideas for reducing costs or increasing income to ensure Council services remain sustainable.**	This was an open question and the comments will be analysed separately			

About You

Answering these questions is optional. Any answers are completely anonymous and confidential. The reason why we ask you these questions is so we can:

- Make our council services open to everyone in the district
- Treat everyone fairly and appropriately when they use our services
- In consultations, make sure that we have views from all across the district
The Equality Act 2010 makes these aims part of our legal duties. Your answers help us check that we have met the law and help improve our services.

Q10 (279)	**What is your current housing status?**	Owner	145	52.0%	50.0%
		Mortgaged	69	24.7%	27.5%
		Part rent/part buy	1	0.4%	0.6%
		Private renting	7	2.5%	4.4%
		Council tenant	30	10.8%	12.7%
		Social housing	7	2.5%	1.6%
		Living with relatives	14	5.0%	1.3%
		Private renting	2	0.7%	1.6%
		Other (please specify)	4	1.4%	0.3%
Q11 (274)	**Which of the following best describes your age?**	16-19yrs	4	1.4%	0.0%
		20-29yrs	7	2.5%	1.9%
		30-39yrs	26	9.3%	11.0%
		40-49yrs	47	16.8%	14.8%
		50-59yrs	55	19.7%	24.9%
		60-69yrs	62	22.2%	18.6%
		70-79yrs	61	21.9%	22.7%
		80+ years	12	4.3%	4.1%

		Prefer not to say	5	1.8%	1.9%
Q12 (277)	**Do you have any long-standing health condition or disability?** (The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as 'a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities')	Yes	92	33.2%	33.1%
		No	161	58.1%	60.6%
		Prefer not to say	24	8.7%	6.3%
Q13 (279)	**Which best describes your gender?**	Female	131	47.0%	49.5%
		Male	134	48.0%	44.8%
		Prefer not to say	10	3.6%	4.1%
		Other (please specify)	4	1.4%	1.6%
Q14 (278)	**Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?**	Yes	263	94.6%	-
		No	1	0.4%	-
		Prefer not to say	14	5.0%	-
Q15 (279)	**Which best describes your ethnicity**	White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British	245	87.8%	89.6%
		Any other White background	9	3.2%	1.6%
		Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	8	2.9%	0.6%
		Asian or Asian British	6	2.2%	1.3%
		Black, African, Caribbean or Black British Arab	1	0.4%	0.0%
		Prefer not to say	9	3.2%	6.3%
		Other ethnic group	1	0.4%	0.6%
Q16 (275)	**Which best describes your religion or belief?**	Atheist	32	11.6%	11.0%
		Buddhist	1	0.4%	0.3%
		Christian	132	48.0%	52.7%
		Humanist	6	2.2%	0.9%
		Hindu	1	0.4%	0.3%
		Jewish	0	0.0%	0.0%
		Muslim	2	0.7%	0.6%
		Pagan	2	0.7%	0.3%
		Sikh	1	0.4%	0.3%
		No religion/belief	68	24.7%	24.9%
		Prefer not to say	20	7.3%	7.3%
		Other (please specify)	10	3.6%	1.3%
Q17 (275)	**Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?**	Bisexual	13	4.7%	3.5%
		Heterosexual	230	83.6%	83.2%
		Lesbian or Gay	8	2.9%	2.2%

		Prefer not to say	24	8.7%	9.2%