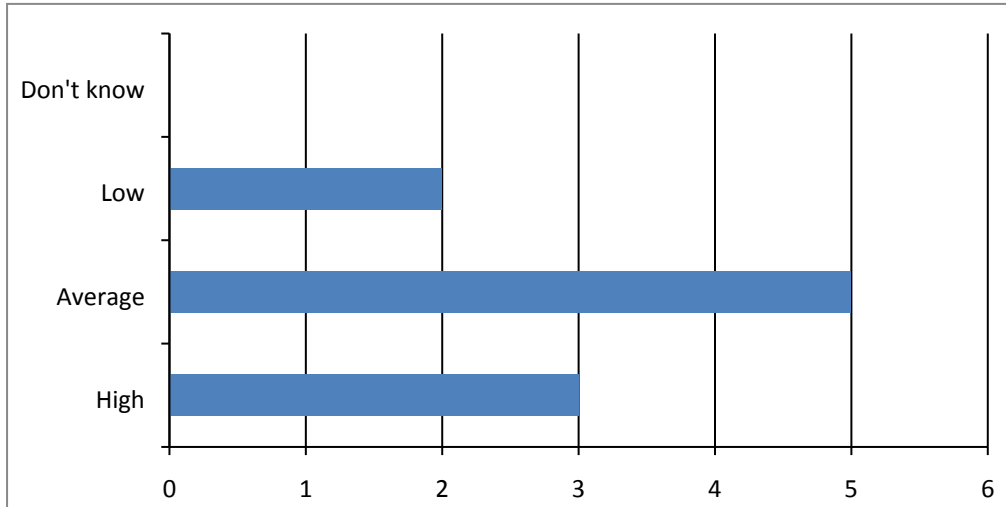
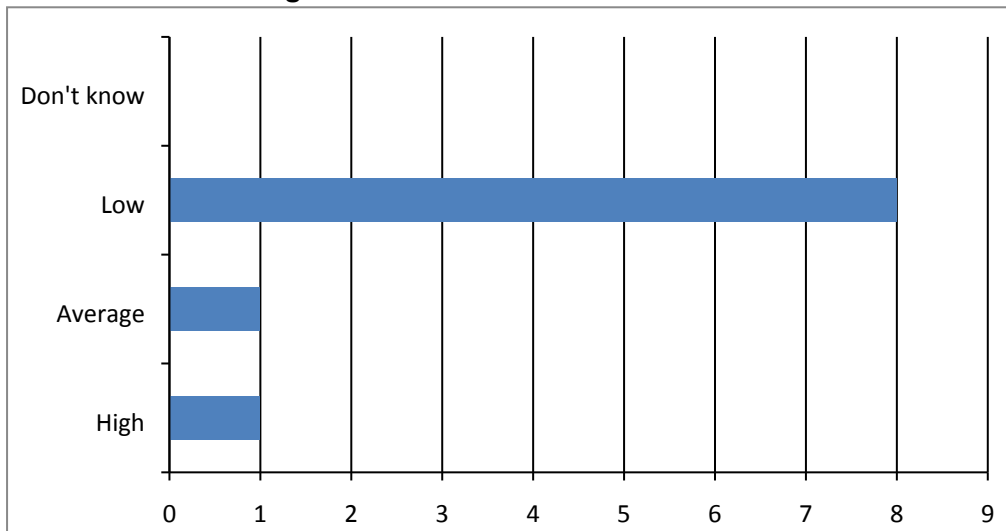


Appendix 12 Consultation Responses

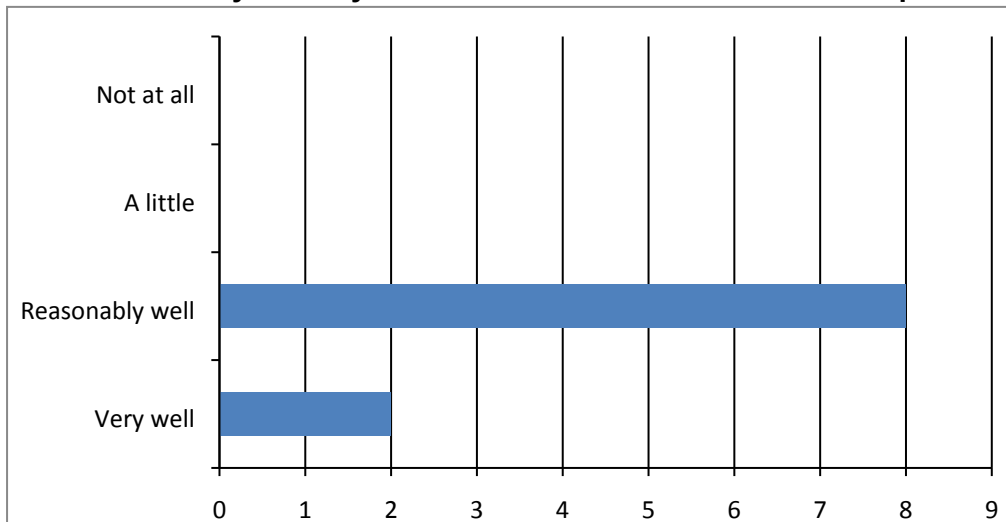
Q1. Where do you think Rutland County Council ranks in terms of spending?



Q2. Where do you think Rutland County Council ranks in terms of how much funding it receives from the government?



Q3. How well do you feel you understand the Council's financial position?



Q4. Do you have any comments or suggestions about the Council's draft budget proposals?

Area	Feedback	Council comments
Empingham	I think we need to raise the money to pay for services. The population of Rutland is skewed and we need to pay for social care. Those of us who can afford to pay should be prepared to help others	Comments noted
Not provided	Please remember that RPI and therefore wage rises are still sub 2% and a near 4% rise in Council Tax will start to impact on ability to pay. Could the council consider spreading individual bills over 12 months rather than 10 to make monthly payments smaller and more manageable? Also I would like to see some innovative thinking regarding fund raising and corporate contribution- Rutland continues to be a most attractive place to live and we need to ensure this attracts a premium from housing developers.	<p>Council tax bills can be paid over 12 months. The Council also operates a council tax discount scheme for those who demonstrate financial hardship and residents are encouraged to apply if they are in financial difficulty.</p> <p>The Council agrees it needs to be more commercial and will be looking for opportunities to generate income.</p>
Not provided	I strongly believe Rutland council wastes more than enough of our money the council office should be on an industrial estate and the building sold. There is no reason they should occupy such a grand building. I also don't understand why bin lorries and other council vehicles need private number plates payed with our money.	The Council recognises it has to save money and should the opportunity arise and there be a robust business case it is willing to consider an alternative location.
Not provided	The increased growth of housing and lack of investment in social and community infrastructure is likely to have far reaching consequences against the medium term financial strategy. This should have been recognised at the time planning was determined and agreed against the Local a plan with matched investment to cope with the increasing and projected demand on services. The council and developers investment in "hard" infrastructure has been strong, e.g. Roads, bypass etc. It is a shame a level of cooperation and discussion with health and education providers was not conducted earlier on and against a robust evidence base to	The Council levies s106 and CIL and uses this alongside other funding (government grants, capital receipts etc) to fund infrastructure where there is a need. The CIL tariff was set after consultation including key partners and the Infrastructure List does include a wide range of requirements across all areas. In respect of education the Council does receive education grants which it uses alongside CIL and s106 to fund developments. The Council has recently agreed various proposals to address a need re school places. Council tax revenue is not generally used

Area	Feedback	Council comments
	<p>provide an adequate CIL tariff. If undertaken this council tax increase could have been mitigated in part - the cost of living on household basics such as foods is likely to rise significantly with Brexit so affordability and rising poverty at relative and absolute levels is likely to increase also. As such the councils debt position is also likely to increase with corresponding rise in non-payers and universal credit support/ council tax support allowances. What projections are forecasted in Rutland, it is not clear in the supporting documents? It is a shame that council tax has been used historically to gap fund infrastructure, e.g. Oakham Enterprise</p> <p>Park where the market could have delivered the investment- no serious market failure was ever evident in this instance from what I could see. Are sufficient surpluses now being generated to pay back a decent ROI to RCC? It would be great to see RCC as an enterprising and now awarding council demonstrating how money is being invested and the returns generated - rather than immediately jumping to council tax increases in non-election periods.</p>	<p>on infrastructure projects and there are no plans to do so. The proposed council tax increase is not related to any need to invest in infrastructure but arises primarily because of losses in central government funding. One of the reasons for the investment in OEP was to address market deficiencies and the high demand for units (in particular from business new to the area) supports the original decision. The Council is now generating revenue income which keeps the costs of services lower.</p>
Not provided	I fully support the inclusion of 2% for social care but this must be ringfenced and a minimum figure. Cut back on street lighting and grass cutting and put the savings to social care.I support the draft budget.	The Council is investing in social care and does set aside funds to meet increased costs. The Council has made savings on street lighting and will be looking next year at options regarding grounds maintenance.
Not provided	Why do you have investments and loans outstanding? Would it not be beneficial to repay the loans thus reducing interest costs, at the expense of lower interest income at a time when rates are at a historic low?	Over £8m of our loans were inherited from Leicestershire County Council when Rutland obtained unitary status. Other loans have been secured to deliver major capital works. There are premiums that have to be paid if loans are paid off early and at the moment it is not financially beneficial to do so.

Area	Feedback	Council comments
Whissendine	Far too high - my income has not gone up nearly 4% this year so where does the extra I have to pay come from	The Council understands the pressure on residents and for many years had not increased Council tax. The loss of Government funding alongside increased demand for statutory services mean that Council tax increases cannot be avoided. The Council does operate a council tax discount scheme for those who demonstrate financial hardship and residents are encouraged to apply if they are in financial difficulty.
Barleythorpe	Unfortunately with the government funding being phased out, a 3.99% rise in council tax is unavoidable	Comments noted
Burley	Central Government is shifting the responsibility for funding so that it does not suffer the odium of taking the necessary actions which there policys are making necessary, at election time I hope we can make our views known in both council and national elections.	Comments noted