

**We asked,  
You said, We  
did/did not**



**We asked** – During October and November 2025 we shared information on the projected funding gap of £35 million over the next 3 financial years faced by Dumfries and Galloway Council and asked for feedback from citizens, employees, customers and partners on a list of savings and income generation options.

We gathered your views using a range of engagement methods, including a stakeholder survey, the Budget Simulator, Community Conversations and focus groups.

**You said** – 6,348 responses to the budget consultation survey were received from across the region which equates to around 4.3% of Dumfries and Galloway's population.

Your helpful feedback was considered by councillors and summarised in a report presented on 11 December 2025. That report is available [here](#) at Item 4. The report outlines the savings and income generation options that received the most and least support. A detailed feedback report of all comments received is also available at the Budget Consultation webpage – [here](#)

**Council Tax** – The survey asked for views on raising Council Tax levels. The key findings demonstrate that 32% of respondents

agreed or strongly agreed that Council Tax should be raised. 58% disagreed or strongly disagreed and 10% responded were not sure.

**We did/did not because** – in December 2025, councillors agreed to take the consultation feedback into account as they developed their proposals for the council's Budget for 2026/27 and future years.

All political groups were invited to bring forward budget proposals for consideration on 26 February 2026.

In February 2026, councillors considered a range of budget proposals. The [budget agreed](#) included elements from across the savings and income generation options consulted on, along with new options to reduce costs in leadership and management.

You can view the detail [here](#).

**Council Tax** – Under the Local Government [Scotland] Act 1973 and the Local Government Finance Act 1992 a council is required to set Council Tax based on an overall balanced budget for the financial year. The approved budget included an 8.5% increase.

The table below summarises how your views ([here](#)) are reflected in the agreed budget.

## Breakdown of Budget Savings agreed

Sustained focus of resources on our Council Plan Priorities outcomes			
Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
1.01	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove instrumental Music Instruction Service	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.02	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove funding for school-based Police Officers	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.03	Social Work	Reduce spending on external Children and Families services in Social Work	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.04	Economy & Infrastructure	Reduce winter road treatment	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.05	Economy & Infrastructure	Reduce grass cutting on 60mph roads	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.06	Enabling & Customer Services	Reduce the council's subsidy of business rate reliefs	Saving Not Agreed ☒
1.07 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	End funding for Information and Advice services provided by Citizens Advice	Saving Agreed ☑ Agreed a 20% reduction in funding for the Information and Advice Service.

1.08 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	End funding for Representation and Engagement services provided by third sector groups	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreed a 20% reduction in funding for Representation and Engagement services
1.09 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce funding support for major festivals and events	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a smaller reduction than originally proposed

## Modernise how we deliver some services to meet our outcomes

Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
2.01	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Introduce fixed enrolment dates and capacities for nurseries	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.02	Social Work	Change how out of hours social work calls are handled	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.03	Social Work	Reduce spending on children's direct payment support	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
2.04	Social Work	Reduce emergency assistance payments through the council's Children and Families service	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
2.05	Enabling & Customer Services	Undertake a "Digital Re-design" to automate processes	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.06	Enabling & Customer Services	Share services with other organisations	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.07	Enabling & Customer Services	Reduce live streaming of council meetings	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
2.08	Enabling & Customer Services	Go paperless for council committees	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.09	Enabling & Customer Services	Review how we purchase staff training	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.10	Enabling & Customer Services	Review of customer experience across services	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.11	Social Work	Stop using a separate IT system for Housing/ Homelessness service	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.12	Economy & Infrastructure	Collect general household (grey bin) waste less frequently	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>

## Maximise use of fewer assets, working with and within communities

Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
3.01	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Consult on the closure of small nurseries	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.02	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Use schools more effectively by bringing pupils into underused modern school buildings	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.03	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Consult on school closures – 20 or less pupils	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.04	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Consult on school closures – 25 or less pupils	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.05	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Consult on school closures – 50 or less pupils	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.06 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Close four seasonal museums and attractions	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreed to reduce opening hours rather than the proposed closure
3.07	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Close Hillview Leisure Centre, Kelloholm	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.08	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Close the Midsteeple Box Office, Dumfries	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
3.09	Economy & Infrastructure	Reduce the number of council office buildings	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.10	Enabling & Customer Services	Review local services and buildings in each area	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.11	Economy & Infrastructure	Close Whithorn Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC)	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>

## Develop a smaller, more flexibly skilled workforce for the future

Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
4.01	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove permanent supply teacher pool	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.02	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce the absence budget for teaching staff cover	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
4.03	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce staffing of Early Learning and Childcare support	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
4.04	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove dedicated Education Health and Safety team	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.05	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Share management for very small nurseries	Saving Agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.06	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Restructure of management in large primary Schools	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
4.07	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Share headteachers between very small and larger primary schools	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
4.08	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Share headteachers between small and larger primary schools	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>
4.09	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Share headteachers between smaller and larger secondary schools	Saving Not Agreed <input type="checkbox"/>

4.10 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce secondary teaching staff to reflect falling pupil numbers	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a smaller reduction than originally proposed
4.11	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove Playground Supervisor roles at primary schools	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.12	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Close three Inclusion Bases and shift to outreach support	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.13	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce staffing in Resilience and Community Safety team	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.14	Social Work	Reduce strategic and support roles across Social Work services	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.15 (Amended)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce Lifelong Learning services	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a smaller reduction than originally proposed
NEW	Enabling & Customer Services	Reduce Leadership Costs	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NEW	Enabling & Customer Services	Reduce Management Costs	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Maximise our income and underpinning fairness through targeted concessions

Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
5.01 (Amended)	Economy & Infrastructure	Increase burial fees	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a smaller increase in charges than originally proposed
5.02	Economy & Infrastructure	Increase primary school meal price	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.03 (Amended)	Economy & Infrastructure	Increase secondary school meal price	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a smaller increase in charges than originally proposed
5.04 (Amended)	Economy & Infrastructure	Generate additional income from a review of Roads Fees and Charges	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saving agreed with a larger increase in charges than originally proposed
5.05	Economy & Infrastructure	Increase charges for archaeological services	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.06	Economy & Infrastructure	Charge a fee for Environmental Information Requests (EIRs)	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.07	Economy & Infrastructure	Charge households for replacement grey bins	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.08	Economy & Infrastructure	Pilot an "Invitation to Pay" scheme for parking	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.09	Enabling & Customer Services	Use in-house lawyers for certain planning agreements	<b>Saving Agreed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.10	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Introduce a charge for the Youth Beatz festival	<b>Saving Not Agreed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

## Savings Options Previously subject to Public Consultation 2025/2026

Template No.	Service	Savings Title	Notes
1.06 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	End funding for all Tackling Poverty and cost of living projects	Saving Not Agreed ☒
2.01 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reconfiguration of support for the Autism Attendance Care Experienced Team	Saving Not Agreed ☒
2.02 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Reduce Additional Support for Learning (ASL) teachers in primary schools	Saving Not Agreed ☒
3.03 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Close Castle Douglas Swimming Pool and Fitness Suite	Saving Not Agreed ☒
3.05 (25/26)	Economy & Infrastructure	Close public toilets	Saving Not Agreed ☒
3.06 (25/26)	Economy & Infrastructure	Close or transfer remaining council-run community halls	Saving Not Agreed ☒
4.01 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove Principal Teacher roles for play-based learning	Saving Agreed ☑
4.04 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove central English as an Additional Language (EAL) and Gypsy/Traveller support team	Saving Not Agreed ☒
4.05 (25/26)	Education, Skills & Community Wellbeing	Remove Principal Teacher post in Sensory Services	Saving Not Agreed ☒
5.05 (25/26)	Economy & Infrastructure	Keep S1 to S3 pupils on campus at lunchtime to increase school meal uptake	Saving Agreed ☑



Portpatrick Harbour