Every Response

CONSULTATION ANALYSIS · SAMPLE

Budget consultation 2026/27

Rutland County Council · Analysis of the published free-text comments

206	189	45	0.93
responses reported by the council	published comments read and coded	quotes checked word for word	agreement on a blind second coding (0.81 and above is almost perfect)

The consultation on one page	AT A GLANCE
What residents said	SUMMARY
What was asked, when and how	ABOUT
Do you feel there are any priorities missing from this list?	QUESTION 5
What other information would you like to know, to stay up to date …	QUESTION 9
Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding our budget or …	QUESTION 10
You said: the issues to respond to	FEEDING BACK
Questions residents asked, and claims to address	FOR THE RESPONSE
What this analysis can and cannot tell you	READING THIS REPORT
How this analysis was done	METHOD
Quality and data protection	ASSURANCE
Terms used in this report	GLOSSARY
Coding frame and audit trail	APPENDICES

An independent sample. Every Response prepared this analysis from Appendix J to the Cabinet report of February 2026, "Budget consultation 2026/27 and responses as at 03 February 2026", which Rutland County Council has published. It was not commissioned by the council and we have no connection with it. Consultation open 13 January to 3 February 2026. Analysis produced 29 September 2026.

AT A GLANCE

The consultation on one page

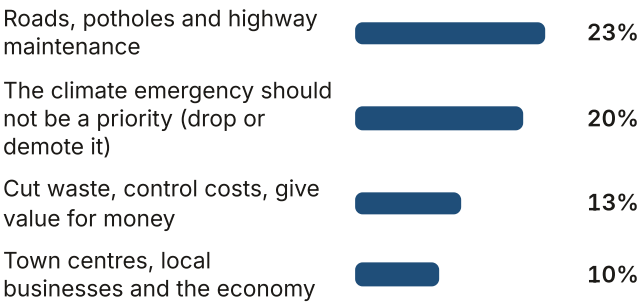
206
responses to the survey

189
free-text comments read and coded

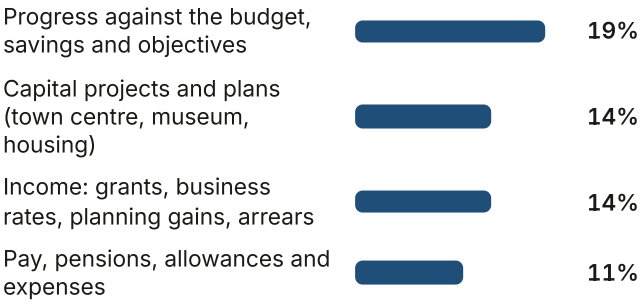
23%
of people naming a missing priority raised roads and potholes

28%
of closing comments said council tax and charges are too high

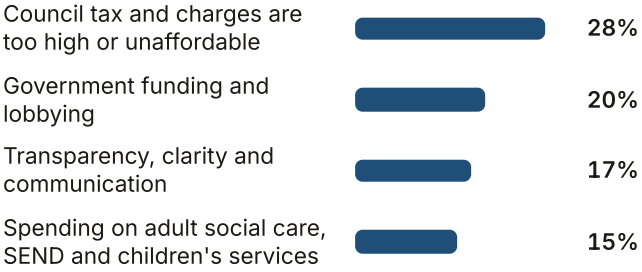
Do you feel there are any priorities missing from this list?



What other information would you like to know, to stay up to date with Council finances throughout the year?



Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding our budget or Medium Term Financial Strategy?



> *Increased allocation of funds to repair poorly maintained road surfaces. The pot holes are impacting upon the vehicle maintenance costs.*
>
> R064

> *Outcomes reporting against annual expenditure.*
>
> R109

> *I can see efforts are being made to save money, but the continued increases in Council tax, including the annual green bin tax which is hiked every year will eventually make living in Rutland unaffordable for many residents, especially ...*
>
> R179

SUMMARY

What residents said

Roads and potholes are the gap residents see most. 18 of the 80 people who named a missing priority (23%) raised road repairs, and roads come up in another 9 comments elsewhere in the survey.

The climate emergency priority is the most contested. 16 answers (20%) said it should be dropped or demoted, and 5 more said so in closing comments. 3 wanted more action on climate, energy efficiency or flooding.

Affordability dominates the closing comments. 13 of 46 (28%) said council tax and charges are too high, with the green bin charge a recurring example (7 comments on bins and waste).

People want to see the workings. Asked what they want in quarterly updates, the most common request was progress against the budget, savings and objectives (7 of 37), followed by detail on income, capital projects, and pay, pensions and expenses.

Specific spending is being questioned. The £6m museum project drew 6 comments, mostly sceptical of the cost; 7 questioned spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services; 5 targeted staff pay, allowances and headcount.

Government funding and reorganisation frame the debate. 9 closing comments were about government funding: some asked why Rutland is funded so poorly or whether the council and its MP are pushing hard enough, others credited the council for coping with it. 5 discussed reorganisation, including using Rutland's reserves before any merger.

There is support too. 12 people said nothing was missing from the priorities, and 3 closing comments backed the council's approach.

Points to consider in the council's response

- A short “you said, we did” note on road maintenance: how much is being spent, where, and how pothole funding from government is used. This was the most common concern across the survey.
- Explain the green bin charge increase. Two comments quote different figures (£73 and £75), and one respondent explicitly asked for a reply.
- Set out the business case for the £6m museum investment, including expected visitor revenue, since respondents questioned the cost and whether it will generate income.
- Correct or clarify figures residents are using, such as the share of the budget spent on social care and the share of council tax going on pensions (see “Claims you may want to address”).
- State the council’s lobbying position on government funding and how reserves will be treated ahead of reorganisation; both were raised repeatedly.
- Consider adding progress against budget, savings delivered, and income sources to the quarterly finance reports, as requested.

ABOUT THIS CONSULTATION

What was asked, when and how

Consulted on	The council's budget for 2026/27: its four priorities, what residents felt was missing, and what they want to see in quarterly finance updates.
When	Consultation open 13 January to 3 February 2026
Questions analysed	Question 5: "Do you feel there are any priorities missing from this list?" Question 9: "What other information would you like to know, to stay up to date with Council finances throughout the year?" Question 10: "Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding our budget or Medium Term Financial Strategy?"
Responses	206 responses, with 189 comments read and coded.
Promotion and channels	Residents responded to an online survey. The council published the free-text answers as Appendix J to its February 2026 Cabinet report.

This is an independent sample, so it does not cover how the consultation was promoted. In a commissioned report, this section also sets out promotion, events and response channels, using information from the council.

QUESTION 5

Do you feel there are any priorities missing from this list?

80 of 92 people who answered named something they felt was missing; 12 said nothing was. Many answers were less about a missing priority than about the order of the existing four, with climate the main target.

THEME	COMMENTS	SHARE
Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	18	23%
The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	16	20%
Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	10	13%
Town centres, local businesses and the economy	8	10%
Keep council tax down	7	9%
Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	6	8%
Put core public services first	5	6%
Children, young people and education	5	6%
Public transport	5	6%
Crime and policing	4	5%
Villages and rural areas	4	5%
Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment	3	4%
Flooding and drainage	3	4%
Housing, including social and council housing	3	4%
Healthcare and care for older people	3	4%
Bins, charges and fly-tipping	2	3%
The priorities are too vague to judge	2	3%
Listen to residents	1	1%
Spend less on adult social care	1	1%

Share is of the 80 comments that said something (12 answered “No” or “None”). A comment can raise several themes, so shares add up to more than 100%.

In their words

Roads, potholes and highway maintenance

18 COMMENTS

> *Increased allocation of funds to repair poorly maintained road surfaces. The pot holes are impacting upon the vehicle maintenance costs.*
> R064

> *Sort the roads out and improve traffic flows when railway crossings are closed*
> R026

The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it) 16 COMMENTS

> *I don't agree your top priority should be tackling the climate emergency as you call it. I don't see that as your job at all.*
> R049

> *I believe RCC should scrap the first priority, whilst overall UK PLC needs to be fully aware of climate change RCC can't do anything to help with this. Increase funding for policing Rutland, or fix more roads.*
> R078

No missing priority / the list is fine 12 COMMENTS

> *Those priorities seem pretty fair to me.*
> R046

Cut waste, control costs, give value for money

10 COMMENTS

> *Be more efficient by reviewing e.g. Volume of staff at RCC which is a big overhead*
> R055

Town centres, local businesses and the economy

8 COMMENTS

> *Ensuring local businesses and shops not only survive but prosper so that our town and villages don't become become derelict and lacking in appeal. Hikes in rates and rents don't support growth!*
> R050

Keep council tax down 7 COMMENTS

> *Make every effort to reduce council tax which is one of the highest in the country*
> R073

Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing

6 COMMENTS

> *Prioritise Keeping our libraries and community spaces open and staffed*
> R062

Put core public services first 5 COMMENTS

> *I don't agree with the order that it has been presented. Good public services and infrastructure should come top*
> R023

Children, young people and education

5 COMMENTS

> *Provision for young people between the ages of 11 and 18 outside school hours*
> R034

Public transport 5 COMMENTS

> *Good regular public transport from oakham to larger towns ie Leicester Nottingham Peterborough*
> R063

Crime and policing 4 COMMENTS

> *Tackle rural crime*
> R084

Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment 3 COMMENTS

> *Keeping roads and cycle paths in good condition. Enhancing tree, hedge planting to support flood control and environmental benefits.*
>
> R044

Flooding and drainage 3 COMMENTS

> *On the first point, which matters, do not feel you do enough, so many new houses built none of them to the energy efficiency levels available or needed, and flooding still a huge issue for many*
>
> R002

Housing, including social and council housing 3 COMMENTS

> *Social housing*
>
> R065

Healthcare and care for older people 3 COMMENTS

> *Yes medical care for the elderly is sadly lacking*
>
> R069

QUESTION 9

What other information would you like to know, to stay up to date with Council finances throughout the year?

37 of 42 answers asked for specific information; 5 said none. The requests are practical and would be straightforward to add to the quarterly finance reports.

THEME	COMMENTS	SHARE
Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	7	19%
Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	5	14%
Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	5	14%
Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses	4	11%
Government funding and lobbying	4	11%
Climate spending and the climate priority	3	8%
Spending on consultants and consultations	2	5%
Roads and pothole funding	2	5%
Local government reorganisation	2	5%
Plain-English explanations of the figures	2	5%
Council tax levels and banding	2	5%
Other service issues raised	2	5%
Measures of economic growth	1	3%
How updates are shared	1	3%
Doubt that feedback is used	1	3%

Share is of the 37 comments that said something (5 answered “No” or “None”). A comment can raise several themes, so shares add up to more than 100%.

In their words

Progress against the budget, savings and objectives 7 COMMENTS

> *Outcomes reporting against annual expenditure.*
> R109

> *Where savings have been made Whether spending plans have been reviewed in the light of feedback from the Council Tax payers of Rutland*
> R110

Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing) 5 COMMENTS

> *Advance summary information about planning for capital investment*
> R098

Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears 5 COMMENTS

> *What grants have been applied for and outcomes.*
> R118

Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses 4 COMMENTS

> *How much council officials are paid. How much is paid on consultations rather than using that money for actual good use*
> R134

Government funding and lobbying 4 COMMENTS

> *Why we are so poorly funded by central government?. I know that we are, but not why ?*
> R103

Climate spending and the climate priority 3 COMMENTS

> *I'd like to see precise spending on 'climate' projects or initiatives*
> R108

Spending on consultants and consultations 2 COMMENTS

> *I would like to know how much is spent on consultants for planning, some of those outside costs in the past have led to a negative impact because the consultants don't understand the area, it means more objections to decisions could have ...*
> R094

Plain-English explanations of the figures 2 COMMENTS

> *Needs to have explainations for the figures and deceisions*
> R107

QUESTION 10

Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding our budget or Medium Term Financial Strategy?

46 of 55 answers made a substantive comment; 9 said no. Closing comments were longer and more critical than the rest of the survey and often covered several topics at once.

THEME	COMMENTS	SHARE
Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	13	28%
Government funding and lobbying	9	20%
Transparency, clarity and communication	8	17%
Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services	7	15%
Roads, drains and contractor quality	7	15%
Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	7	15%
The £6m museum project	5	11%
Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount	5	11%
Climate and diversity should not be priorities	5	11%
Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	5	11%
Town centres, local businesses and growth	5	11%
Other	5	11%
Support for the council's approach	3	7%
GP, dental and hospital access	3	7%
Council offices and estate costs	2	4%
Consultants and studies	2	4%

Share is of the 46 comments that said something (9 answered “No” or “None”). A comment can raise several themes, so shares add up to more than 100%.

In their words

Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable 13 COMMENTS

> *I can see efforts are being made to save money, but the continued increases in Council tax, including the annual green bin tax which is hiked every year will eventually make living in Rutland unaffordable for many residents, especially ...*
>
> R179

> *With limited income growth for many residents increase in charges, community tax is punitive . The need for a food bank in a relatively affluent county says it all.*
>
> R160

Government funding and lobbying 9 COMMENTS

> *Is RCC actively lobbying UK government for a fair share of per capita (or whatever the phrase is) to reduce the financial pressures?*
>
> R182

> *It seems to be a balanced approach in light of continuing underfunding by Government.*
>
> R157

Transparency, clarity and communication 8 COMMENTS

> *It's very generic and vague, which makes it very difficult to understand what you are doing, but very clear that the money for Rutland is being reduced, reduced, reduced.*
>
> R167

> *Local feeling is very negative. Mainly I believe for to the fact that The Council don't broadcast enough to let local residents know the restrictions on The Council. ...*
>
> R174

Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services 7 COMMENTS

> *Stop wasting money on multiple taxis ferrying children to and from schools, either use minibuses or encourage the parents to walk or use their own vehicles.*
>
> R155

Roads, drains and contractor quality 7 COMMENTS

> *Check unwork Quality by SUBCONTRACTORS, ie Drains, Road repairs, TRAFFIC wardens who walk around Together .*
>
> R144

Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins) 7 COMMENTS

> *You spend a large slice of income on adult social care etc, considering the small population of Rutland. The Green bin charge is rising to £73 And no doubt will continue to rise. ...*
>
> R165

The £6m museum project 5 COMMENTS

> *£6 million is a lot to spend on the adaptation of Rutland Museum to house the Rutland Sea Dragon fossil. Do the council really see this as a priority when government funding has been cut? Will this investment generate any revenue for the council?*
>
> R178

> *I want you to realise that spending £6m on the museum is a gross overspend at a time when other areas are in desperate need of such funding. ...*
>
> R145

Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount 5 COMMENTS

> *Rationalization of jobs. Where there are severe financial constraints, businesses cut recruitment yet there ate always vacancies in the website. ...*
>
> R164

Climate and diversity should not be priorities

5 COMMENTS

> *The climate 'emergency' as you put it should not be in the top four strategic priorities. ...*
>
> R141

Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers

5 COMMENTS

> *With the impending forced merger with other areas, we should use our saved reserves in Rutland NOW for CDEL to avoid being used to support other areas. Rutland paid this money and should benefit from it!*
>
> R168

> *I think it is a very good idea to utilise the capital expenditure budget for investment in Rutland ahead of the expected Local Government Reorganisation so that the accrued funds are used for the population which generated them.*
>
> R159

Town centres, local businesses and growth

5 COMMENTS

> *Focusing on economic growth is the only way to make Rutland resilient - even if that puts short term pressures on social care*
>
> R185

Support for the council's approach 3 COMMENTS

> *Keep on delivering a good job in balancing the budget, in spite of Government cut-backs in support funding. ...*
>
> R163

GP, dental and hospital access 3 COMMENTS

> *Batteries and solar panel manufacture is not green, nore is disposal. Concentrate more on health care, we need dentists and doctors, and supporting small businesses.*
>
> R188

Council offices and estate costs 2 COMMENTS

> *Thought should be given to reducing the County council estate costs*
>
> R140

FEEDING BACK

You said: the issues to respond to

The most raised issues, as a starting point for the council's “you said, we did” feedback. Add the council's response in the last column before publishing.

YOU SAID	RESPONSES	THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE
Roads, potholes and highway maintenance Question 5	18	*To complete*
The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it) Question 5	16	*To complete*
Cut waste, control costs, give value for money Question 5	10	*To complete*
Town centres, local businesses and the economy Question 5	8	*To complete*
Progress against the budget, savings and objectives Question 9	7	*To complete*
Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing) Question 9	5	*To complete*
Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears Question 9	5	*To complete*
Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses Question 9	4	*To complete*
Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable Question 10	13	*To complete*
Government funding and lobbying Question 10	9	*To complete*
Transparency, clarity and communication Question 10	8	*To complete*
Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services Question 10	7	*To complete*

FOR THE RESPONSE

Questions residents asked, and claims to address

Consultation responses often contain direct questions and factual claims. Answering the first and correcting the second, where needed, shows respondents their comments were read.

Questions residents asked the council

QUESTION	COMMENT
Does pothole repair come within the four priorities?	R008
How is the green bin increase (from £60 to £75) justified? Asks for a reply.	R053
What is actually being done under the priorities?	R057
Why is Rutland so poorly funded by central government?	R103
Where has the government's pothole and road-maintenance money gone?	R105
Why does Rutland get less funding than other counties?	R117
Why is the 3.9% figure quoted without parish, police and fire precepts?	R158
Why does Rutland receive such low government funding?	R162
Will the museum investment generate any revenue for the council?	R178
Is the council actively lobbying government for a fairer share?	R182

Claims you may want to address

CLAIM AS MADE BY THE RESPONDENT	COMMENT
"30% of council tax goes on pensions"	R051
"58% of the budget is given over to social care & mental health support"	R138
The 3.90% increase does not reflect the total bill (precepts excluded)	R158
Green bin charge quoted as £75 (R165 quotes £73)	R053
The museum extension "could be done for £500k max"	R187
Council tax is "one of the highest in the country" (also R009, R187)	R073

Handling notes

- **R142:** Repeats R099 word for word, with one added sentence (likely the same respondent answering two questions). No organised campaign responses (identical or template text) were found.
- **Not quoted:** R010, R076, R156, R181. These comments were read and counted in the themes but are not quoted, because they contain offensive language, unfounded claims or remarks that could be read as targeting a community.
- **“No” and “None”:** 12 in Question 5, 5 in Question 9, 9 in Question 10. Counted, but excluded from the percentage shares.

READING THIS REPORT

What this analysis can and cannot tell you

- A consultation is not a vote or an opinion poll. People choose whether to respond, so the results show the views of those who took part, not of everyone affected.
- Counts show how often an issue was raised, not how strongly it is felt or whether a point is correct. One well-evidenced response can matter more than many brief ones.
- Where people responded through an organised campaign, every response is counted and the campaign is identified, so its weight is clear without discounting anyone.
- No statistical weighting is applied: every response counts once.

How budget consultation findings are used

1. The council considers the responses alongside its financial position and the government funding settlement.
2. The findings are reported to Cabinet and full Council, which set the budget and council tax for the year ahead.
3. The council publishes what it heard and how it responded, closing the loop with residents.

METHOD

How this analysis was done

What we did

- **Every comment was read in full.** Nothing was sampled or skipped.
- **A coding frame was built from the comments themselves** (Appendix A) rather than from a preset list, so unexpected issues are captured.
- **Each comment was coded to every theme it raised.** Counts are numbers of comments; shares are of comments that said something.
- **Quotes are exact.** Each one is reproduced as published, including spelling, carries its comment ID, and was checked word for word against the source document. Where a quote is shortened, "…" marks the cut.
- **Every coding decision is traceable.** Appendix B lists every comment with its themes, and a spreadsheet version accompanies this report.
- **Built for publication.** The PDF meets the PDF/UA accessibility standard (ISO 14289-1, checked with veraPDF), with headings, bookmarks, table headers and a set reading order for screen readers. An editable Word version is supplied, to help the council publish it under the accessibility regulations.

Source and limits

- Source: Appendix J to the Cabinet report of February 2026, "Budget consultation 2026/27 and responses as at 03 February 2026". https://rutlandcounty.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s32189/Appendix%20J%20-%20Budget%20Consultation.pdf
- The appendix reproduces the free-text answers to three open questions. Answers to the closed questions appear only as charts, so they were not analysed here.
- Answers are not linked to individual respondents and no demographic data was published, so results are reported per comment and equality analysis is not possible from the published material.
- The council reports 206 responses. The appendix contains 190 free-text answers; one split across a page break was rejoined, giving 189 comments.
- Comment IDs (R001 onwards) number the comments in the order they appear in the source document.

ASSURANCE

Quality and data protection

Quality assurance

- **Every figure is recalculated** from the coded data by the program that builds this report, so no number is typed by hand.
- **Every quote is checked** word for word against its source (45 quotes).
- **A second, blind coding** of a random 40 of the 189 comments (in proportion across the three questions) gave exactly the same themes as the first for 36 of the 40. For themes, agreement was 0.93 on Cohen's kappa, and 1.00 for the five most raised, where 0.81 and above counts as almost perfect. The four differences were short or wide-ranging comments that fit more than one theme.
- **Version 1.1**, produced 29 September 2026. The source, the assumptions (how campaigns and comments that only point to another document are counted) and the coding frame are all set out in this report.
- **Standards.** Built to the principles of HM Treasury's Aqua Book for quality analysis, the Consultation Institute's Charter (fair interpretation and publication) and the Planning Advisory Service's guidance on consultation statements. The PDF meets the PDF/UA accessibility standard (ISO 14289-1), checked with veraPDF.

Data protection

- This sample uses only information the council has already published. Individuals are not named in that data, and organisations are named as the council published them.
- Quotes were checked for personal details such as addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, and none is reproduced.

GLOSSARY

Terms used in this report

Adult social care	Care and support for adults with disabilities, illness or frailty, which the council arranges and funds.
Council tax	The local tax on homes that helps fund council services, set each year by the council.
Local government reorganisation	The government's programme to reorganise councils in England into larger unitary authorities.
Reserves	Money the council has set aside for future costs or risks.
SEND	Special educational needs and disabilities.

APPENDIX A

Coding frame

Every theme used, with the number of comments coded to it.

Question 5: Do you feel there are any priorities missing from this list?

THEME	COMMENTS
No missing priority / the list is fine	12
Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	18
The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	16
Keep council tax down	7
Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	10
Town centres, local businesses and the economy	8
Put core public services first	5
Children, young people and education	5
Public transport	5
Crime and policing	4
Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	6
Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment	3
Flooding and drainage	3
Housing, including social and council housing	3
Healthcare and care for older people	3
Villages and rural areas	4
Bins, charges and fly-tipping	2
The priorities are too vague to judge	2
Listen to residents	1
Spend less on adult social care	1

Question 9: What other information would you like to know, to stay up to date with Council finances throughout the year?

THEME	COMMENTS
Nothing more / none	5
Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	7
Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	5
Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses	4
Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	5
Government funding and lobbying	4
Climate spending and the climate priority	3
Spending on consultants and consultations	2
Roads and pothole funding	2
Local government reorganisation	2
Plain-English explanations of the figures	2
Council tax levels and banding	2
Measures of economic growth	1
How updates are shared	1

THEME	COMMENTS
Doubt that feedback is used	1
Other service issues raised	2

Question 10: Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding our budget or Medium Term Financial Strategy?

THEME	COMMENTS
No further comments	9
Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	13
Government funding and lobbying	9
Transparency, clarity and communication	8
Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services	7
Roads, drains and contractor quality	7
Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	7
The £6m museum project	5
Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount	5
Climate and diversity should not be priorities	5
Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	5
Town centres, local businesses and growth	5
Support for the council's approach	3
GP, dental and hospital access	3
Council offices and estate costs	2
Consultants and studies	2
Other	5

APPENDIX B

Audit trail: every comment and its themes

Comment text is abbreviated here; the accompanying spreadsheet has every comment in full.

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R001	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Improvement in retail ie work towards encouraging a more diverse range of shops.
R002	Q5	Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment; Flooding and drainage	On the first point, which matters, do not feel you do enough, so many new houses built none of them to ...
R003	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Cut out waste
R004	Q5	Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	Creating a community network which can help with some of these through training programmes, such as ...
R005	Q5	Healthcare and care for older people; The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it); Put core public services first	Workable Healthcare and Social Service solution should take presidence over 'Tackling the Climate ...
R006	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Looking after the people of Rutland. Above is a total waste of time and money. The high street is falling ...
R007	Q5	Children, young people and education	Would like to see education as a separate heading, perhaps "Provide first-rate educational opportunities ...
R008	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Does dealing with potholes come within the 4 priorities?
R009	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money; Keep council tax down	being more efficient cutting unnecessary spend reviewing why council tax is highest in the country
R010	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	There is a totally unnecessary "priority" on your list - there is no climate emergency. Have ANY of you ...
R011	Q5	Keep council tax down	Reducing Council Tax
R012	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Check up on benefits cheats,
R013	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R014	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Top of the list must be economic welfare. Oakhams town centre is looking tired . Businesses need ...
R015	Q5	Children, young people and education	I assume children are included in “the most vulnerable” if not they need prioritising
R016	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R017	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	If tackling the ‘climate emergency’ is a priority for our council it should be the least important.
R018	Q5	Villages and rural areas; Flooding and drainage; Bins, charges and fly-tipping; Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Support for small villages including flooding issues and speeding. Rubbish and fly tipping especially on ...
R019	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Pot holes
R020	Q5	Put core public services first; The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it); Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Goos public services should be top of the list not Climate. How about making poor roads a priority please.

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R021	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Sustainable growth
R022	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	Stop carbon reduction C!imate changed by plate tectonic not man-made carbon
R023	Q5	Put core public services first	I don't agree with the order that it has been presented. Good public services and infrastructure should ...
R024	Q5	Public transport	Public transport
R025	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Pot holes in the roads!
R026	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Sort the roads out and improve traffic flows when railway crossings are closed
R027	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R028	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Fixing roads Addressing potholes
R029	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Roads
R030	Q5	Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	Keep the county a beautiful place to live
R031	Q5	Housing, including social and council housing	Housing
R032	Q5	Children, young people and education	Activities for young people: teenagers
R033	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it); Cut waste, control costs, give value for money; Crime and policing; Roads, potholes and highway maintenance; Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	Priorities are wrong. Climate has become a waste of money. Diverse and sustainable economy a an excuse to ...
R034	Q5	Children, young people and education	Provision for young people between the ages of 11 and 18 outside school hours
R035	Q5	The priorities are too vague to judge; Spend less on adult social care; Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	I am unsure what it means to work collaboratively to improve outcomes for residents, helping those who ...
R036	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	Britain produces <1% of global CO2. We cannot (and should not) afford to spending vast amounts of money ...
R037	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	Four priorities seem adequate.
R038	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	The Climate Emergency is a narritive that has made a number of people/companies very wealthy through ...
R039	Q5	Keep council tax down	Reducing council tax
R040	Q5	Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	Support residents
R041	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R042	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Potholes in roads
R043	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Maintain infrastructure. Clear overgrowth from road signs to make the roads safer
R044	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance; Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment; Flooding and drainage	Keeping roads and cycle paths in good condition. Enhancing tree, hedge planting to support flood control ...
R045	Q5	Public transport; Villages and rural areas	Better rural public transport would assist all 4.
R046	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	Those priorities seem pretty fair to me.
R047	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Improve the roads which are made inefficient by silly half blocks on some roads and parking along roads ...
R048	Q5	Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	The well being of people in Rutland has been forgotten. The Council cancelling the Catmose Sport Centre ...
R049	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	I don't agree your top priority should be tackling the climate emergency as you call

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
			it. I don’t see that ...
R050	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Ensuring local businesses and shops not only survive but prosper so that our town and villages don’t ...
R051	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Cut the final salary pension scheme for all employees. 30% of council tax goes on pensions. Unsustainable ...
R052	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Road repairs, in particular potholes, are roads are in an absolute mess
R053	Q5	Bins, charges and fly-tipping; Keep council tax down	I think the green bin has gone up too much 2025 was £60 and this year it is £75 how can u justify the ...
R054	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy; Healthcare and care for older people	Help our local farming community who supply our food; help elderly with communication and travel
R055	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Be more efficient by reviewing e.g. Volume of staff at RCC which is a big overhead
R056	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	I think tackling climate Emergency fore us in Rutland is well down the list
R057	Q5	The priorities are too vague to judge	The comments above don't tell me anything. They are simple generic terms around the popular topic of ...
R058	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	Stop wasting money on the climate emergency, Rutland can't afford it!
R059	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Financial prudence
R060	Q5	Children, young people and education	Educational support and opportunities. Specifically support for young adults aged 16-24.
R061	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	There is no Climate emergency
R062	Q5	Community facilities, leisure and wellbeing	Prioritise Keeping our libraries and community spaces open and staffed
R063	Q5	Public transport	Good regular public transport from oakham to larger towns ie Leicester Nottingham Peterborough
R064	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Increased allocation of funds to repair poorly maintained road surfaces. The pot holes are impacting upon ...
R065	Q5	Housing, including social and council housing	Social housing
R066	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Provide value for money
R067	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R068	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it); Put core public services first	What Climate Emergency there isn’t one and you don’t provide good public services
R069	Q5	Healthcare and care for older people	Yes medical care for the elderly is sadly lacking
R070	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money; Keep council tax down	Work within a budget and stop expecting tax payers to contually fund from their limited budgets.
R071	Q5	Villages and rural areas	Equality of opportunity gor rural communities
R072	Q5	Cut waste, control costs, give value for money	Reduce costs
R073	Q5	Keep council tax down	Make every effort to reduce council tax which is one of the highest in the country

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R074	Q5	Public transport; Do more on climate, energy efficiency or the environment	Improving Public transport Under climate control include all new builds should include solar panels so we ...
R075	Q5	Crime and policing	Crime
R076	Q5	Keep council tax down	Getting the council tax down you're the most e, pensive in the UK, and provide c*** services
R077	Q5	Put core public services first	provide good public services
R078	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it); Crime and policing; Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	I believe RCC should scrap the first priority, whilst overall UK PLC needs to be fully aware of climate ...
R079	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Support local businesses and develop tourism and its related facilities. Bring more shops and businesses ...
R080	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R081	Q5	Roads, potholes and highway maintenance	Maintaining/mending roads and cutting back verges etc to make roads safe
R082	Q5	Town centres, local businesses and the economy	Supporting more local businesses
R083	Q5	Housing, including social and council housing	Council housing
R084	Q5	Crime and policing; Villages and rural areas	Tackle rural crime
R085	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R086	Q5	Listen to residents	Listening to the community
R087	Q5	Public transport	Better public transport
R088	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R089	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R090	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	Climate is not a priority, just an excuse to tax us more. The making and disposing of batteries and solar ...
R091	Q5	The climate emergency should not be a priority (drop or demote it)	There is no climate *emergency *
R092	Q5	No missing priority / the list is fine	No
R093	Q9	Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	Council’s plans to develop and improve Oakham’s town centre.
R094	Q9	Spending on consultants and consultations	I would like to know how much is spent on consultants for planning, some of those outside costs in the ...
R095	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives; Government funding and lobbying	Progress against budget. Progress with lobbying the national government for a more equal distribution of funds
R096	Q9	Other service issues raised	Better planning and better results for climate issues eg flooding, plus lower speed throughout, the ...
R097	Q9	Measures of economic growth	Metric on economic growth for the county new businesses attracted into the area vs business leaving the ...
R098	Q9	Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	Advance summary information about planning for capital investment
R099	Q9	Climate spending and the climate priority	It is clear that the decision makers at the Council have never actually properly researched the subject ...
R100	Q9	Local government reorganisation	When we’ll be rid of RCC

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R101	Q9	Government funding and lobbying	Take the case. Of Government under funding to Number 10 with the Help of our MP who seems to care more ...
R102	Q9	Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	You have not mentioned housing and homelessness or future planning developments such as St George's site ...
R103	Q9	Government funding and lobbying	Why we are so poorly funded by central government?. I know that we are, but not why ?
R104	Q9	Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing)	Council input to keeping high street alive - parking made easier
R105	Q9	Roads and pothole funding	Where has the money gone the government provided for the repair of potholes & road maintenance? Many ...
R106	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	Monthly updates / review of further initiatives to save money.
R107	Q9	Plain-English explanations of the figures	Needs to have explainations for the figures and deceisions
R108	Q9	Climate spending and the climate priority	I'd like to see precise spending on 'climate' projects or initiatives
R109	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	Outcomes reporting against annual expenditure.
R110	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	Where savings have been made Whether spending plans have been reviewed in the light of feedback from the ...
R111	Q9	How updates are shared	e mails/ local press releases are helpful.
R112	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	Regular updates on Financial Status
R113	Q9	Doubt that feedback is used	Do you actually believe that people at large read all the information? 1/ they haven't got the time 2/ ...
R114	Q9	Local government reorganisation	The REAL cost incurred by the Governent's reorganisation plan
R115	Q9	Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses	Pension costs of RDC
R116	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	UPDATES on stated Objectives and the Strategy to DELIVER? A"measure"!
R117	Q9	Roads and pothole funding; Government funding and lobbying; Other service issues raised	What is the council doing? We have some major pot holes in the roads, I have to leave the county if I ...
R118	Q9	Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	What grants have been applied for and outcomes.
R119	Q9	Nothing more / none	no
R120	Q9	Capital projects and plans (town centre, museum, housing); Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	What private investment is being targeted and why. I think the Rutland Museum spend of £6 million is ...
R121	Q9	Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses	A reduction of the expensives being claimed
R122	Q9	Progress against the budget, savings and objectives	Plans for local services. As local residents see and use these services, I feel that it is vitally ...
R123	Q9	Nothing more / none	Nil
R124	Q9	Nothing more / none	None
R125	Q9	Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses	Payment to councilors

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R126	Q9	Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	How much do the council generate from business rates.
R127	Q9	Nothing more / none	None
R128	Q9	Nothing more / none	None
R129	Q9	Climate spending and the climate priority	How much are we wasting on the climate
R130	Q9	Council tax levels and banding; Plain-English explanations of the figures	If I'm honest I don't fully understand everything that has been mentioned. As with a lot of people I am ...
R131	Q9	Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	Monies derived from planning gains
R132	Q9	Income: grants, business rates, planning gains, arrears	Figures for non payment of council tax
R133	Q9	Council tax levels and banding	Council tax income is far to high, I'd like to know in more detail how it is spent. Some houses should be ...
R134	Q9	Pay, pensions, allowances and expenses; Spending on consultants and consultations	How much council officials are paid. How much is paid on consultations rather than using that money for ...
R135	Q10	No further comments	No
R136	Q10	Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services	I think the SEND home adaptions have got out of hand in some cases, closing down specialist provision ...
R137	Q10	Council offices and estate costs; Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount; Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	Close the council offices and relocate to Victoria hall and sell the current council offices to release ...
R138	Q10	Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services	It is unbelievable that 58% of the budget is given over to ‘social care & mental health support. More ...
R139	Q10	No further comments	no, thank you
R140	Q10	Council offices and estate costs	Thought should be given to reducing the County council estate costs
R141	Q10	Climate and diversity should not be priorities; Roads, drains and contractor quality	The climate ‘emergency’ as you put it should not be in the top four strategic priorities. The authority ...
R142	Q10	Climate and diversity should not be priorities; Transparency, clarity and communication	It is clear that the decision makers at the Council have never actually properly researched the subject ...
R143	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	Far too expensive
R144	Q10	Roads, drains and contractor quality	Check unwork Quality by SUBCONTRACTORS, ie Drains, Road repairs, TRAFFIC wardens who walk around Together .
R145	Q10	The £6m museum project; Town centres, local businesses and growth	I want you to realise that spending £6m on the museum is a gross overspend at a time when other areas are ...
R146	Q10	Other	You need to reconsider housing options
R147	Q10	Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	Do not replace any black bins with smaller ones until they are broken. It's a waste of money replacing ...
R148	Q10	Government funding and lobbying; Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	With such a small tax income and poor government support, council tax payers are never going to get the ...
R149	Q10	Government funding and lobbying	Stop being ditched up by the government
R150	Q10	Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	Don't want to be swallowed up by leics.. or lincs. Must keep our community spirit to

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
			the fore.
R151	Q10	Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers; Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	If you feel the government is not supporting our communities enough maybe you need to drum up support ...
R152	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Transparency, clarity and communication; Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	Increase in Council tax places an unfair burden on residents ,especially given rural cost of living ...
R154	Q10	Transparency, clarity and communication	Please keep everybody updated.
R155	Q10	Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services	Stop wasting money on multiple taxis ferrying children to and from schools, either use minibuses or ...
R156	Q10	Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services; GP, dental and hospital access; Roads, drains and contractor quality; Town centres, local businesses and growth	I think far too much money is being attributed to adult social care and high need provision and ...
R157	Q10	Support for the council's approach; Government funding and lobbying	It seems to be a balanced approach in light of continuing underfunding by Government.
R158	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Transparency, clarity and communication; The £6m museum project; Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services; GP, dental and hospital access; Roads, drains and contractor quality; Consultants and studies; Government funding and lobbying; Other	The 3.90% increase does not appear to reflect the total Council Tax increase for Rutland as Parish ...
R159	Q10	Support for the council's approach; Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	I think it is a very good idea to utilise the capital expenditure budget for investment in Rutland ahead ...
R160	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	With limited income growth for many residents increase in charges, community tax is punitive . The need ...
R161	Q10	Transparency, clarity and communication	If we could again have regular updates on medium-term financial strategy
R162	Q10	Government funding and lobbying; Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount; Transparency, clarity and communication	Seems that Rutland Council always manages to receive an incredible low funding from Central Government, ...
R163	Q10	Support for the council's approach; Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Government funding and lobbying	Keep on delivering a good job in balancing the budget, in spite of Government cut-backs in support ...
R164	Q10	Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount; Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	Rationalization of jobs. Where there are severe financial constraints, businesses cut recruitment yet ...
R165	Q10	Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services; Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	You spend a large slice of income on adult social care etc, considering the small population of Rutland. ...
R166	Q10	No further comments	No
R167	Q10	Transparency, clarity and communication; Government funding and lobbying	It's very generic and vague, which makes it very difficult to understand what you are doing, but very ...
R168	Q10	Reorganisation: reserves, identity and mergers	With the impending forced merger with other areas, we should use our saved reserves in Rutland NOW for ...
R169	Q10	No further comments	No
R170	Q10	No further comments	no
R171	Q10	Roads, drains and contractor quality; Other	Yes. I am a resident of Ketton which I understand is the third largest conurbation in Rutland yet I am ...

ID	Q	THEMES	COMMENT (START)
R172	Q10	Climate and diversity should not be priorities	Too much emphasis on Diversity and Climate, both completely outside the control of Council.
R173	Q10	Other	See 11
R174	Q10	Transparency, clarity and communication	Local feeling is very negative. Mainly I believe for to the fact that The Council don’t broadcast enough ...
R175	Q10	No further comments	No
R176	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	Things keep being put up ie council tax,green bins which is really bad when people are struggling already.
R177	Q10	Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	Don’t waste money on food waste recycling
R178	Q10	The £6m museum project	£6 million is a lot to spend on the adaptation of Rutland Museum to house the Rutland Sea Dragon fossil. ...
R179	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins)	I can see efforts are being made to save money, but the continued increases in Council tax, including the ...
R180	Q10	No further comments	No
R181	Q10	The £6m museum project; Town centres, local businesses and growth	6m on the museum seems a hell of a lot of money. I am all for it and hope that the dinosaur brings ...
R182	Q10	Government funding and lobbying	Is RCC actively lobbying UK government for a fair share of per capita (or whatever the phrase is) to ...
R183	Q10	No further comments	No
R184	Q10	No further comments	No
R185	Q10	Town centres, local businesses and growth	Focusing on economic growth is the only way to make Rutland resilient - even if that puts short term ...
R186	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; Roads, drains and contractor quality	Reduce Council tax. My house is directly on the road. Windows are constantly blocked by traffic and I ...
R187	Q10	Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable; The £6m museum project; Bins and waste charges (green bin, food waste, black bins); Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount; Consultants and studies; Climate and diversity should not be priorities; Other	We already pay the highest council tax, over 10% of our income (pensions). Cyclists pay nothing yet you ...
R188	Q10	Climate and diversity should not be priorities; GP, dental and hospital access; Town centres, local businesses and growth	Batteries and solar panel manufacture is not green, nore is disposal. Concentrate more on health care, we ...
R189	Q10	Government funding and lobbying; Council tax and charges are too high or unaffordable	what is our MP doing to get us a fairer deal from government? Not very much by the look of it. Do you ...
R190	Q10	Roads, drains and contractor quality; Spending on adult social care, SEND and children's services; Staff pay, councillor allowances, pensions and headcount	Carry out more checks and balances on work carried out by external contractors. I refer to highways ...

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