

Your membership number is:



Your Living in Lancashire survey

1. Please read the instructions carefully and use blue or black pen to fill in the questionnaire.
2. Please check you have answered all the appropriate questions.
3. Return your completed questionnaire in the reply-paid envelope provided.

Views about your local area

Throughout this section we ask you to think about 'your local area.' Please consider your local area to be the area within 15-20 minutes' walk from your home.

1

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place to live?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2

And how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your home as a place to live?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3

Which of the following facilities...

a) are the most important in making somewhere a good place to live?

b) do you think most need improving in your local area?

PLEASE TICK UP TO FIVE BOXES IN EACH COLUMN

	a) Most important for an area	b) Most need improving in your local area
Access to nature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activities for teenagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Affordable decent housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Community activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural facilities (eg libraries, museums)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Education provision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilities for young children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Job prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The level of crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The level of pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The level of traffic congestion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and open spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Road and pavement repairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shopping facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sports and leisure facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wage levels and local cost of living	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please write in below)		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of these	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9

And now taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way your local district council and Lancashire County Council run things?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY FOR EACH COUNCIL

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Local district council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lancashire County Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10

How safe or unsafe do you feel when outside in your local area...

a) after dark?

b) during the day?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY FOR EACH STATEMENT

	a) after dark	b) during the day
Very safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neither safe nor unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11

Thinking about your local area, how much of a problem do you think each of the following are...

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY FOR EACH STATEMENT

	A very big problem	A fairly big problem	Not a very big problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rubbish or litter lying around	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vandalism, graffiti or other deliberate damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People using or dealing drugs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People being drunk or rowdy in public places	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16

What is the single most important factor that prevents you from using public transport to get to work?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- Cost
- Frequency of service
- Lack of service
- Lack of information
- Time taken compared to other forms of transport (eg car)
- Need to carry a lot of equipment
- Other (please specify)
- Would not consider public transport
- Already use public transport
- Don't know
- Not applicable

17

What are your views of future job prospects in Lancashire over the next two years?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| They will get worse | They will stay the same | They will get better | Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

18

What, if anything, are you doing to improve your job prospects?

PLEASE TICK AS MANY OPTIONS AS APPLY

- Learning new skills
- Looking for work outside Lancashire
- Considering starting a business
- Other
- Nothing
- Don't know
- Not applicable

19**What is your highest level of qualification?** PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- No formal qualifications
- Level 1 (equivalent to GCSEs grades D - G)
- Level 2 (equivalent to GCSEs grades A* - C)
- Level 3 (equivalent to A levels)
- Level 4 (equivalent to degree)
- Above level 4 (equivalent to post-graduate degree)

20**If you are currently studying, or are planning to begin studying soon, please tell us what subject area this is in.**

 Don't know/not studying or planning to study
21**Are you confident that you currently have the skills and abilities you will need for your future employment?** PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | Yes | No | Not sure | Not applicable |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

22**Do you intend to improve your skills in the next three years (to be at least one level higher than currently)?** PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

- No ➔ go to next section
- Yes - in core basic skills (reading, writing, maths, basic IT) ➔ go to Q23
- Yes - in general skills ➔ go to Q23
- Yes - in a specialist area in which I already have a qualification ➔ go to Q23
- Yes - in a specialist area in which I do not already have a qualification ➔ go to Q23

23**Does being able to improve your skills depend on any of the following?** PLEASE TICK AS MANY OPTIONS AS APPLY

- Assistance from my employer (eg financial)
- Finding a part-time course
- Finding a course I can do online
- I will not need any support
- Not sure

Lancashire County Council budget and priorities

We want to ask you some questions on what you think about the county council's service priorities, and the council tax we charge. First, here is some brief background information about the budget and council tax.

Spending priorities

The budget for the previous year- 2009/10 - was set in February 2009 by the council's previous administration.

The new administration, elected in June 2009, then took decisions to amend some of the planned spending for that year, but left the overall budget total for 2009/10 and the council tax for the year unchanged. The new administration's plans included a commitment to have no council tax increase for the financial year 2010/11, commencing on 1 April 2010.

When the budget for 2010/11 was set in February 2010, the new administration stuck to the commitment on council tax, keeping it at the same level for the current year to 31 March 2011, as it had been in 2009/10.

In this financial year April 2010 to March 2011, the county council will spend £1,865 million (or over £1.8 billion). Of that, £1,140 million comes from the government for specific services and from charges we make for certain services; the largest item within this is a £712 million government grant to fund schools.

This leaves net spending of £725 million. The table below shows the services we will spend this on:

	Spending £million	% of net spending
Children and young people	193	24
Adult services	350	43
Highways and environment management	64	8
Community services (including recreation, tourism and libraries)	26	3
Waste management	55	7
Financing charges (borrowing costs for capital schemes, for example long-term road and building projects)	47	6
Public transport	15	2
Public protection (including emergency planning, trading standards, county analyst and registrars)	7	1
Supporting economic development in Lancashire	2	0
Contribution to reserves	16	2
Other services	35	4
Sub total	810	100
Area based grant from the government	-85	
Total net spending	725	

Council Tax

The net spending of £725 million is funded by business rates, a revenue support grant and council tax. The first two of these are fixed amounts we receive from the government. We set council tax to cover the remainder of our spending.

The table below shows our funding for 2010/11:

Revenue source	£million	% of total
Business rates	264	37
Revenue support grant	38	5
Council tax	423	58
Total	725	100

For 2010/11, we set a spending budget of £725 million. We received £302 million from the government, leaving £423 million to be raised from council tax. This meant an annual council tax charge of £1,108.30 for a property in band D - the same level as in the previous year. The council tax set by the county council is included together with the council tax set by your borough or district council and by the police and fire authorities in one bill, which is sent out by your borough or district council.

Next year and beyond

The county council's Cabinet met on 12 July and 9 September 2010 and considered reports on the council's financial strategy and the achievement of budget savings. The reports:

- agreed how the new coalition government's requirement for in-year savings of £22.2m would be made by the council. These savings were part of the new in-year national total of £6.2 billion announced by the government in June 2010, and were on top of the £21.7 million of efficiency savings already planned by the council as part of its 2010/11 budget; and
- set out the forecast of further total annual savings of £113 million, then estimated to be required over the three years 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14. At that stage those savings required were based on assumptions of a reduction in the county council's grant of 5% per year, and a maximum increase in council tax of 2.5%.

The Cabinet and service directors have been working on plans to make these savings to deliver a budget within the resources available, including council tax. Where possible, these savings will come from back office functions, but services may be reduced where this is unavoidable.

The government's comprehensive spending review (CSR) was published on 20 October 2010, just as this questionnaire was finalised. The initial announcements gave headline information, but we are still waiting for detailed information on government funding for the county council, so the final picture of the budget gap and the savings required to live within any given level of council tax is not yet available. The initial headline information does indicate, though, that the spending reductions required over the next three to four years will not be less than the figure noted above, and may well be significantly more, possibly increasing from £113million to £186million over the three year period. Savings of this magnitude will fundamentally alter the level and breadth of the services which the council provides.

Given the level of efficiency savings already made in the last few years, and the level of new savings now needed, it is not possible to make these from efficiency savings or from back office functions alone. Front line services will be affected by the reductions from 2011/12 onwards.

Based on the information above...

24

a) Which three or four of the following services should be the highest priorities for spending in the coming years?

b) And which three or four of these services should be the lowest priorities for spending in the coming years?

PLEASE TICK UP TO FOUR BOXES IN EACH COLUMN

	a) Highest spending priorities	b) Lowest spending priorities
Nursery education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary and secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pupils who are socially disadvantaged and children with special educational needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's social care (protecting vulnerable children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Museums	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services for adults with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services for older people (including care in their own homes and in residential homes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repairing roads and bridges (including emergencies and fixing potholes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic management (making road travel safer and reducing congestion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping local bus services running	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste management (household waste disposal and recycling)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Country parks, open spaces and picnic sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for businesses and attracting investment to Lancashire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime prevention (working with partner organisations to help prevent crime and disorder and reduce the fear of crime)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trading standards (consumer protection)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welfare rights (helping people get the financial support they are entitled to)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth and community services (activities and support for young people)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of these	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

25

Which of the following most closely matches your opinion on what the council should do about the level of council tax next year?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Keep council tax levels the same as last year ➔ go to Q27

Increase council tax ➔ go to Q26

26

What level of council tax increase do you feel you could support?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

(Note: figures are shown for band D and for the lowest and highest bands, A and H, to illustrate the full range. The effects for the other bands would fall within the ranges shown.)

	Band A	Band D	Band H	
Current 2010/11 council tax a week	£14.21	£21.31	£42.63	
A 1% increase	£14.35	£21.52	£43.06	<input type="checkbox"/>
A 2% increase	£14.49	£21.74	£43.48	<input type="checkbox"/>
A 3% increase	£14.64	£21.95	£43.91	<input type="checkbox"/>
A 4% increase	£14.78	£22.17	£44.33	<input type="checkbox"/>
A 5% increase	£14.92	£22.38	£44.76	<input type="checkbox"/>

27

Every year you receive a leaflet from Lancashire County Council with your council tax bill, explaining how your council tax is spent. Do you remember receiving this leaflet at the beginning of this year?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Yes

No

Don't know

28

And generally, how useful do you find this type of leaflet at explaining how your council tax is spent? PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Very useful	Fairly useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Please return the questionnaire in the reply-paid envelope.
Thank you for being part of Living in Lancashire.**