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Response Details

**From**

Hazel Dawe

**Date**

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**Status**

Complete

**Response ID**

#879918

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In which role are you responding to this survey?

Please tick all that apply.

If Other, please specify

Cowley Area Transport Group www.catg.org.uk

I am a resident

I represent / own a local business

I represent a voluntary and community services (VCS) organisation

I represent another stakeholder e.g. parish council, health, police etc.

I am an employee of Oxford City Council

I am a council tenant

Other

2

**Approach to Budget Setting**

The City Council’s approach to setting it’s Budget and Medium Term

Financial Strategy includes a number of elements which are listed below.

Other organisations undertake alternative approaches to this exercise

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the

**City Council approach**

set out below?

Select the most applicable option in each row.

Strongl

y Agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagre

e

Strongl

y

Disagre

e

Using our wholly owned

company, Oxford Direct

Services Ltd to generate

more income from external

trading

Using our wholly owned

company Oxford City

Housing Ltd to develop

social and market housing

Increase council tax by the

maximum level permitted

% per year) to

(1.99

safeguard services

Reduce office space and

remote working by admin

staff

Go cashless- withdrawing

the ability to pay for council

services by cash and cheque

in favour of card, electronic

banking or Paypoint

Use balances and reserves

to meet one-off costs of the

pandemic

Maintain current service

levels and continue to

support with annual

efficiencies and increased

fees and charges

Please enter any additional comments

Approach to Budget setting: We reject the idea of using Council funds for

developing market housing as prices in Oxford are too high. We support

using the existing built environment for social and keyworker housing.

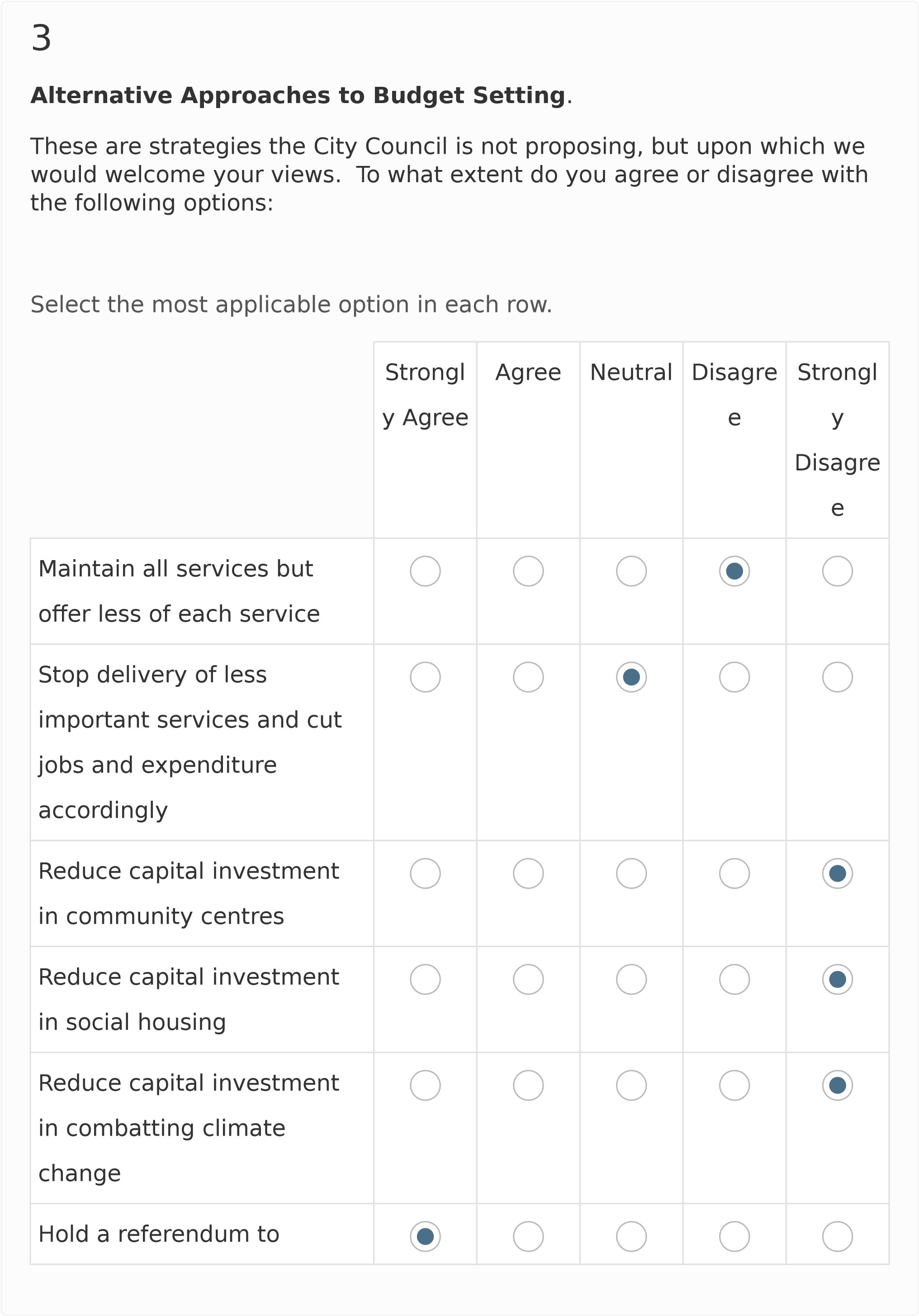
We do support using part rent/part buy options for keyworker homes.

The overall approach does not specify building homes around, above or

right over Oxford's private and public car parks. This is critical for

reducing car commuting inside Oxford, and from outside, and offering

people the opportunity to live near to workplaces within Oxford.



consult on increases in

council tax above the 1.99%

cap

Freeze Council Tax and cut

services

Please enter any additional comments

:

All investment must ensure that the Climate and ecological impacts of

any new or refurbished development should be minimal, preferably in

construction and not just in operation.

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**Our Priorities**

In terms of meeting its overall objective of ‘Building a World Class City for

Everyone’ the Council’s key aims are to:

•

**Enable an inclusive economy**

:

Council staff are skilled and confident

in delivering services our residents want and the workforce as a whole

better reflects Oxford’s diverse population; The Council’s supply chain

supports more local businesses, including social enterprises and

cooperatives, promoting wider benefits to the local economy

•

**Deliver more, affordable housing**

:

The Council have increased the

supply of high quality, energy efficient housing with a balanced mix of

homes for sale and to rent at different price points; The Council’s

Blackbird Leys regeneration delivers high quality homes and a better

use of space; More Council and private sector tenants are supported to stay in their homes where they face the prospect of eviction

* **Support thriving communities**: The Council’s services, grants, community and leisure facilities, parks and cultural events have helped reduce inequality, increase cohesion and improve health and wellbeing across Oxford’s communities; Children and young people’s resilience and confidence is increased through the educational and recreational activities we offer; The Council’s public spaces remain clean, safe, well maintained and are more accessible
* **Pursue a zero carbon Oxford**: The City Council making significant progress on the journey to reduce its own carbon footprint to zero; all new buildings by the Council progressing towards near or net-zero carbon standards; The Council’s existing council housing is being made more energy efficient.

How would you rank the priority of the following services:

Select the most applicable option in each row.

Very High Mediu Low Very

High Priority m Priority Low

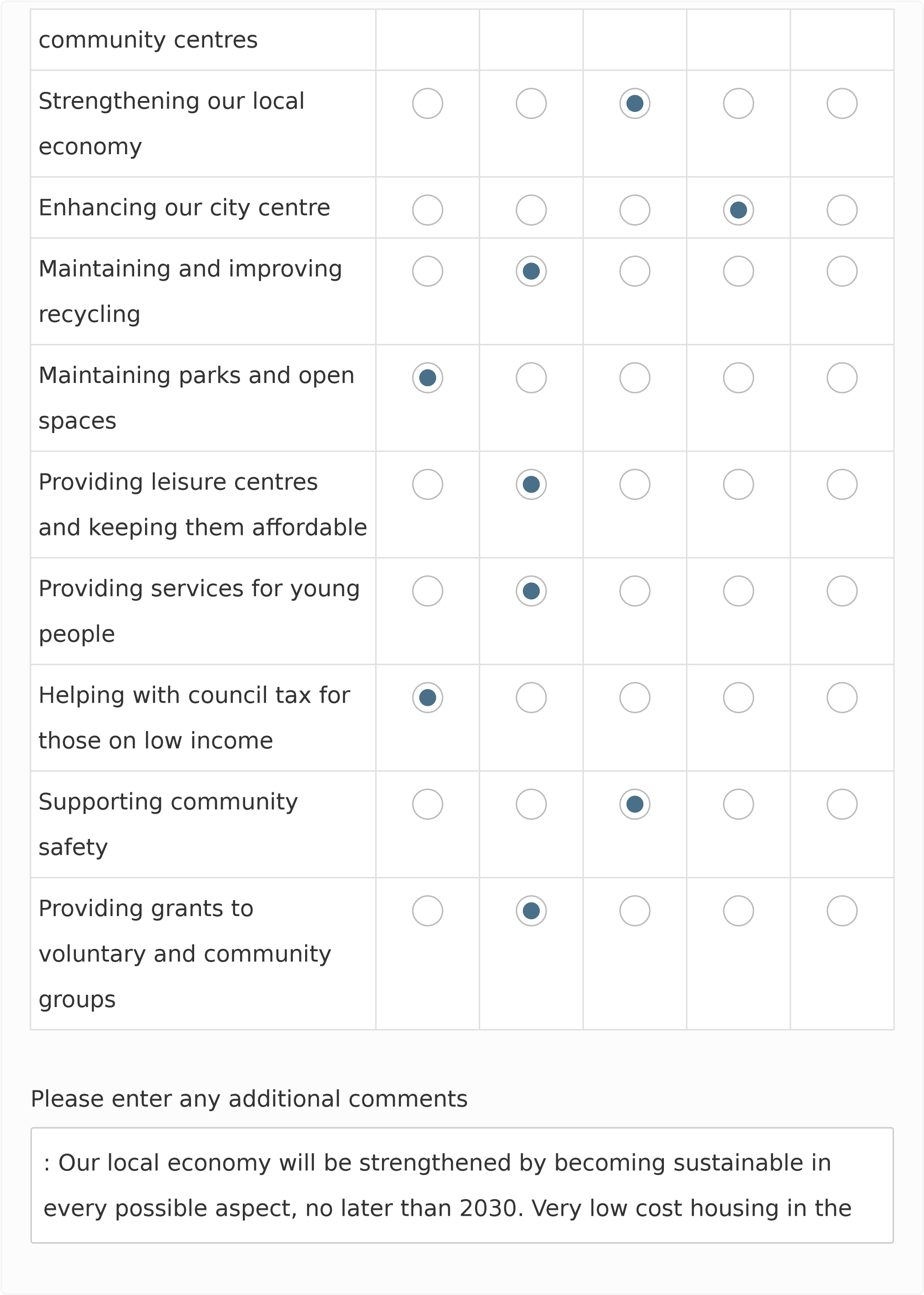
Priority Priority Priority

Provision of affordable housing

Tackling Climate Change

Preventing homelessness

Providing and supporting



form of social housing means that households will retain more income

for things like organic food, energy efficient goods, buying bikes etc. This

is good for the local economy as the very high local rents are absorbing

too much of local incomes. Very high private rents & mortgages prevent

people doing more than just survive, and drive people out of Oxford

every year. The addition of energy efficient refurbished homes as social

and keyworker housing is of great value to the local economy, as the

proportion of private rented homes is decreased over time.

5

**Capital Investment**

The Council’s capital investment programme over the next four years

totals £314 million. Some of the more significant schemes are detailed

below.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the

following

schemes:

Select the most applicable option in each row.

Strongl

y Agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagre

e

Strongl

y

Disagre

e

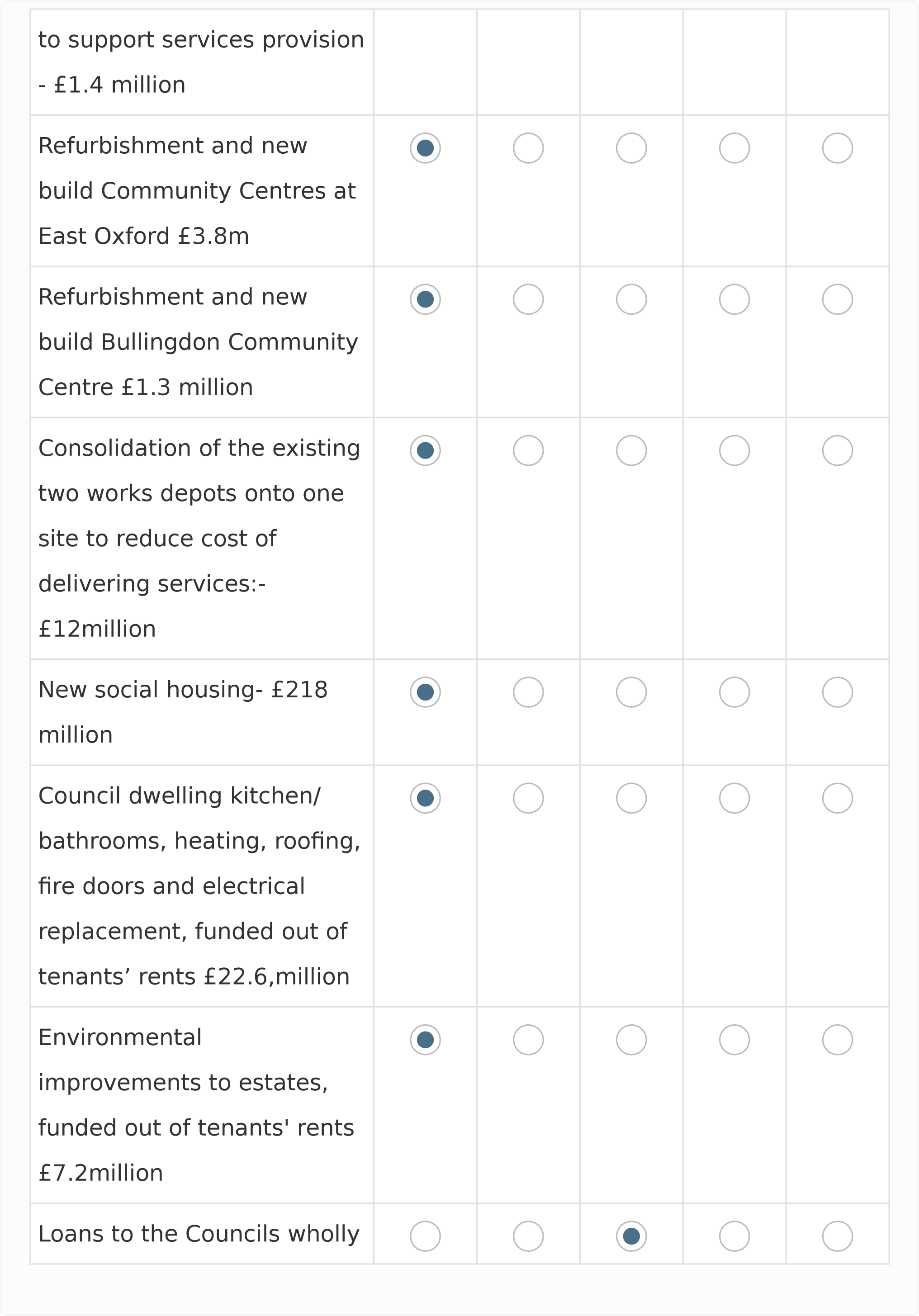
Covered market

refurbishment £2.2 million

New hardware and software

Information and

communication technology



owned Housing

development company

(

OCHL) to deliver market

and affordable housing -

£152 million

Blackbird leys Regeneration

-

for the development of

affordable and market

housing, community centre,

replacement shops and

associated infrastructure -

£21 million contribution

Please enter any additional comments

No investment without sustainability testing, using a wide variety of

indicators about local sourcing; minimal or nil environmental impacts;

boosting local businesses etc. Reduction in parking spaces in new and

refurbished developments, and more car free developments with

enforcing covenants. This can lead to higher density social housing, and

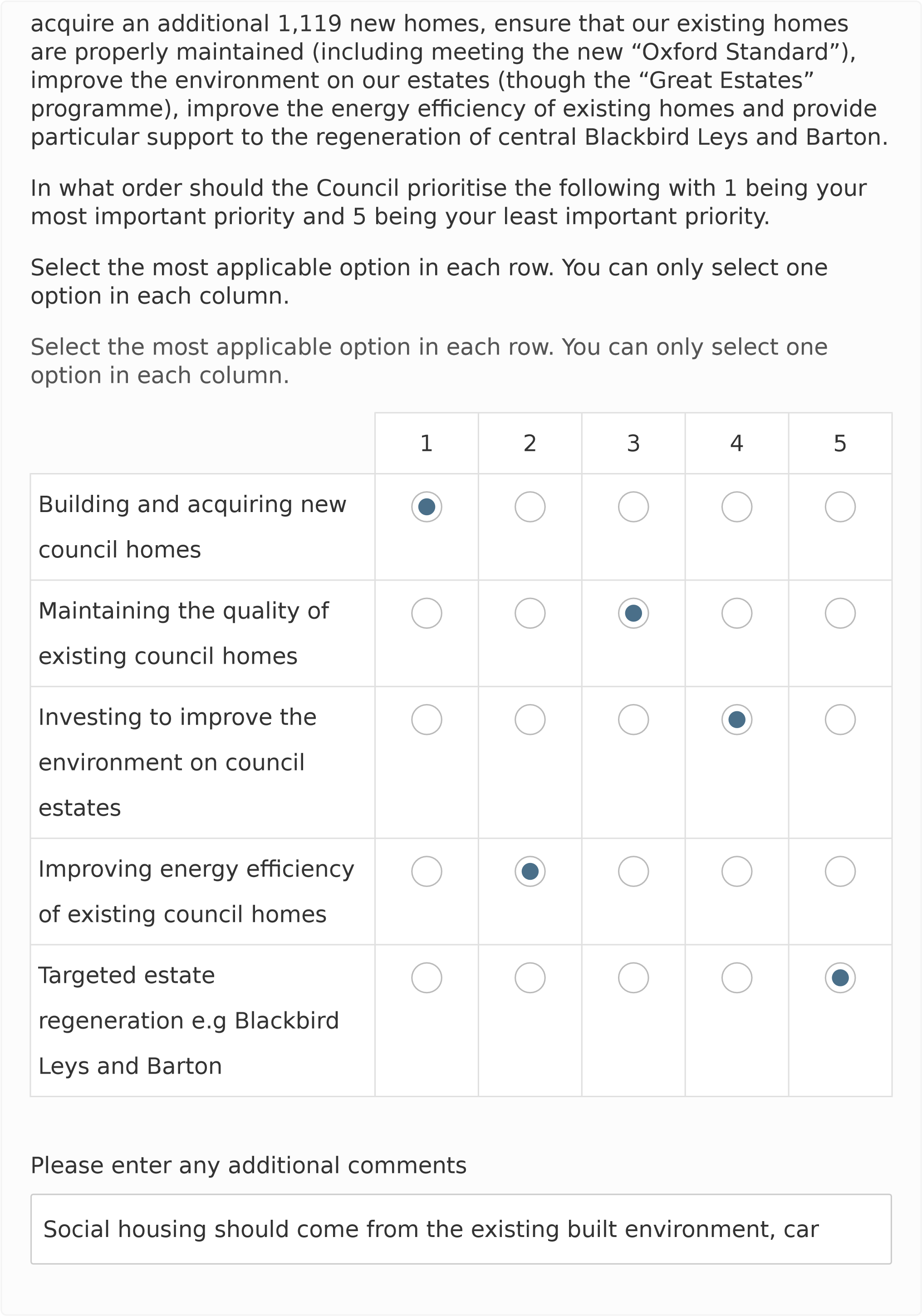
more space for community facilities. Nothing should be built which

requires fossil fuels when in operation.

6

**Council Housing**

Over the coming years of the Medium Term Financial Strategy we will



parks and brownfield sites. It should be passivhaus standard as a minimum.

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# Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)

The **Community Infrastructure Levy** (**CIL**) is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008, as a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of their area.

Some of the money gained by **CIL** will be passed on to local communities where the development is built. This in known as Neighbourhood CIL. In line with CIL regulations 15% of CIL received in unparished areas of the city, which do not have an adopted neighbourhood plan, are retained by the city council for allocation. This money is for the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

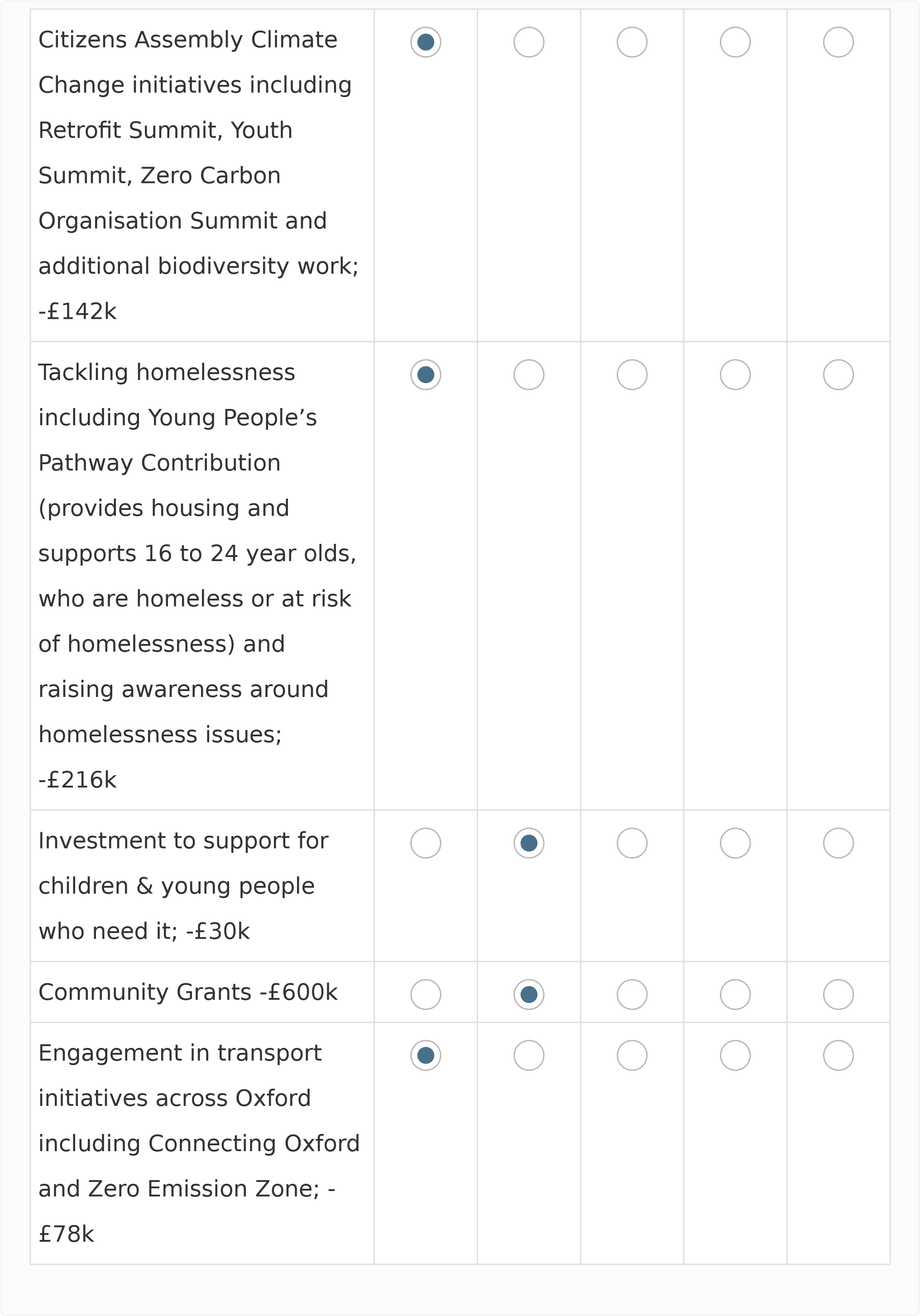
The City Council currently allocate £5,000 annually to ward councillors not within a parish or neighbourhood plan area. The ward councillors then allocate this on projects that they identify through ongoing engagement with their communities. This approach and allocation will continue. In addition, we are consulting as part of this budget, on a further allocation of NCIL as outlined in the table below.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following options:

Select the most applicable option in each row.

Strongl Agree Neutral Disagre Strongl y Agree e y

Disagre e



Support for city restart and

economic recovery activity;

£88k

-

Please enter any additional comments

Move the £88k from last option be shared equally between the first

option (climate initiatives) , and the penultimate option (transport

initiatives).

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**Other Comments**

Are there any other comments that you would like to make on

Oxford City

Council's draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-25 and Consultation

Budget 2021 -22?

We question the allocation of £53m to commercial property purchase. In

a recession, with Brexit hitting many aspects of the economy including

the use of commercial property, this seems imprudent. Offices are

depopulated by more people working at home, and are a poor

investment; warehousing needs to make much more intensive use of

existing industrial estates-science parks as deliveries by online concerns

continue to increase; online purchasing is radically reducing shops and

commercial rental incomes have been cut back. £53m split evenly

between Climate/ecology policies; social homes bought from those on

sale; and improving active travel with better walking and cycling

networks throughout the City; are all of greater benefit.

ABOUT YOU

The following questions are optional.

By providing us with the

demographic information below, it allows us to understand the background

characteristics of respondents which in turn help us when designing future

services and strategies.

9

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What is your postcode?

ox3 7hu

10

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Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?

Please feel free to provide any further information below.

*«No response»*

Female

Male

In another way

Prefer not to say

11

.

Which age bracket do you fall into?

16-19

20-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-59

60-64

65-74

75+

Prefer not to say

.

12

Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?

White British - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish

White Irish

White Gypsy or Irish Traveller

Any other white background

Black or Black British - Carribean

Black or Black British - African

Any other black background

Asian or Asian British - Indian

Asian or Asian British - Pakistani

Please feel free to provide any further information below

*«No response»*

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Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or

disability which has lasted or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi

Chinese

Any other Asian background

Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group - White and Black Carribean

Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group - White and Black African

Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group - White and Asian

Any other mixed or multiple ethnic group background

Arab

Other Ethnic Group

Prefer not to say

Yes, limited a lot

Yes, limited a little

No

Don't know

Prefer not to say