

## 1. Executive Summary

This Executive Summary provides an overview of the Budget Consultation exercise. It is not a detailed summary of the full report, but an articulation of some of the key findings.

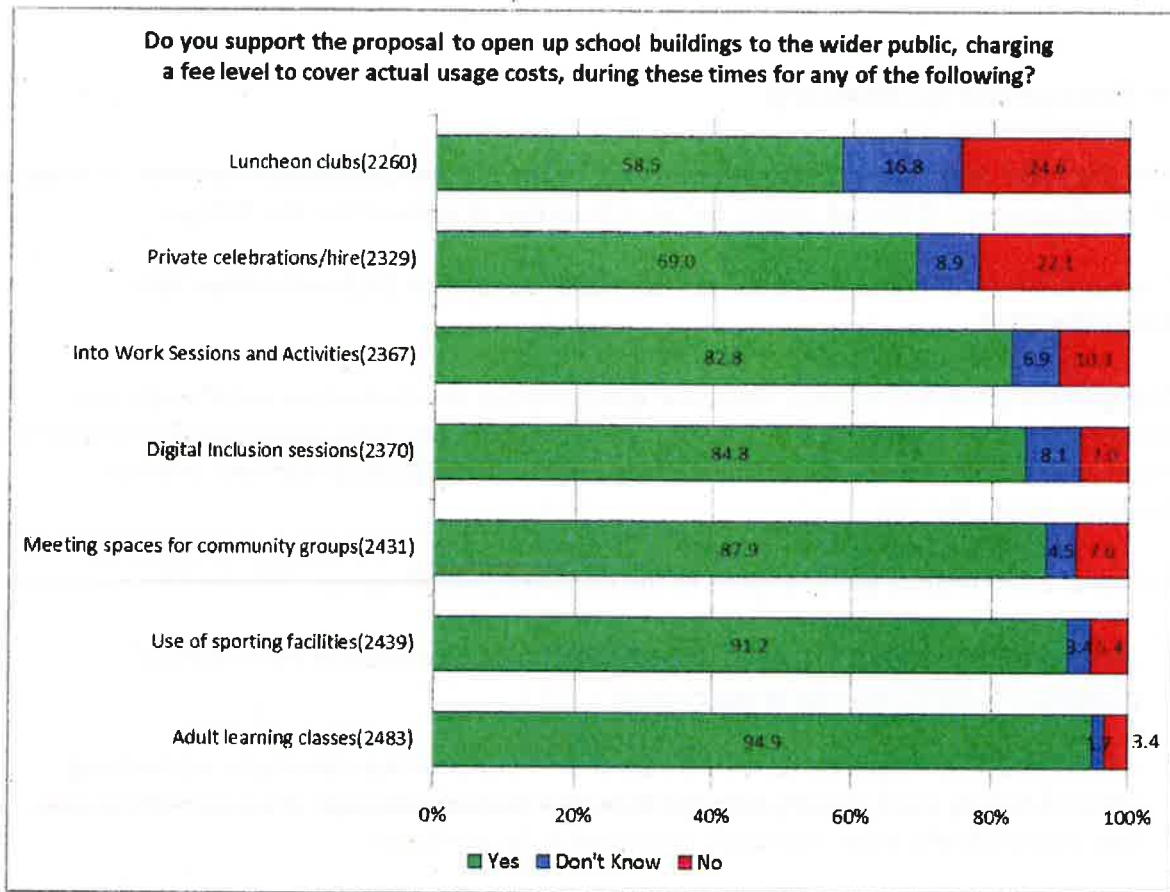
The consultation on these proposals ran from **10th November 2016** until **Friday 16th December 2016**.

Engagement activities included: Electronic questionnaire distribution via social media and email address lists, paper copy distribution across libraries and hubs, postal delivery to selected households across the city, face to face engagement with targeted groups and selected locations across the city.

A total of 2,520 returns were received to the electronic/postal surveys. Within this:

- Almost two-thirds (63.1%) agreed that schools should be protected from financial challenges faced by the rest of the Council.
- A fifth (19.2%) of respondents were aware that the Council is proposing to sell bedding plants & nursery stock directly from the Bute Park Nursery although this is something that two-thirds (66.9%) were reportedly interested in for the future
- A third (32.0%) of respondents reported to use Hubs. Citizens Advice and Adult Education classes were amongst the additional services that people were most keen to see provided within Hubs.
- A quarter (23.9%) of respondents claimed to already participate in volunteering activities whilst 441 also provided contact details indicating an interest in learning more about potential volunteer opportunities. When asked "would you be more likely to volunteer if you knew that you were helping someone in your own local community?" 45.0% responded 'yes', 28.5% No and 26.5% don't know.
- A third (32.0%) were interested in being involved with local 'social action' initiatives.
- More than four fifths (83.3%) of respondents believed the provision of an early stage dementia mobile monitoring device to be a good idea.
- The Council's plans to deliver care on an area basis were supported by 78.0% of those responding.
- Four fifths (80.3%) agreed that working at a local level is the best way to approach local problems.
- Additionally almost 200 people were directly involved in face to face voting activity across the city which asked "**Where would you like to see more money spent in future?**" Participants 'spent' a total of £14,750 with the repair of potholes in roads across the city coming out as a clear priority.

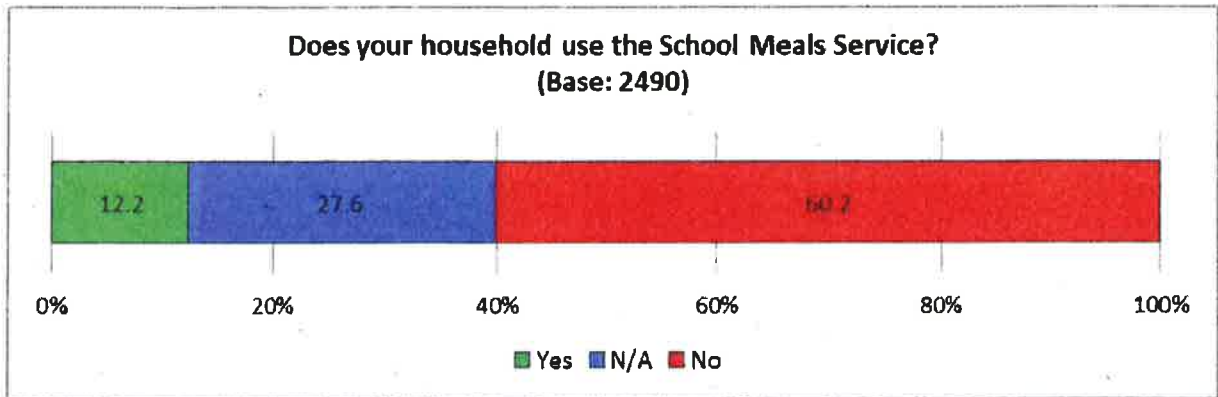
## CHANGES FOR CARDIFF 2017/18



A total of 194 additional responses were received in relation to the use of school buildings. Many of those commenting specifically said that they were *'open minded'* about how schools could be used and believed that *'anything should be considered'*. Furthermore respondents felt that they should be used *'as much as possible'*, stating that, *"it makes sense to benefit from resources already in place"*.

Suggested additional uses for the facilities were wide ranging and included a variety of community group activities including art and drama groups. Other suggestions included rehearsal rooms, exhibition areas and even wedding venues. The only caveat to the use of the buildings was that the costs should not be prohibitive to small community groups.

## CHANGES FOR CARDIFF 2017/18



### Do you support the proposal to increase the cost of school meals by 10p each day?

More than half of respondents were in favour of the proposed increase to schools meals.

Base: 2430	No.	%	% households using the service (302)
Yes	1352	55.6	52.0
No	566	23.3	41.7
Not sure	512	21.1	6.3

### Do you have any further comments regarding the School Meals Service?

A total of 505 additional comments were made in relation to school meals. Of these, almost a quarter (23.8%) came from households currently using the School Meals Service.

The comments were also evenly distributed between those in support and those opposed to the proposal (216:209).

The comments made centred on concerns regarding costs and the value for money of the service, particularly for low income and vulnerable families. For many the continuation of the service was described as 'vital' as for many children this is often their main meal of the day. Respondents were however keen to see improvements in the quality and nutritional value of the meal provided particularly should a price increase go ahead. A selection of the comments include:

