ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CUSTOMER AND SUPPORT SERVICES October 2023

BUDGET SIMULATOR EXERCISE FINDINGS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Argyll and Bute Council aims to work with, as well as for, the people of Argyll and Bute. We therefore sought the views of our citizens, via a budget simulator, on high level priorities for the .

1.2 Overall we received nearly 400 responses, involving around 17,000 choices from communities. We also received 170 comments and suggestions, via the simulator and other routes.

1.3 This report outlines the feedback provided.

Findings awareness of financial challenges

4.7 Comments reflected the considerable difficulties in balancing the budget, and support for more funding for councils. For example:

> no more cuts, government funding increase would be best; there should be fair funding for councils,

RIS	Roads and Bridges Design (£1.077m)	26
Education		

Appendix 3 additional general comments

Support for council funding

Campaign for more funding
Fundamental underfunding of councils by central government
Councils not receiving fair funding
Most areas in the council are under-funded
Not happy about any cuts but an overspend and government funding increase would be best. Council tax rise would be hard but doable.

What is the function
needed from you in the modern world?
Push back on roles that should be delivered by others
No easy answers, but savings can only come by tackling the big ticket items

Ideas for council and communities working together

Gift public toilets to communities to run
Live Argyll to be self-financing; give halls to communities
Appeal for environmental volunteers to help with park maintenance etc
Involve the public in dealing with issues they create eg litter, or street cleaning