LISTENING PLYMOUTH 2014-17

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Consultation Report

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INTRODUCTION

The public consultation to support the 2013/14 three year budget setting process took place between Monday 11 November and Thursday 12 December 2013.

Plymouth City Council staff were actively encouraged to also take part in the consultation.

A questionnaire was developed which listed 42 key public services the Council and partners provide. The aim was to canvass the views of the public about services that are important to them. It also asked some key benchmarking questions to be used to inform our performance management framework.

779 questionnaires were completed and entered for analysis.

Further targeted consultation took place with Plymouth Youth Council, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and representatives from the voluntary and community sector. The results from a consultation prioritisation exercise with the Youth Council and representatives from the voluntary and community sector are included as appendices I and 2 in this report. These were interactive exercises as part of the consultation events and were based on the online public survey. Written responses have been submitted by the Plymouth Octopus Project on behalf of the voluntary and community sector and Plymouth Chamber of Commerce on behalf of businesses.

The results of the consultation will be submitted as part of the budget scrutiny process undertaken by Plymouth City Council Members in January 2014.

CONSULTATION METHOD, ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNICATION

A questionnaire was developed which listed the key public services/functions the Council and our partners provide. We asked participants to indicate the three most important service areas out of the six that were listed.

There were seven key areas (service groups) which made up 42 service areas in total, where we asked for the views of our customers and staff to help towards finalising the budget for 2014-17.

The questionnaire was available online through Plymouth City Council's uEngage consultation portal and hard copies were made available at FirstStop Reception, Libraries and on request.

A communications plan was developed which set out the required materials, branding and opportunities for advertising and promoting the consultation. The main communication channels were as follows:

- YouTube video presented by Councillor Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance
- Automated message on the general Plymouth City Council telephone number promoting consultation and instructions
- Promotion and active participation at FirstStop Reception and outside the Civic Centre
- Social networking/media
- PCC home page with links to consultation and further information
- Staffroom/School Room
- Media coverage
- Promotion by Chamber of Commerce, Zebra and partners via their networks
- Notification emails to known stakeholder groups.

Table I - stakeholders contacted

Stakeholder contacted	When
City Deal Partnership	15.11.13
Devon and Cornwall Police	15.11.13
Health & Wellbeing Board	15.11.13
LEP	18.11.13
Destination Plymouth	18.11.13
Trade Unions	18.11.13
DSFR	19.11.13
Safer Plymouth (CSP)	19.11.13
Diverse communities (64 organisations)	20.11.13
Children & Young People's Partnership	20.11.13
Culture Board	20.11.13
Children's Safeguarding Board	21.11.13
Plymouth Advice (Plymouth Guild)	21.11.13
University of Plymouth (promotion to staff)	21.11.13

Table 2 sets out the further consultation activities and promotional activities that took place to increase participation and engagement.

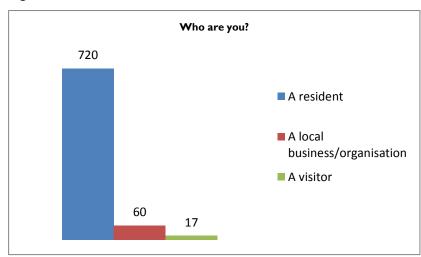
Table 2- Further activities to increase participation

Activities	When
Video launch	11.11.13
Online survey	11.11.13 - 06.12.13
Social media	11.11.13 - 06.12.13
Libraries (posters, postcards, hardcopies)	11.11.13 - 06.12.13
Hardcopies on request	11.11.13 - 06.12.13
Firststop (posters, postcards, hardcopy distribution and active	
promotion, TV advertising, 668000 telephone hold message, link on	
automated email responses)	11.11.13 - 06.12.13
Youth Council	12.11.13
Press release	12.11.13
Youth Cabinet (hard copy distribution & promotion)	27.11.13
Library e-bulletin	28.11.13
Team Brief (internal)	28.11.13
Growth Board	02.12.13
Plymouth Area Business Council	04.12.13
Chamber Event	10.12.13
Voluntary and Community Sector (2 events)	11.12.13 & 12.12.13

SECTION I - WHO RESPONDED?

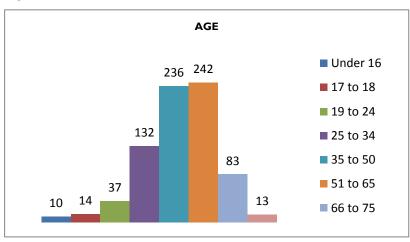
- 1.1 This section provides an overview of how many people responded and the demographics of the respondents.
- 1.2 The following demographic information has been compiled from the total number of questionnaires received (779). This information has been used to identify the views of different groups of people around different service areas in Section 3 of this report (to follow for January Scrutiny Board).
- 1.3 Headline percentage demographics are bulleted below. Figure 1 to Figure 8 present the number demographics in a chart format.
 - 89.3% of respondents were residents of the city.
 - The highest number of responses was received from the age groups 51 65 and 35 50 (31.1% and 30.3% respectively).
 - 50.6% of respondents were female and 45.8% were male.
 - 8.7% of respondents indicated that they were disabled.
 - The majority of respondents indicated their ethnicity as white (90.9%).

Figure I



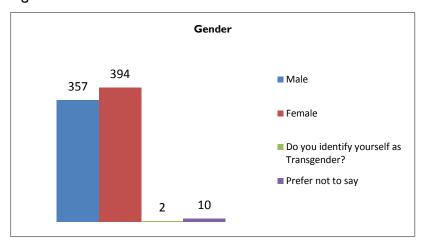
(Non-response = 9)

Figure 2



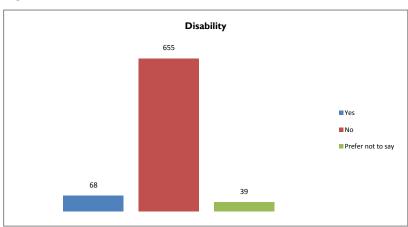
(Non-response = 12)

Figure 3



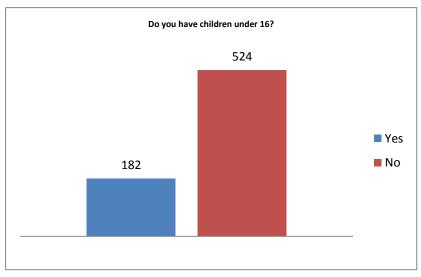
(Non-response = 16)

Figure 4



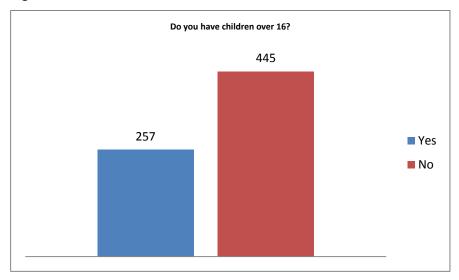
(Non-response = 17)

Figure 5



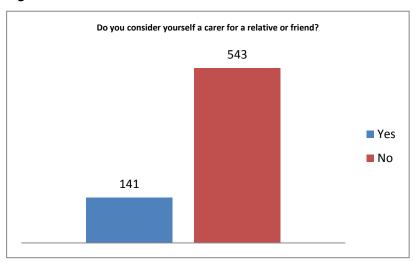
(Non-response = 73)

Figure 6



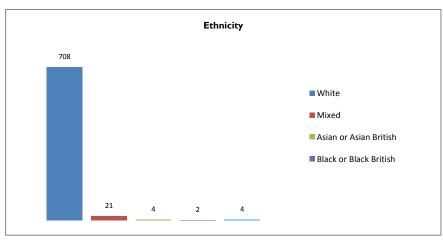
(Non-response = 77)

Figure 7



(Non-response = 95)

Figure 8



(Non-response = 40)

SECTION 2 – LISTENING PLYMOUTH

- 2.1 The questionnaire began with a variety of questions which aimed to gauge people's general views about Plymouth and the City Council, in particular whether respondents felt they would like to be more involved with decision making.
- 2.2 Question I asked participants to indicate their level of satisfaction with Plymouth as a place to live. Although this is not a statistically robust result as the methodology employed does not allow for this report to say this is true of the Plymouth population, of the people who responded 72.8% indicated that they were either very or fairly satisfied with Plymouth as a place to live.
- 2.3 Question 2 asked participants to indicate the extent to which they agreed or disagreed that the Council listens to its residents when planning and prioritising local services. 31.7% of respondents said they agreed overall, with only 3.8% strongly agreeing that the Council listens to its residents. 11.7% of respondents strongly disagreed.
- 2.4 The next question opened up a series of questions around levels of involvement. Question 3 asked whether participants would like to be more involved in the decisions the Council makes about local services and communities. 85.4% indicated that they would like to be more involved. The reasons cited by most by respondents who selected 'No' to being more involved included;
 - Not enough time to get involved/engaged (not a priority in busy lives).
 - Overall opinion that people are happy to leave it to the Council "that's what Councillors are for" elected representatives are there to make decisions for the people of Plymouth.
 - General feeling that the Council won't listen party politics getting in the way of making the right decision.
- 2.5 For those respondents who indicated that they would like to be more involved they were asked to say how important it was to them to have their say on operational issues, i.e. frontline day-to-day services run by the council, issues affecting their local community and the city-wide, strategic issues such as strategic transport links. They were then asked to say how they would like to get more involved.
- 2.6 The majority of respondents who said that they would like to be more involved felt that it was important to have their say on all three levels with 80.4% feeling that it was important to have their say on the day-to-day running of council services, slightly fewer respondents (73.4%) felt that it was important to have their say on the city-wide strategic issues affecting the city.
- 2.7 In respect of how respondents wanted to get involved they were presented with a list of communications methods. For all three levels of involvement there were three clear ways in which people wanted to communicate/provide feedback;
 - Taking part in consultations
 - Giving feedback through council website
 - Online polls
- 2.8 Before moving onto the questions which were designed to help the Co-operative Scrutiny Board to make recommendations about the budget for the next three years, participants were asked to say whether they felt Plymouth City Council provide value for money. Of the participants who responded to this question 39.3% indicated that they agreed that the Council provide value for money, with only 5% strongly agreeing.

SECTION 3 – SPENDING AND PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The second part of the questionnaire asked participants to select the three most important service areas out of six that were listed and there were seven key areas (service groups) which made up 42 service areas in total.
- 3.2 Table 3 shows summarises the Service groups and the service/function that was selected as being the most important to the people who responded and Table 4 presents all 42 service areas and where they ranked in terms of importance to the people who responded.

Table 3

Service group	Most important service/function as selected by respondents	
Vibrant Plymouth	Parks and open spaces	
Moving Plymouth	Road maintenance	
Young Plymouth	Support for vulnerable children, children in care or in need of protection	
Greener Plymouth	Refuse collection	
Living and Working	Creating and protecting jobs across the city	
Safer Plymouth	Tackling criminal damage and anti-social behaviour	
Caring Plymouth	Support for older people to live independently	

Table 4

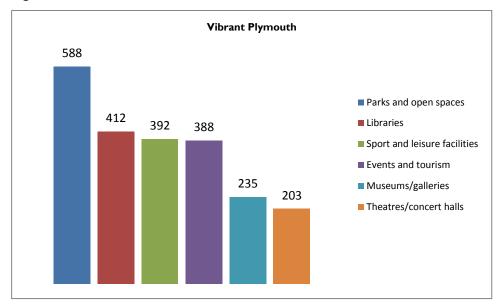
	Service area/function	Percentage		Service area/function	Percentage
ı	Road maintenance	27.6	22	Support for responsive health services	16.3
2	Creating and protecting jobs across the city	27.4	23	Targeted work in neighbourhoods with the most crime	15.5
3	Parks and open spaces	26.3	24	Tackling burglary and vehicle crime	14.8
4	Refuse collection	25.6	25	Early years support	14.7
5	Tackling criminal damage and anti- social behaviour	23.8	26	Preventing homelessness and help finding homes for those in need	14.5
6	Support for vulnerable children, children in care or in need of protection	23.6	27	Local tips/household waste recycling centres	14.3
7	Support for older people to live independently	23.1	28	Road safety in residential areas	14.1
8	Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offenses	23	29	Doorstep recycling	13.6
9	Keeping public land clear of litter and refuse	20	30	Environmental regulation	13.4
10	Supporting new businesses to grow	19.8	31	Improving the quality of housing	13.4
П	Support for mental health services	19.1	32	Car free cycle and walking routes	13.4
12	Libraries	18.4	33	Increasing visitor numbers to the city	13.3
13	Support for people with disabilities	18.2	34	Public conveniences	12.3
14	Services for young people	17.9	35	Support for crime prevention services	12
15	Sport and leisure facilities	17.5	36	Museums/galleries	10.5
16	Footway maintenance	17.4	37	Support for fire prevention services	9.7
17	Events and tourism	17.4	38	Inconsiderate parking in residential areas	9.4
18	Planning the future shape of the city	17.4	39	Theatres/concert halls	9.1
19	Subsidised non-commercial bus services	17.4	40	Subsidising adult learning courses	8.6
20	Support for children with special educational needs	17.3	41	Improving the quantity of housing	8.1
21	Tackling child poverty	16.5	42	Support for health promotion services	7.8

3.2 The following charts present the level of importance, from most to least important for each of the service areas/functions within each of the service groups. The charts are proceeded by some commentary to help with the interpretation of the results.

3.3 Vibrant Plymouth

3.3.1 Within the 'Vibrant Plymouth' group, parks and open spaces was selected by 588 respondents as the most important function (26.3%). Parks and open spaces also secured third place in terms of level of importance out of all 42 service areas/functions, so is clearly a priority for the people who responded. Theatres/concert halls were selected as the least important within the group. Theatres/concert halls were also within the bottom five service area/functions, coming 39th on the list of all service areas.

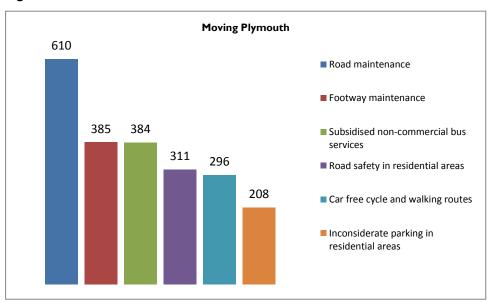
Figure 9



3.4 Moving Plymouth

- 3.4.1 Road maintenance is clearly a high priority for respondents with 610 repondents selecting it as one of their top three in terms of level of importance (27.6%). Table 4 shows that road maintenance was selected by the most respondents making it the number one priority.
- 3.4.2 Inconsiderate parking in residential areas was selected as the least important within the group and was also within the bottom five service area/functions, coming 38th on the list of all service areas.

Figure 10



3.5 Young Plymouth

- 3.5.1 Support for vulnerable children, children in care or in need of protection was a high priority for respondents with 512 repondents selecting it as one of their top three in terms of level of importance (23.6%). Services for young people and support for children with special educational needs were selected as second and third resepctively in terms of level of importance. Table 4 shows that Support for vulnerable children, children in care or in need of protection ranked 6th on the list of all service areas.
- 3.5.2 Subsidising adult learning courses was selected as the least important within the group with only 186 respondents selecting it and was also within the bottom five service area/functions, coming 40th on the list of all service areas.

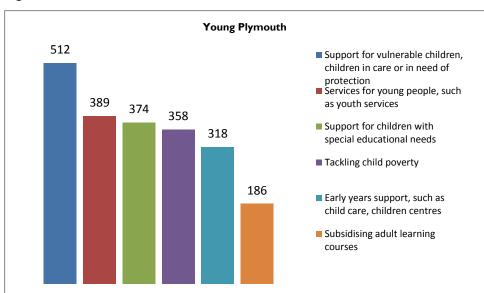
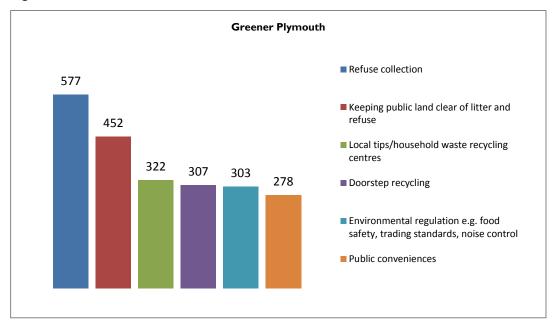


Figure 11

3.6 Greener Plymouth

3.6.1 Refuse collection was selected by 577 respondents and resulted in being the most important service area within the 'Greener Plymouth' group. Keeping public land clear of litter and refuse was also selected as being important with 452 respondents selecting it as one of their top three. Public conveniences were the lowest with 278. Refuse collection appeared as a high priority overall sitting 4th on the list of service areas.

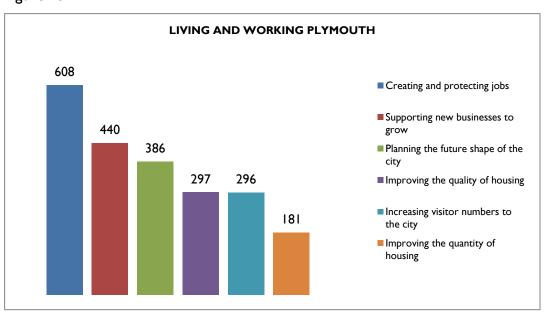
Figure 12



3.7 Living and working Plymouth

3.7.1 Creating and protecting jobs was clearly the highest priority within the 'Living and Working in Plymouth' group with 608 respondents selecting it as one of their top three in terms of level of importance (27.4%). Supporting new businesses to grow and planning the future shape of the city were selected as second and third resepctively in terms of level of importance. Table 4 shows that creating and protecting jobs ranked 2nd on the list of all service areas.

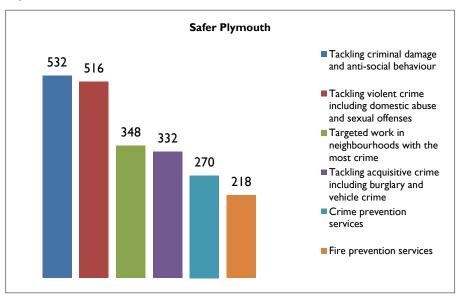
Figure 13



3.8 Safer Plymouth

3.8.1 Of the six service areas within the 'Safer Plymouth' group, tackling criminal damage and antisocial behaviour was selected as the most important and also ranked 5th on the overall list of the 42 services. Fire prevention services were selected as the least important with 218 respondents.

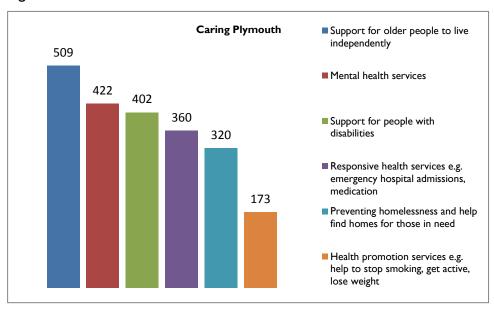
Figure 14



3.9 Caring Plymouth

3.9.1 Within the 'Caring Plymouth' group, support for older people to live independently was selected by 509 respondents as the most important service area (23.1%). Mental health services and support for people with disabilities were selected as second and third respectively in terms of level of importance. Health promotion services was selected by 173 respondents and ranked last on the over list of service areas.

Figure 15



- 3.10 A comparison table has been produced presenting information for last three years for service areas selected as most important (top 3) to those who responded.
- 3.11 For each year different methodology has been applied and the way in which the questions have been asked has also been slightly different however as highlighted in the table there are clear trends in the service areas that are most important to the people who responded.

Key

Selected as highest priority/most important service area for last 3 years

New important/priority service area

Table5

	2013/14 budget consultation	2012/13 performance and budget	2012/13 budget consultation
	(Listening Plymouth 2014-17 – online	consultation	(Prioritise our Pounds - online self-
	self-selecting survey – 779 responses)	(Listening Plymouth 2013/14 – random	selecting survey - 591 public + 524 staff
		sample of 8,000 households – 2,870	responses)
		responses)	
	Vibrant Plymouth	Vibrant Plymouth	Leisure priorities
	Parks and open spaces	Parks and open spaces	Parks and open spaces
2	Libraries	Sport and leisure facilities	Events and tourism
3		Events and tourism	Sport and leisure facilities
	Moving Plymouth	Moving Plymouth	Transport priorities
I	Road maintenance	Road maintenance	Road maintenance
2	Footway maintenance	Footway maintenance	Footway maintenance
3	Subsidised bus services	Road safety in residential areas	Subsidised bus services
	Young Plymouth	Young Plymouth	Children and young people priorities
T	Support for vulnerable children,	Support for vulnerable children, children	Support for vulnerable children, children
	children in care or in need of	in care or in need of protection	in care or in need of protection
	protection		
2	youth services	Services for young people, such as youth services	Support for children with special educational needs
3	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Support for children with special	Services for young people, such as youth
	educational needs	educational needs	services
	Greener Plymouth	Greener Plymouth	Environment priorities
I	Refuse collection	Refuse collection	Refuse collection
2	Keeping public land clear of litter and refuse	Keeping public land clear of litter and refuse	Keeping public land clear of litter and refuse
3	Local tips/household waste recycling centres	Doorstep recycling	Doorstep recycling
	Living and Working Plymouth	Living and Working Plymouth	Growth priorities
Τ	Creating and protecting jobs across	Creating and protecting jobs across the	Creating and protecting jobs across the
	the city	city	city
2	Supporting new businesses to grow	Supporting new businesses to grow	Improving the quality of housing
3	Planning the future shape of the city	Planning the future shape of the city	Planning the future shape of the city
	Safer Plymouth	Safer Plymouth	Crime and community safety priorities
Т	Tackling damage and ASB	Tackling damage and ASB	Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offences
2	Tackling violent crime including	Tackling acquisitive crime including	Tackling damage and ASB
'			Tacking damage and ASB
3	domestic abuse and sexual offences Work in neighbourhoods with most	burglary and vehicle crime Tackling violent crime including domestic	Tackling acquisitive crime including
3	domestic abuse and sexual offences Work in neighbourhoods with most crime	burglary and vehicle crime Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offences	Tackling acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime
3	domestic abuse and sexual offences Work in neighbourhoods with most crime Caring Plymouth	burglary and vehicle crime Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offences Caring Plymouth	Tackling acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime Health and ACS priorities
3 I	domestic abuse and sexual offences Work in neighbourhoods with most crime Caring Plymouth Support for older people to live independently	burglary and vehicle crime Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offences Caring Plymouth Support for older people to live independently	Tackling acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime Health and ACS priorities Support for older people to live independently
3 	domestic abuse and sexual offences Work in neighbourhoods with most crime Caring Plymouth Support for older people to live	burglary and vehicle crime Tackling violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual offences Caring Plymouth Support for older people to live	Tackling acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime Health and ACS priorities Support for older people to live

APPENDIX I

Feedback from the Youth Council

November 2013

As part of the Council's consultation on the indicative three year balanced budget for the period 2014/15 to 2016/17 a consultation session was held with the Youth Council on 12 November 2013. The aim of this session was to seek young people's views on their priorities for spending as part of the annual budget consultation.

Councillor Penberthy presented the context within which the Council is operating and outlined the financial challenges and extent of the projected £64.5m gap in funding over the next three years. As part of the session delegates undertook an interactive prioritisation exercise based on the on-line public survey to seek their views on the Council's priorities for spending.

In order to reflect the difficult financial decisions faced by the Council, members of the Youth Council were asked to vote for the services where the Council should continue to spend money and the services where spending should be reduced or stopped. They were given 21 votes (14 for spend and 7 for reduce or stop) they were asked to use **all their votes** representing a reduction in the Council's budget by a third. They were also asked to select the **top priority** service which above all the Council should continue to fund.

The results are on the following pages:-

VIBRANT PLYMOUTH

Figure 1

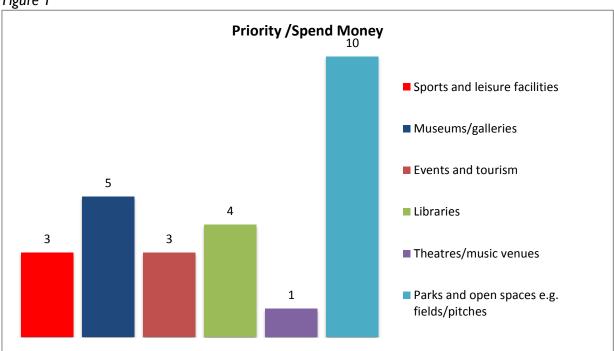
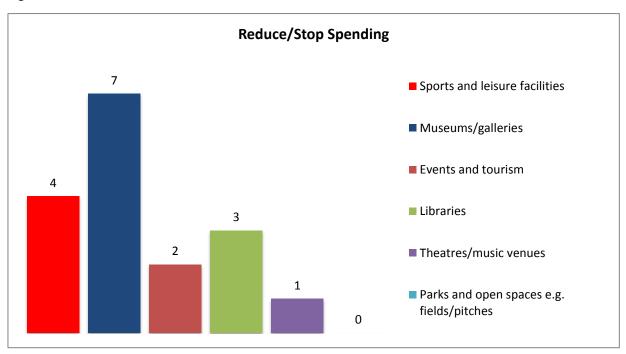


Figure 2



Parks and open spaces are the clear spending priority under Vibrant Plymouth with none of the pairs voting to reduce or stop spending. However although museums and galleries received the most votes to reduce or stop spending, five pairs also voted for this to be prioritised.

MOVING PLYMOUTH

Figure 3

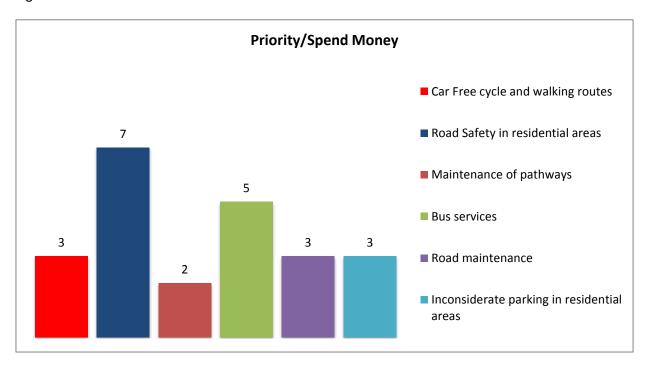
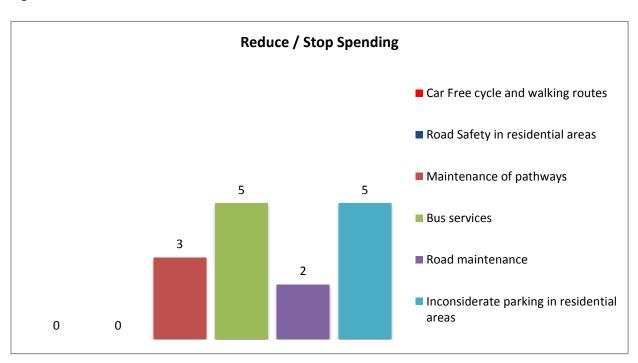


Figure 4



'Road Safety' is the clear priority under Moving Plymouth, with no votes to reduce or stop spending. The other service receiving no votes in *figure 4* reduce / stop spending is car free cycle and walking routes while votes for bus services was split equally.

SAFER PLYMOUTH

Figure 5

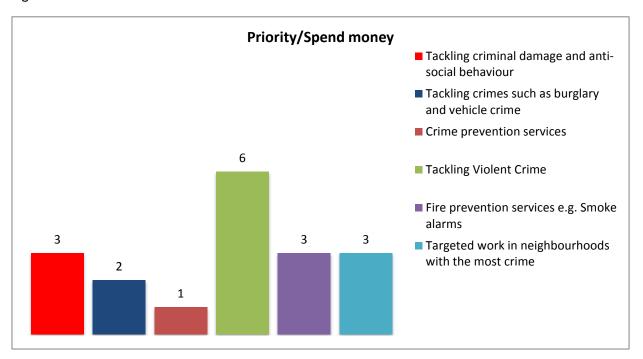
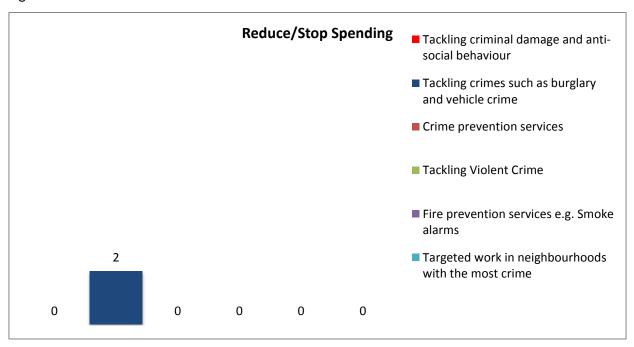


Figure 6



Under Safer Plymouth, tackling violent crime was identified as the priority for spending. With the exception of tackling crimes such as burglary and vehicle crime, there were no votes to reduce or stop spending in this category. However, Safer Plymouth received the least votes across all the categories.

LIVING AND WORKING PLYMOUTH

Figure 7

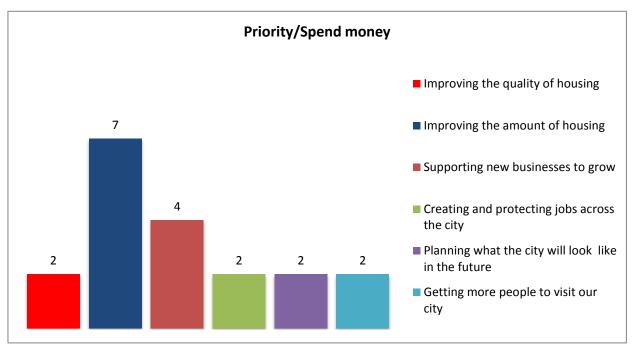
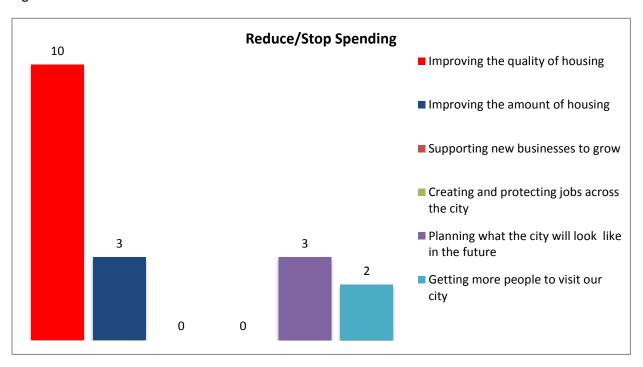


Figure 8



Improving the amount of housing and supporting new businesses to grow was identified as the spending priorities under Living and Working Plymouth. Improving the quality of housing however received the most votes to reduce or stop spending. Members of the Youth Council indicated at the event that increasing the amount of housing in the city available to house families in need was more important than raising the quality of existing housing.

GREENER PLYMOUTH

Figure 9

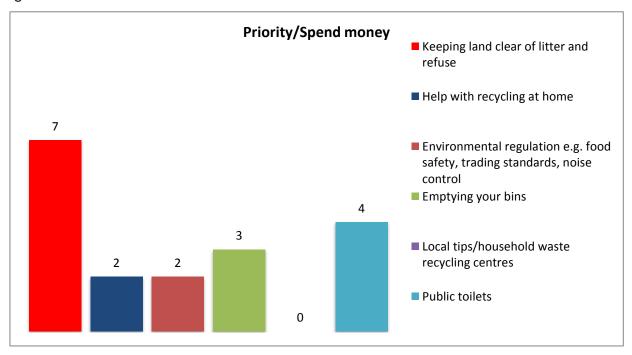
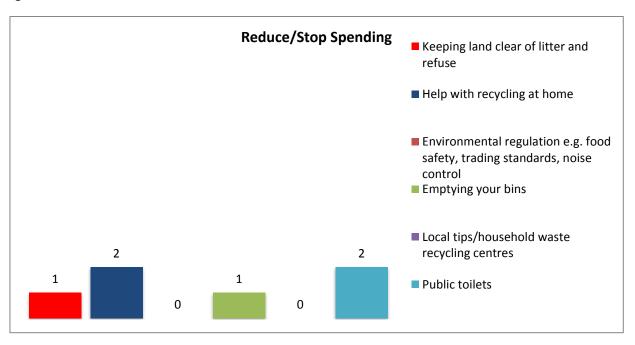


Figure 10



Under Greener Plymouth, keeping land clear of litter and rubbish received the most votes as a priority for spending in *figure 9*. Local tips/recycling centres did not score at all, while help with recycling at home received equal scores.

YOUNG PLYMOUTH

Figure 11

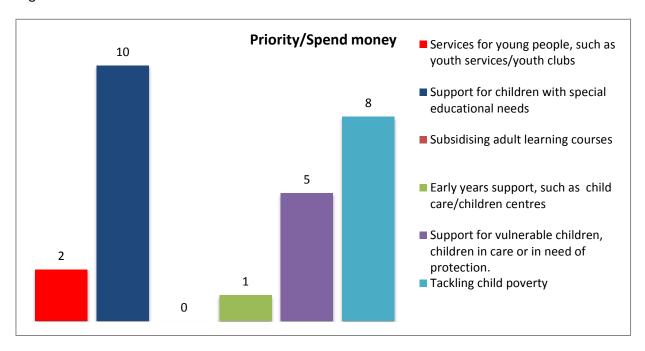
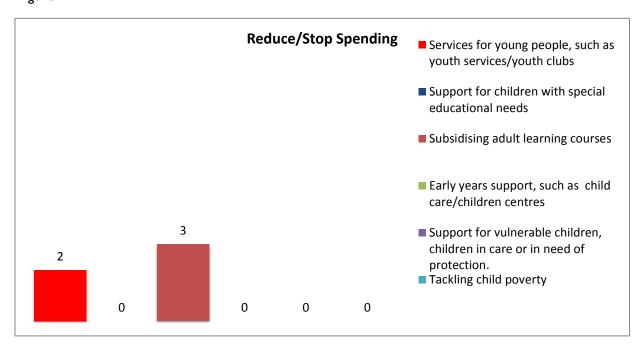


Figure 12



Support for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) received the most votes in this category (10 votes) with tackling child poverty receiving the second highest number of votes. Tackling child poverty was however identified by the Youth Council as the **overall top priority** across all the categories. Services for young people, received an equal score while subsidising adult learning courses received the most votes to reduce or stop spending with no pairs selecting this as a spending priority in *figure 11*.

CARING PLYMOUTH

Figure 13

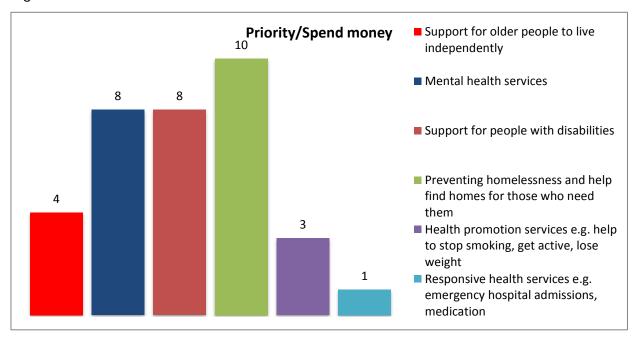
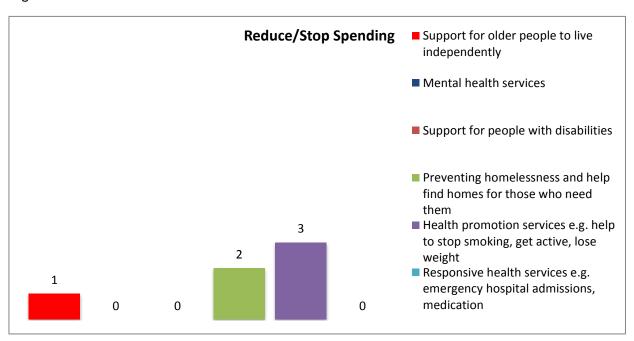


Figure 14



Under Caring Plymouth, mental health services, support for people with disabilities and preventing homelessness were identified as the three priorities for spending. However, two pairs voted for spending to be reduced or stopped in relation to homelessness. Support for health promotion received equal scores under both priority / spend money and reduce / stop spending.

OVERALL FINDINGS

The three spending priorities identified by the Youth Council were:-

- Parks and open spaces
- Support for children with Special Educational Needs
- Preventing homelessness and help to find homes for those who need them

Each of the above categories received 10 votes.

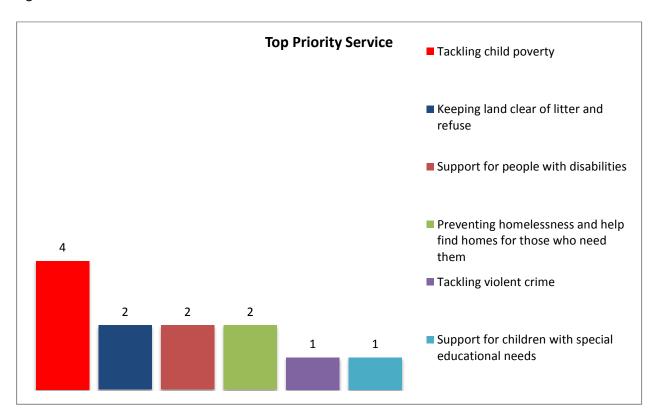
The areas identified by the Youth Council where spending should be reduced or stopped were:-

- Improving the quality of housing (10 votes)
- Museums and galleries (7 votes)
- Subsidising adult learning courses* (3 votes)

TOP PRIORITY SERVICES

Members of the Youth Council were also asked to select the **one** service that they would give the **overall top priority** to in relation to budget spending. *Figure 15* below shows that tackling child poverty was selected as the top priority.

Figure 15



(No response = I pair)

^{*}While bus services and inconsiderate parking in residential areas received more votes to reduce or stop spending, subsidising adult learning courses was not selected as a spending priority by any attendees.

APPENDIX 2

Feedback from the Voluntary and Community Sector December 2013

Two consultation events were held with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) on the 11 and 12 December as part of the Council's consultation on the indicative three year balanced budget for the period 2014/15 to 2016/17. The events were facilitated by the Plymouth Octopus Project commissioned by the Council to support the VCS and make sure its voice is heard. In total 37 delegates attended over the two days representing 34 different Civil Society organisations. Written feedback from the events has also been provided by the Plymouth Octopus Project to the Co-operative Scrutiny Board for their consideration.

Councillor Penberthy presented the context within which the Council is operating and outlined the financial challenges and extent of the projected £64.5m gap in funding over the next three years. As part of the session delegates undertook an interactive prioritisation exercise based on the on-line public survey to seek their views on the Council's priorities for spending.

In order to reflect the difficult financial decisions faced by the Council, delegates were asked to vote for both services where the Council should continue to spend money **and** the services where spending should be reduced or stopped. They were given 21 votes (14 for spend and 7 for reduce or stop) they were asked to use **all their votes** representing a reduction in the Council's budget by a third. They were also asked to select the **top priority service** which above all the Council should continue to fund.

The results are on the following pages:-

VIBRANT PLYMOUTH

Figure I

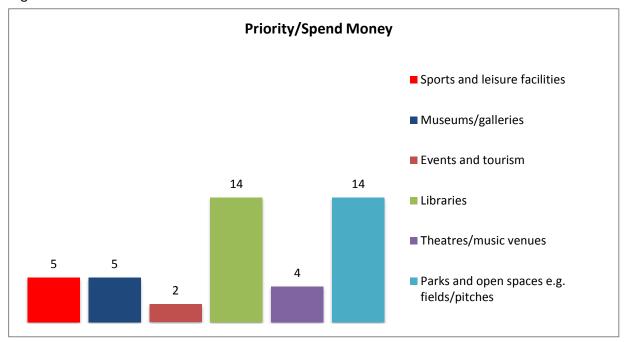


Figure 2

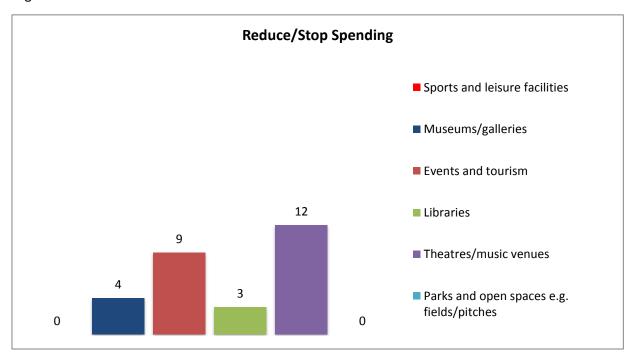


Figure 1 shows that parks and open spaces were identified as the top spending priority under Vibrant Plymouth with no votes to reduce or stop spending. Libraries were also seen as a priority for spending, however received three votes to reduce or stop spending. Support for theatres/music venues received the highest number of votes to reduce or stop spending despite four people voting for this as a spending priority in *figure 2*.

MOVING PLYMOUTH

Figure 3

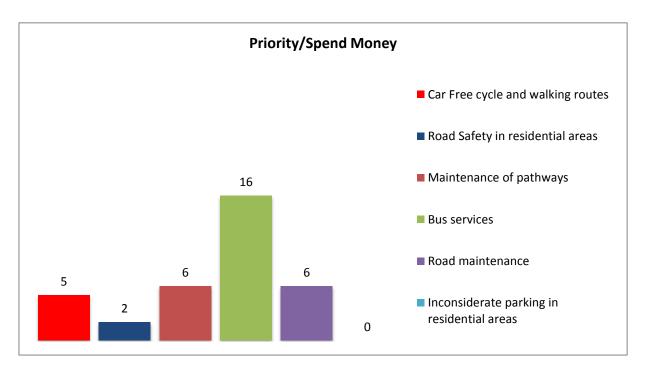


Figure 4

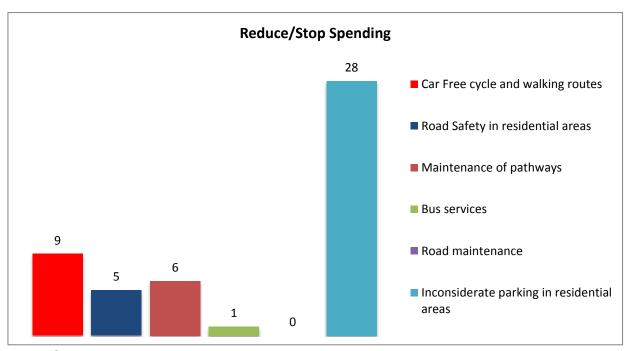


Figure 3 shows bus services to be the clear spending priority under Moving Plymouth, with only I vote to reduce or stop it. The only service with no votes to reduce or stop is road maintenance, while maintenance of pathways received equal votes. Figure 4 shows that inconsiderate parking in residential areas received the most votes (28) to reduce or stop spending.

SAFER PLYMOUTH

Figure 5

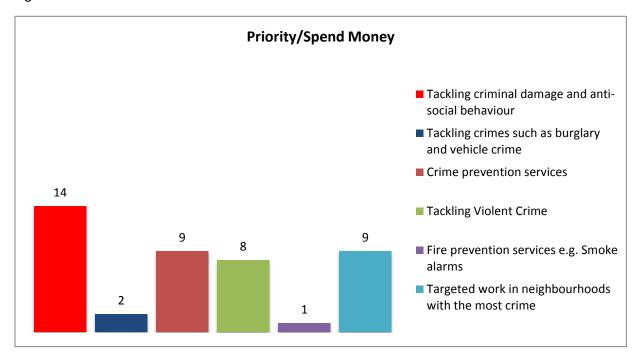
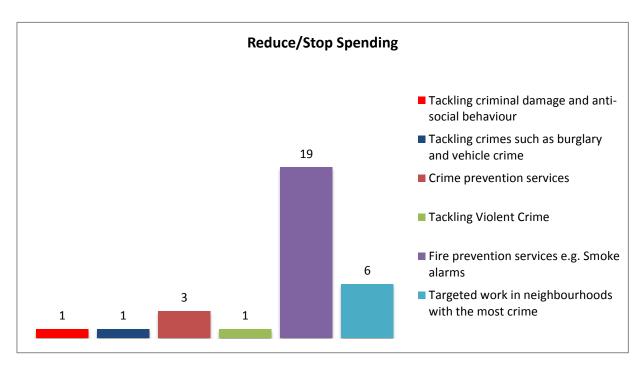


Figure 6



The spending priority in this category is tackling criminal damage and ASB, with fire prevention services receiving the most votes to reduce spending or stop (19).

LIVING AND WORKING PLYMOUTH

Figure 7

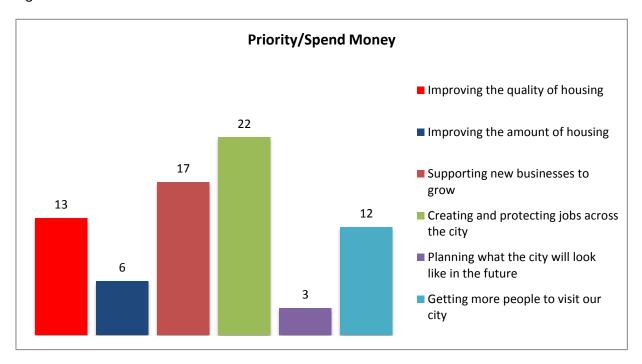
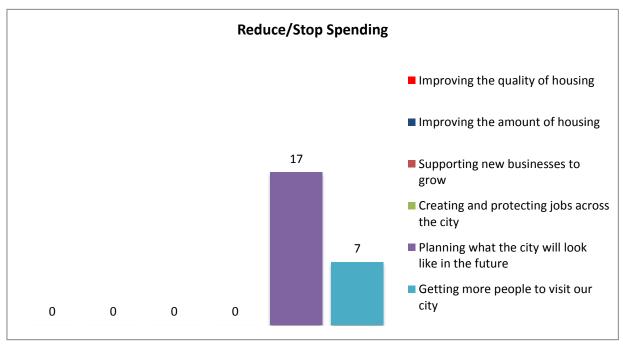


Figure 8



Under Living and Working Plymouth some clear priorities for spending are identified. The top priority in this category is creating and protecting jobs across the city with 22 votes followed by supporting new businesses to grow. Both these areas did not receive any votes to reduce or stop spending. Planning what the city will look like in the future however, received the most votes to reduce or stop spending.

GREENER PLYMOUTH

Figure 9

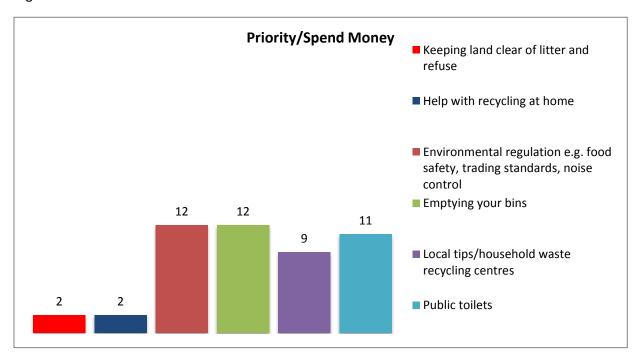
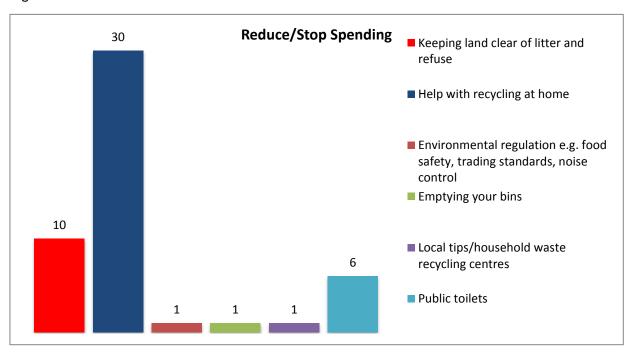


Figure 10



Under Greener Plymouth, environmental regulation and emptying your bins were the top spending priorities. Help with recycling at home received the most votes to reduce or stop spending in this category and overall in this prioritisation exercise.

YOUNG PLYMOUTH

Figure 11

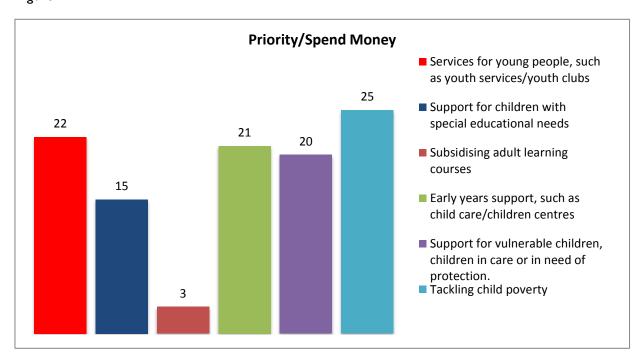
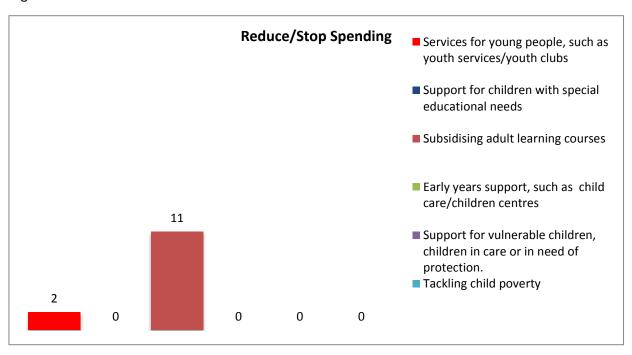


Figure 12



Young Plymouth received the highest number of votes in support of spending across all categories. Tackling child poverty received the most votes (25) and was the **overall top priority** in this exercise. Subsidising adult learning courses receiving the most votes (11) to reduce or stop spending.

CARING PLYMOUTH

Figure 13

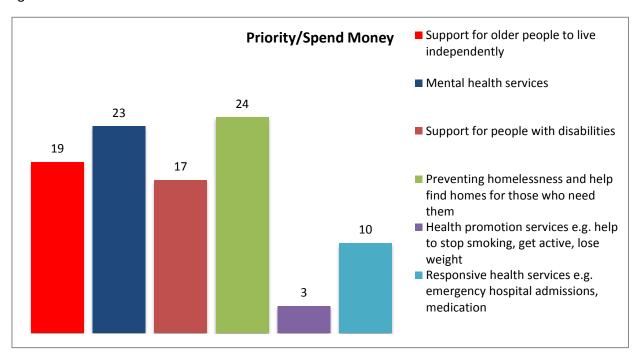
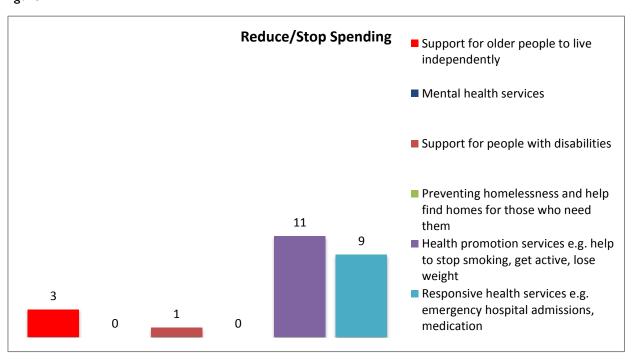


Figure 14



Preventing homelessness is the spending priority for this category, with support for mental health closely second, both areas received no votes to reduce or stop spending. Few services received votes to reduce or stop spending in *figure 14* with only health promotion services and responsive health services scoring significantly.

The three spending priorities identified by the VCS were:-

- Creating and protecting jobs across the city (25 votes)
- Preventing homelessness and help to find homes for those who need them (24 votes)
- Mental health services (23 votes)

The areas identified by the VCS where spending should be reduced or stopped were:-

- Help with recycling at home (30 votes)
- Inconsiderate parking in residential areas (28 votes)
- Fire prevention services (19 votes).

TOP PRIORITY SERVICES

Delegates were asked to select the **one** service that they would give the **overall top priority** to in relation to budget spending. *Figure 15* below shows the following to be the top priority each receiving 6 votes:-

- Tackling child poverty
- Support for people with disabilities
- Support for vulnerable children, children in care or in need of protection

Figure 15

