



## Item 8 - Paper F - Appendix A

# Briefing Note – Budget Consultation Results

**Date** 10 November 2025  
**Prepared by** Town Clerk/RFO

### 1. CONSULTATION METHODS

- 1.1. An important part of the budget-setting process is hearing from local residents and businesses and a consultation is carried out each year to inform the proposals set before councillors and a final budget agreed.
- 1.2. The 2026/2027 consultation was launched on 1 October 2025 and ran until 8:00 am on 3 October 2025.
- 1.3. The consultation was advertised as follows:
  - Posters displayed at Council’s toilets, in the park, at the Broadway Centre and by local businesses. Posters include a QR code linking to the online survey and details of where hard copy consultations were available.
  - On the Council’s website (home page and public engagement pages)
  - The Council’s Facebook page, (also shared by councillors to community groups and Sandown Hub)
  - Hardcopy Questionnaires available at The Broadway centre during opening hours, Sandown Library and from Councillors on request.
- 1.4. There were 230 responses, 205 online responses and 25 hardcopies. The results can be found at Appendix A

### 2. SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

- 2.1. The majority of respondents indicated that the Council should prioritise Place and Town Improvements (which is reflective of last year). Toilets was ranked the next most important followed by the Beach. Communication was ranked as the least important priority as it was last year.
- 2.2. 60.9% of respondents were happy with how the council communicates with residents. 33.5% felt communication levels should be increased and 4.3% thought levels should be reduced.
- 2.3. Residents were asked if they would support funding community Warm Spaces. 25.2% of respondents supported funding provision of £6,000 and 50.4% supported funding of £4,000. 20.4% of respondents did not want to fund Warm Spaces.
- 2.4. Residents were also asked if they felt the council should provide funding for the Breakfast at the Bay School. 22.6% of respondents supported funding provision of

£6,000, 43.9% funding provision of £4,000 and 30.4% of respondents did not want to fund the initiative.

- 2.5. In relation to monies to fund Place and Town improvements, 34.8% of respondents supported a budget of £35,000, 30.4% supported a budget of £30,000 and 19.6% a budget of £25,000. 7.8% of respondents proposed alternative amounts ranging from no provision to £50,000.
- 2.6. In terms of the Beach, 73% of respondents were in favour of Securing the Blue Flag/Seaside Award (dependent on water quality) and 50.4% of respondents supported a Seasonal Beach Events Programme. 6.5% of respondents did not support either initiative.
- 2.7. This year residents were asked if they would support a various activities to clean-up Sandown. 37.4% of respondents supported funding additional Environment Officer time and 30.4% tidying up around the Canoe Lake.
- 2.8. In terms of litter 58.7% of respondents felt there should be increased Litter Bin Provision on the Esplanade, April to September, 39.1% supported permanently increased capacity on the Esplanade, 46.5% supported increased litter bin provision between Eastern Gardens and Yaverland, April to September. 7% did not support cleaning up Sandown.
- 2.9. Residents were asked which Civic Space initiatives they would support: 75.2% supported Hanging Baskets/Planters on the high street/war memorial, 82.6% supported funding Sandown Green Towns Volunteers, 37.8% supported a contribution to Isle of Wight Council to maintain Ferncliff Gardens and the Cliff Path hedges, 20.9% supported a Micro Sculpture Trail, 26.1% a Mural Fund and 7.0% did not support any initiatives.
- 2.10. Support for events was broadly in line with previous years: 37.4% supported an Armistice Day event, 67% supported a Remembrance Service, 26.5% supported Celebration Projects with Schools (i.e., Mug Design Competition for Jubilee, Library Windows Competition for Christmas) and 49.6% supported Pop Up Summer Events Programme, 84.3% supported Carnival and Regatta 23.9% supported the Town Council organising Shop Window Competitions, 30.0% supported exploring a Christmas Ice Rink and 0.9% did not support any events.
- 2.11. Following the proposal that a Community Benefit Society be created in Sandown, 80% of residents supported the Council investing in the initiative, 14.8% did not. 5.2% of respondents did not answer the question.

Finally, in relation to new initiatives, which included an all of the above option which has been added to each category, support was as follows: Bringing enforcement in relation to dog fouling and littering in house to increase provision (54.3%) Repurposing or Replacement of Seafront Shelters (46.5%) Provision of Allotments (28.7%), A Dotto Train (41.7%) and 6.1% did support any new initiatives.

### **3. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY, CRIME AND DISORDER AND BIODIVERSITY**

#### Equality and Diversity

- 3.1. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- 3.2. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 3.3. The Isle of Wight Council's decision to cease operation of the public conveniences was taken some time ago, and the facility has only become partially operational since. Therefore, taking on the site is not believed to have any direct equality and diversity implications.
- 3.4. The Town Council will need to consider Equality and Diversity in any future decisions should they become responsible for the site.

#### Crime and Disorder

- 3.5. Derelict and empty properties are often subject to vandalism and attract antisocial behaviour. Particularly when they are in poor condition.
- 3.6. Regeneration can reduce the risk of crime and disorder opportunities.

#### Biodiversity implications

- 3.7. There are no direct biodiversity implications to taking on the site. There may be considerations in regard to these duties at a later stage.

## **4. APPENDICES**

Appendix A	Budget Survey
Appendix B	Consultation Results



# Paper F - Appendix B

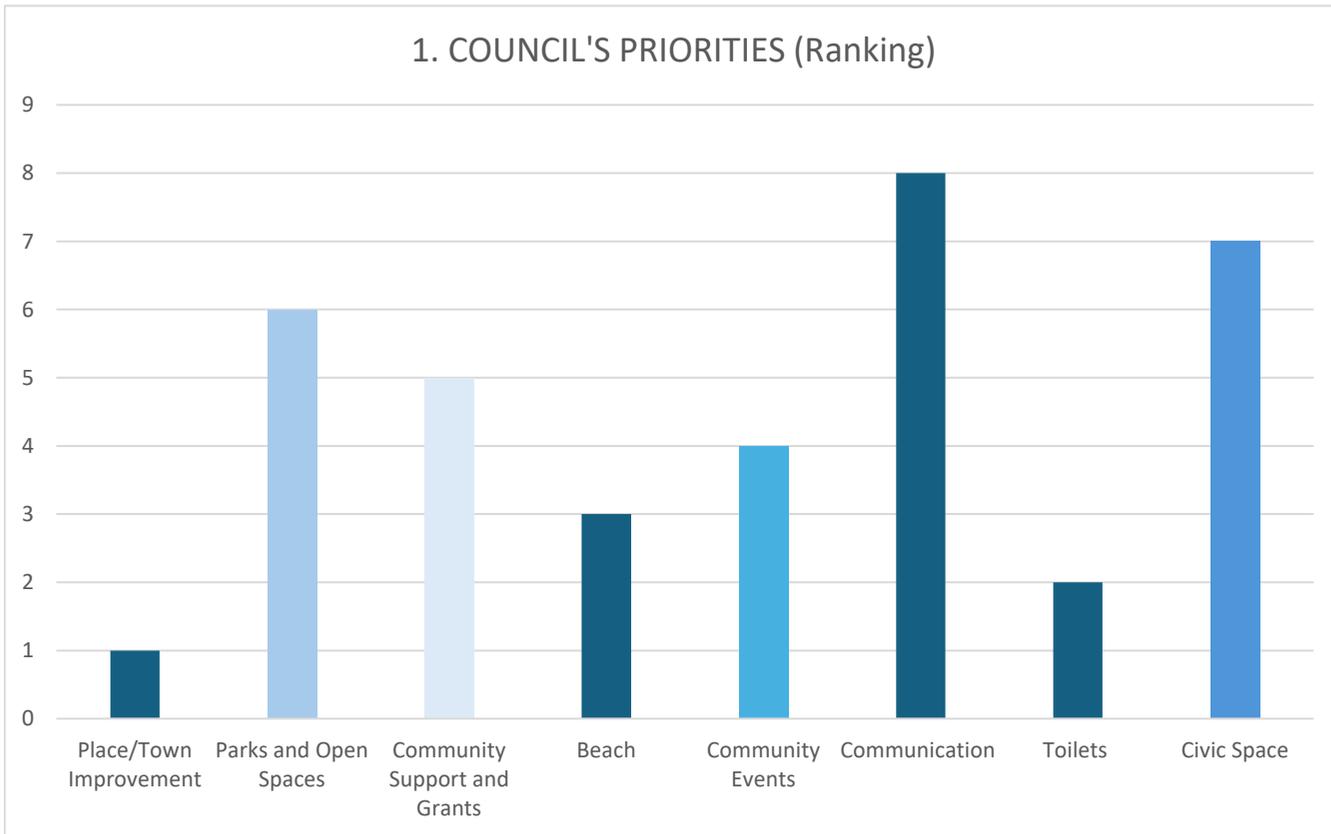
Type	Total	%	Survey Monkey	Hard Copies
<b>Responses</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>-</b>	205	25
<b>1. COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES (Ranking)</b>				
Place/Town Improvement	1	-	7.50	5.92
Parks and Open Spaces	6	-	3.70	7.04
Community Support and Grants	5	-	4.23	6.72
Beach	3	-	5.22	5.76
Community Events	4	-	5.01	5.76
Communication	8	-	2.15	7.04
Toilets	2	-	5.91	5.12
Civic Space	7	-	2.26	6.4
<b>2. COMMUNICATION</b>				
Increase communication	77	33.5%	70	7
Happy with the current levels of communication	140	60.9%	122	18
Reduce communication	10	4.3%	8	2
<b>3. COMMUNITY WELLBEING INITIATIVES</b>				
<b>Warm Space</b>				
£6,000	58	25.2%	42	16
£4,000	116	50.4%	108	8
None/DNA	47	20.4%	46	1
<b>Breakfast at the Bay School</b>				
£6,000	52	22.6%	38	14
£4,000	101	43.9%	92	9
None/DNA	70	30.4%	68	2
<b>3. PLACE AND TOWN IMPROVEMENTS</b>				
£25,000	45	19.6%	43	2
£30,000	70	30.4%	63	7
£35,000	80	34.8%	69	11
Other .....	18	7.8%	16	2
<b>5. BEACH</b>				
Securing the Blue Flag/Seaside Award (dependent on water quality)	168	73.0%	148	20
Seasonal Beach Events Programme	116	50.4%	106	10
None	15	6.5%	14	1
<b>6. CLEANING UP SANDOWN</b>				
Additional Environment Officer time	86	37.4%	75	11
Tidying up around the Canoe Lake	70	30.4%	59	11
In terms of litter:				
Increased Litter Bin Provision on the Esplanade, April to September	135	58.7%	116	19
Permanently increased capacity on the Esplanade	90	39.1%	79	11
Increased litter bin provision between Eastern Gardens and Yaverland, April to September	107	46.5%	98	9
None of the above	16	7.0%	13	3
<b>7. CIVIC SPACE</b>				
Hanging Baskets/Planters on the high street/war memorial	173	75.2%	156	17
Sandown Green Towns Volunteers	190	82.6%	169	21
Ferncliff Gardens and the Cliff Path hedges (contribution to Isle of Wight Council)	87	37.8%	72	15
A Micro Sculpture Trail	48	20.9%	40	8
A Mural Fund	60	26.1%	50	10
None of the above.	16	7.0%	11	5
<b>8. EVENTS</b>				
Armistice Day	86	37.4%	72	14
Remembrance Service	154	67.0%	137	17
Celebration Projects with Schools (i.e., Mug Design Competition for Jubilee, Library Windows Competition for Christmas)	61	26.5%	49	12

Pop Up Summer Events Programme	114	49.6%	101	13
Carnival and Regatta	194	84.3%	173	21
Shop Window Competitions	55	23.9%	44	11
Christmas Ice Rink	69	30.0%	62	7
None of the above.	2	0.9%	2	0
<b>9. PUBLIC TOILETS</b>				
Charging for use	135	58.7%	116	19
Free use with budget for additional repairs due to vandalism	92	40.0%	86	6
<b>10. COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY</b>				
Yes	184	80.0%	165	19
No	34	14.8%	30	4
<b>11. NEW INITITIVES (ALL OF ABOVE ADDED TO EACH CATEGORY)</b>				
Bringing enforcement in relation to dog fouling and littering in house to increase provision.	125	54.3%	108	17
Repurposing or Replacement of Seafront Shelters	107	46.5%	95	12
Provision of Allotments	66	28.7%	59	7
A Dotto Train	96	41.7%	87	9
None of the Above	14	6.1%	13	1

# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

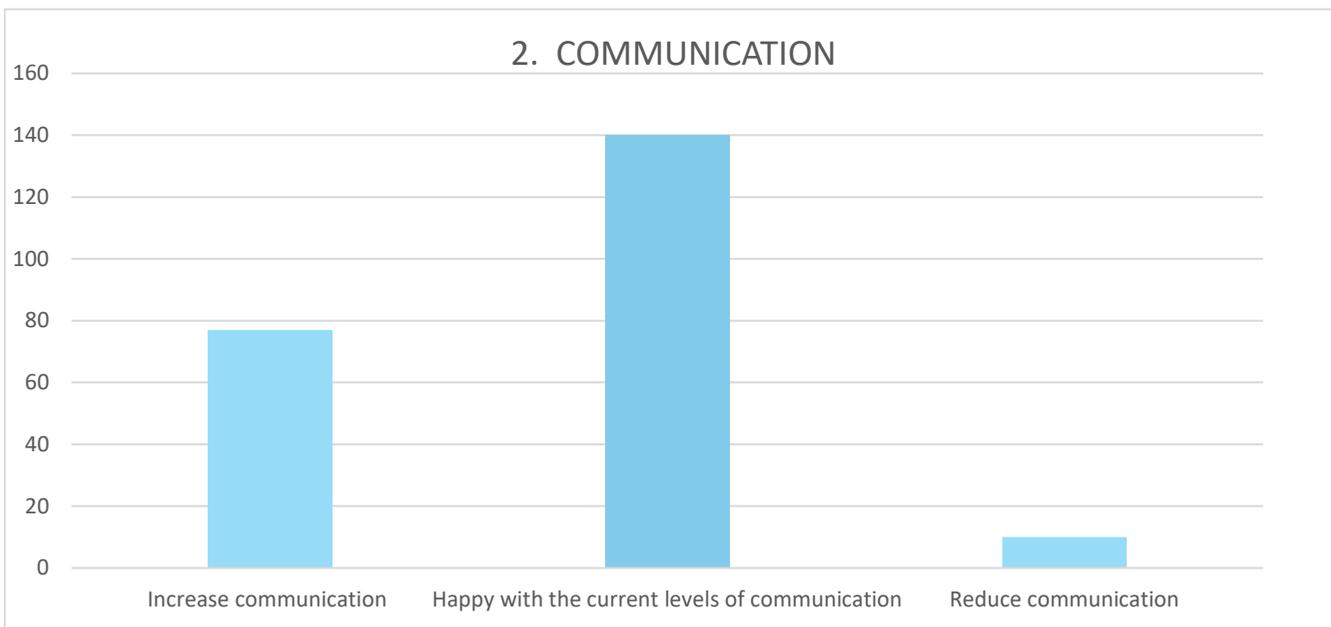
## 1. COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

Every year the council needs to prioritise the provisions, services, and activities it provides. How do you think the council should prioritise these (Please rank with 1 being the highest priority and 8 being the lowest).



## 2. COMMUNICATION

The council thinks about how it communicates with residents on an ongoing basis. There are costs and staffing implications to increasing communication beyond the website, basic Facebook page. Do you think the council should increase its communications budget and staffing to support communication?



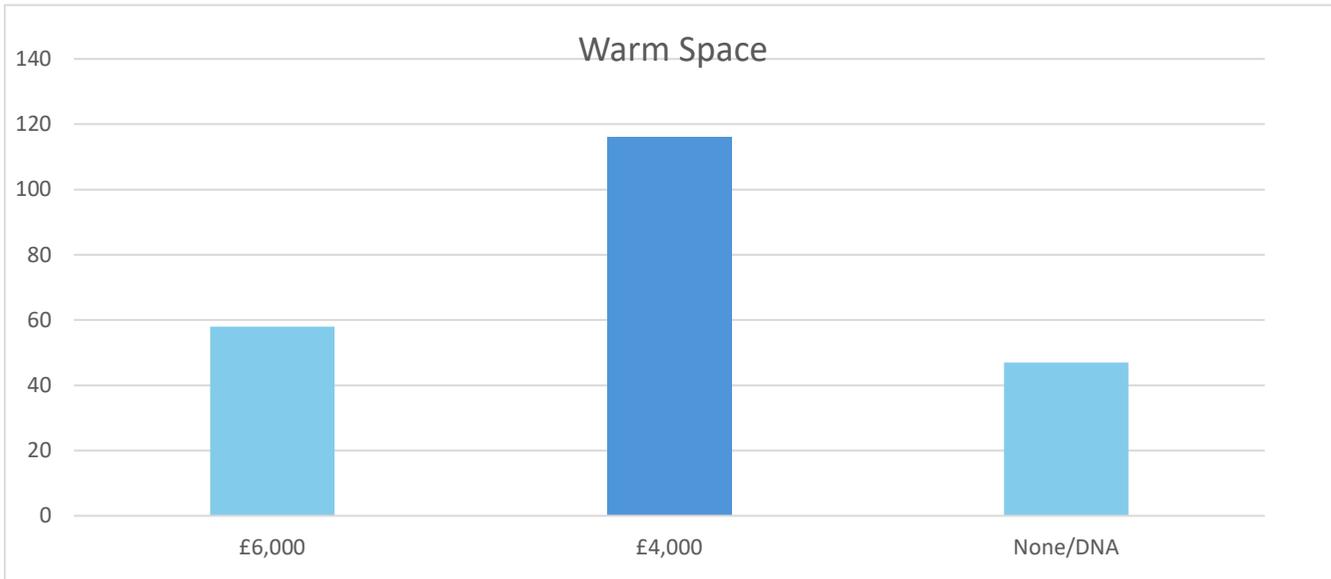
# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 3. COMMUNITY WELLBEING INITIATIVES

Sandown is one of the most deprived areas on the Isle of Wight. As such changes to Central Government support with rising household bills significantly impacts the residents of Sandown.

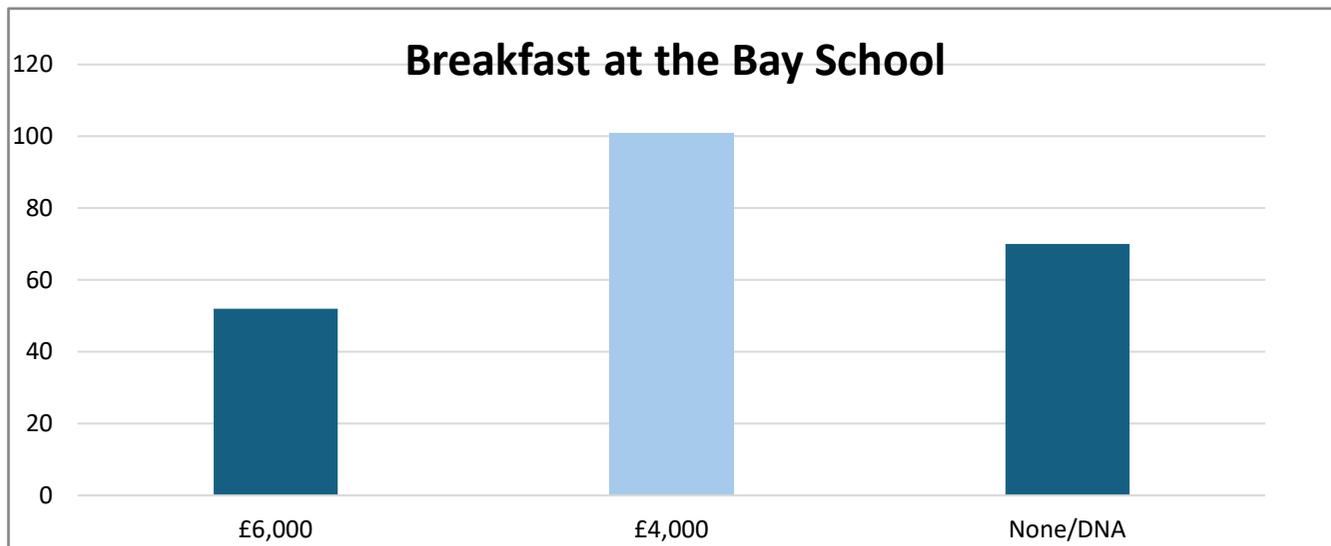
Warm Spaces are free community venues where people can go to stay warm during the colder months and, to reduce isolation within the community and are now run all year.

Do you support funding a Warm Space in Sandown



Breakfast at the Bay School provides Healthy Breakfasts to support children to achieve and thrive, while supporting teachers and school staff in their work. It also supports families financially by reducing the costs of living.

Do you support funding Breakfast at the Bay School



# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 4. PLACE AND TOWN IMPROVEMENTS

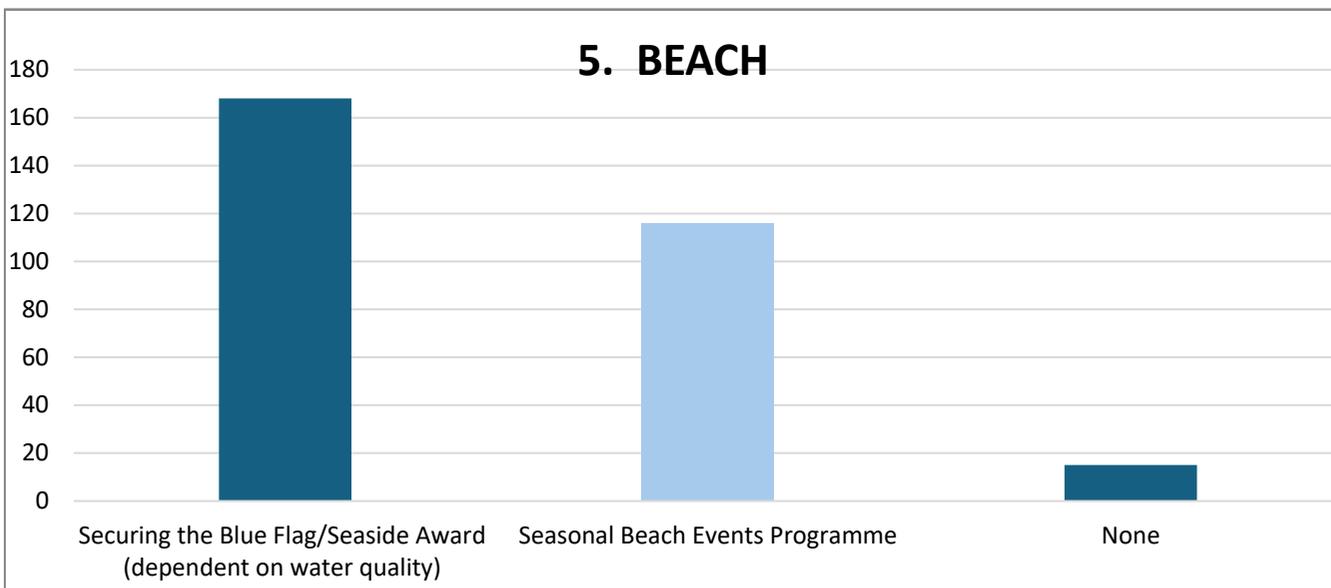
The Council has a budget for town improvements. In 2025/2026 it has used these monies to match a grant for wooden activity equipment and carved benches at Los Altos, install a mural at Eastern Gardens, replace benches along culver parade, support the creation of a Bay business association, address empty Highstreet rental units, and provide summer skate boarding sessions and a youth artworks project. If the monies are not spent, they are allocated to Civic Space budget lines or carried forward into the next year.

To continue to deliver projects supporting the Bay Place Plan and regeneration, what do you think would be an appropriate level of funding for Sandown Town Council to budget for these types of activities:



## 5. BEACH

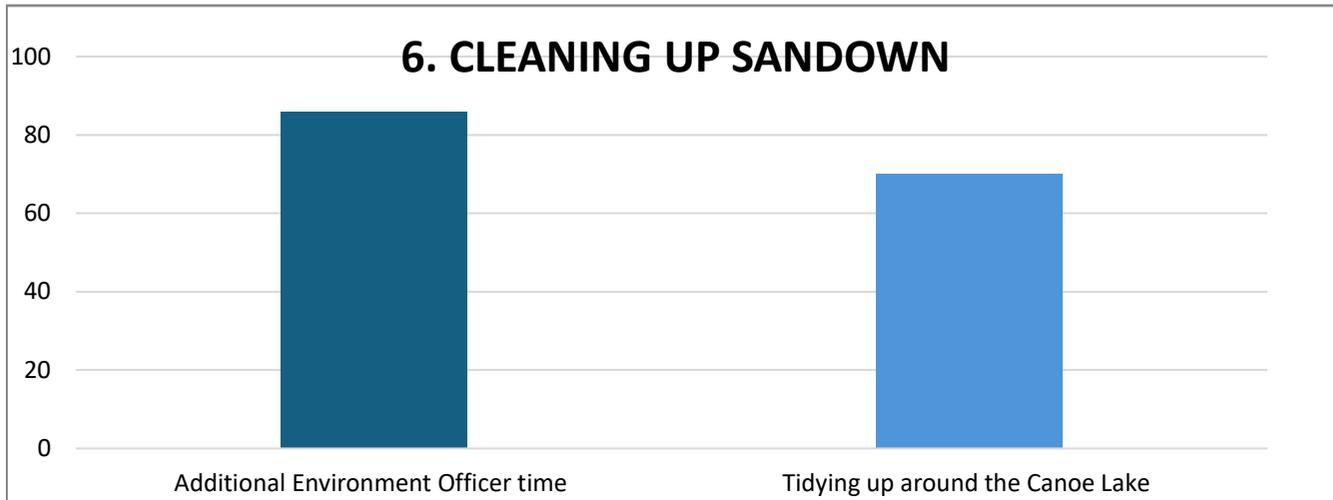
The beach is a key feature in the town. The local beach safety service had its fourth successful season this year and the council has supported the inshore lifeboat and installation of buoys in the Bay. There is a Changing Places facility and accessible matting on the beach during the summer season. Do you believe funding should be allocated to the beach for:



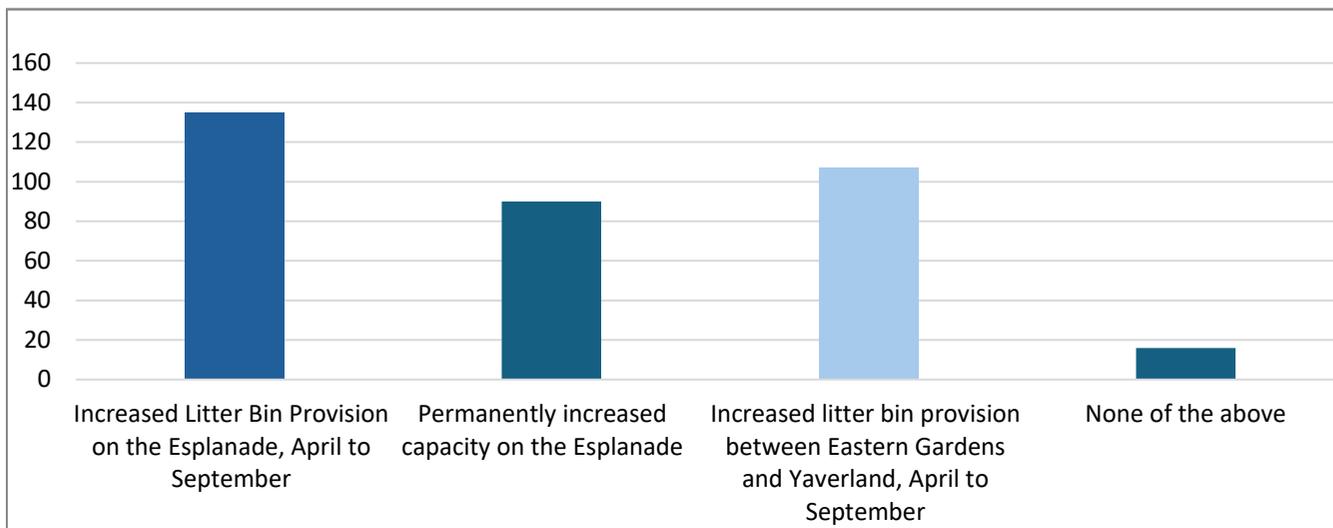
# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 6. CLEANING UP SANDOWN

Litter, dog fouling, graffiti and other similar issues have a negative impact on the town and its residents. The Town Council does not have a statutory responsibility to address these issues but can contribute towards the Isle of Wight Council provision. Do you support the Town Council funding:



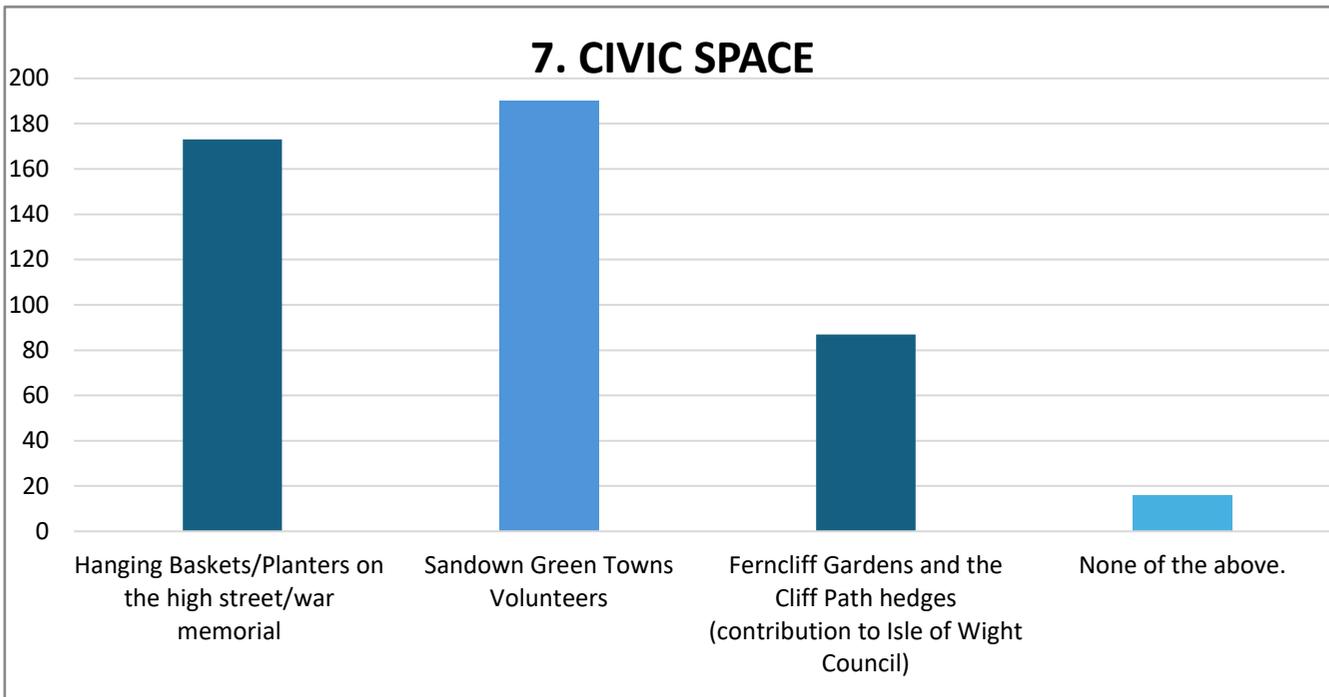
In terms of litter:



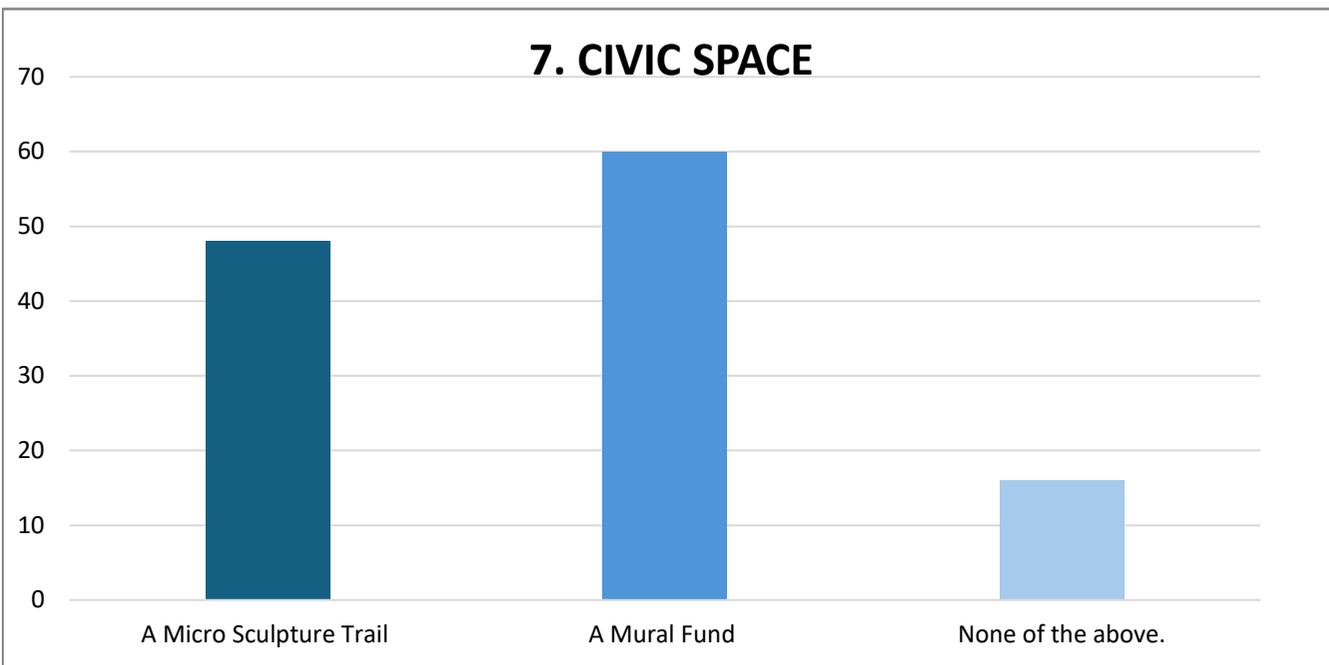
# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 7. CIVIC SPACE

The council has funded the planting and watering of the hanging baskets on the highstreets and supports Sandown Green Towns Volunteers. The Council also contributes towards the Isle of Wight Council's maintenance of Ferncliff Gardens and the Cliff Path hedges. Do you support the council continuing to fund:



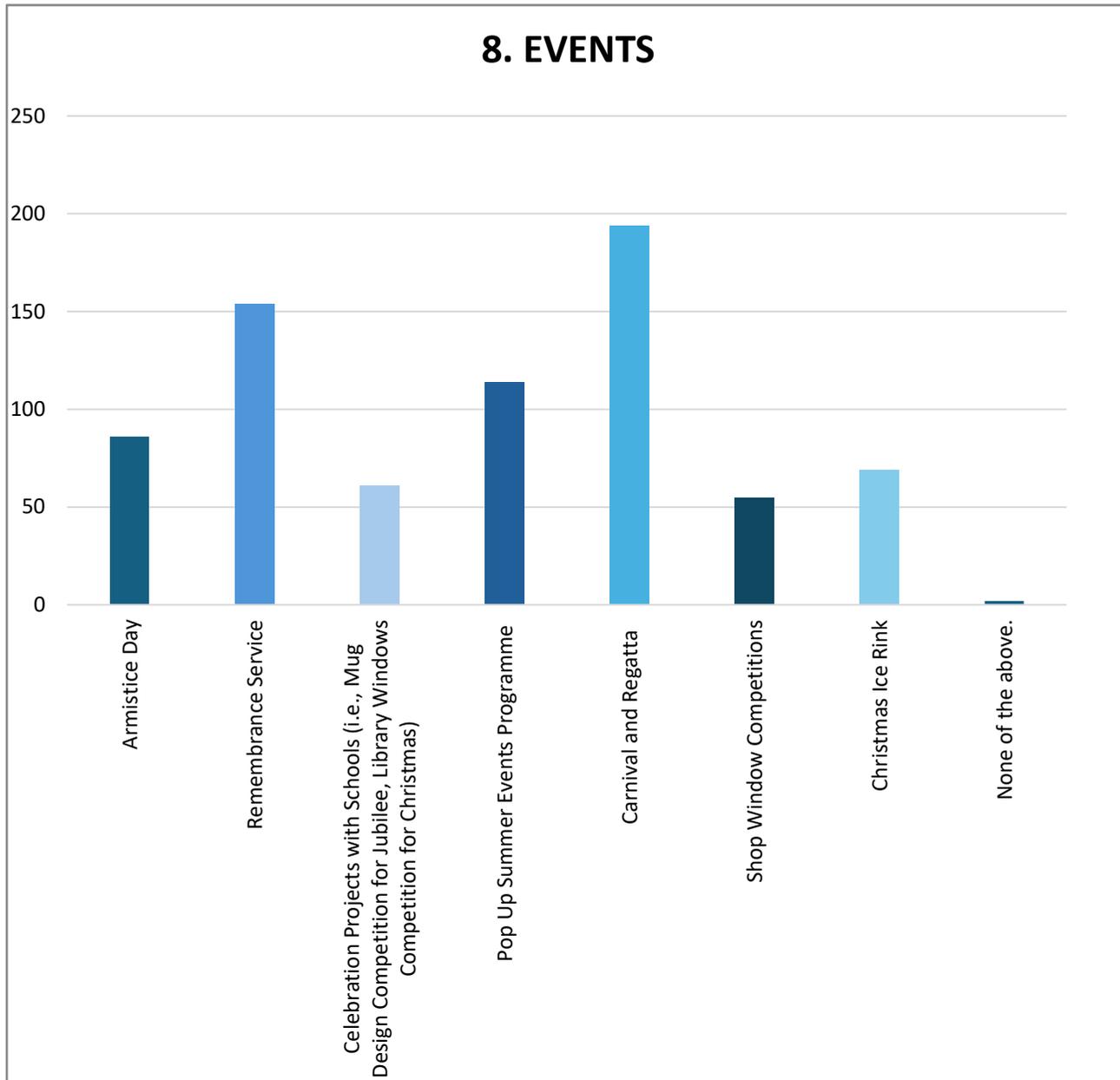
Art Installations and Urban Acupuncture have been proven to help strengthen community bonds and drive economic growth. Do you support the council putting monies aside for:



# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 8. EVENTS

Community events help bring members of a community closer together and enhance mental well-being. Which events do you think the Council should support?

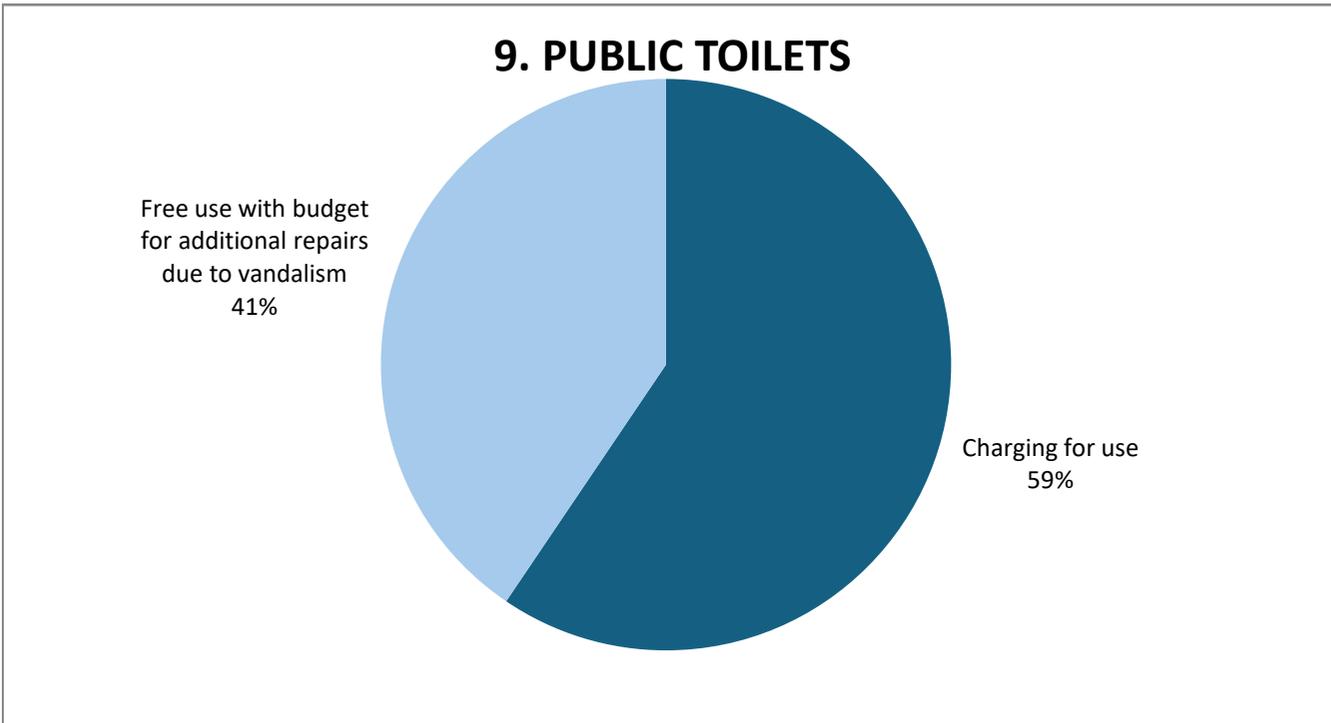


# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 9. PUBLIC TOILETS

The Council's three toilet sites have now been replaced with new facilities. Charging was introduced to reduce vandalism and offset the cost to Sandown residents of running the toilets. No profit is made from charging for use.

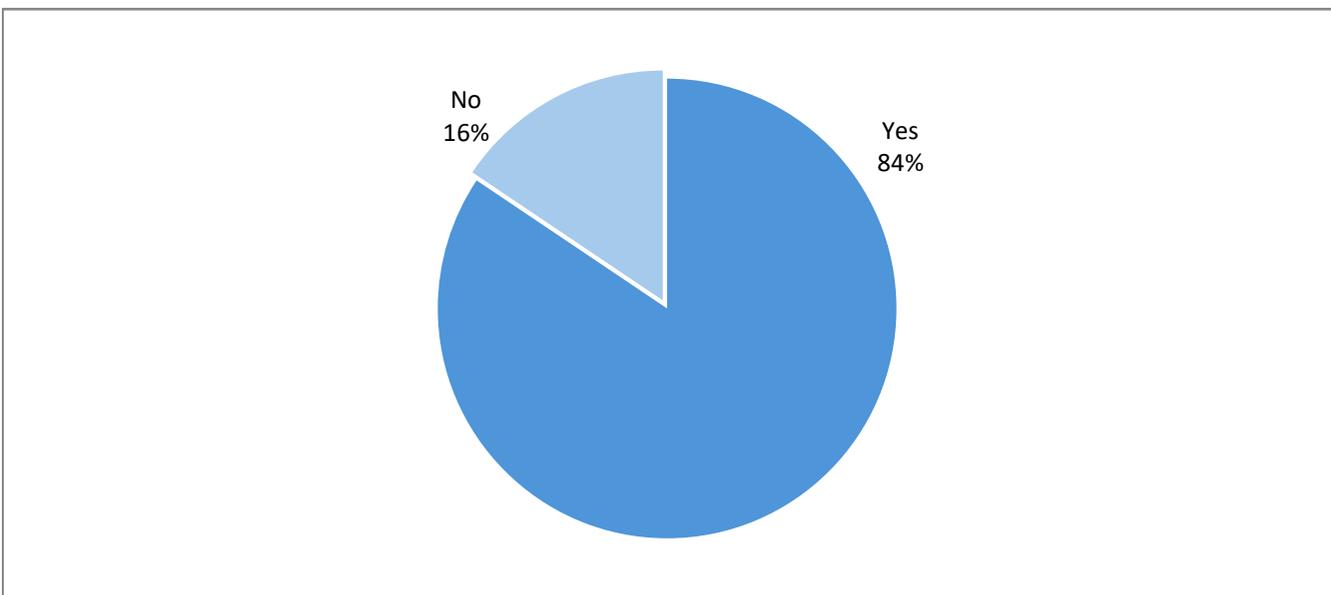
The council wishes to ensure the charging policy is in line with resident's views. Do you support:



## 10. COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY

Derelict buildings and sites and a declining Highstreet are a significant issue for Sandown. In other areas of the country, local people are setting up Community Benefit Societies (CBS), legal organisations run by the community, designed to operate on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of the community as a whole.

Do you support the council investing in a Community Benefit Society for Sandown if one is set-up.



# Budget Consultation Results 2026/2027

## 11. NEW INITIATIVES

Do you support the Council using staffing resource to explore the following for the 2027-2028 financial year:

