



## York's Budget Proposals – Shaping Our City's Future

We want all York residents to take part in our new budget consultation. This is your chance to have a say in how York's money is spent. We want to make sure the services you need continue, even though we need to save approximately £30 million over the next three years. There is less money coming in and more need for services because of rising costs and an ageing population. We might not balance our budget without cutting or reducing some services.

### Why your voice matters

Since May 2024, we have been talking about the budget, referred to as 'Our Big Budget Conversation'. This process will finish when this consultation closes on 01 January 2025, leading to more public involvement in January 2025 and a council meeting in February 2025. This step-by-step approach helps everyone understand how budget decision might affect different people and groups. It also looks at how partners, businesses and residents can work together to achieve shared goals for the city.

This consultation builds on [what you have already told us](#). You told us that York is a safe and fun place to live, and you care about its quality of life. But there are some issues, like traffic and how busy the city can get, which affect our city's streets and services. We also know that some people, especially younger ones, might not know exactly what the council does. We need to work together to find a fair plan that raises money, saves where we can, and only cuts services when we really have to.



## Our plan so far:

Our budget plan has these goals:

- **Protecting services:** We want to keep important services running, like social care, housing help, waste collection, and fixing roads. We've tried hard to plan so these services are not affected too much.  
**Raising money:** We are thinking about ideas like raising council tax, adding a fee for tourists staying overnight, and charging for traffic in the city centre. We also want to look at things like green waste collection and parking fees to bring in more money.
- **Saving money:** We are finding ways to work better and save money, which might mean having fewer staff. We know this is hard, and it could affect some services.

## We need your help

This consultation explains our 2025 to 2026 budget proposals, which still leave an unbalanced budget, based on feedback from the last budget consultation. We have worked together across all parts of the council to create these proposals. We want to know your views on our plans to raise money, save costs, and keep key services running. Your feedback will help shape the final budget. Your responses will inform decisions but are not votes to adopt or reject a measure. We've aimed for clear communication to ensure that everyone can understand and take part.

City of York Council wants to know your thoughts on our budget proposals.

## Understanding the budget challenge:

**Before this survey, were you aware that City of York Council is facing a budget deficit of approximately £30 million?**

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## Please take a few minutes to respond and help us plan for York's future.

If you feel that you are unable to answer any of the questions in this survey, have no opinion or don't know, please feel free to leave your response blank and move on to the next question.

### Close of consultation

The consultation closes on 01 January 2025 at 11.59pm

### Consent

Please read our [privacy notice](#):

<https://data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/consultation-privacy-notices/resource/f5b7a15b-40e1-4343-b002-6d991569bd10>



You can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting [ourbigconversation@york.gov.uk](mailto:ourbigconversation@york.gov.uk).

**Do you confirm that you have read and understood the privacy notice? You must select 'Yes' in order to take the survey.**

Yes		No	
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### Introduction

**We want to make sure we are getting feedback from across the authority. Please give us your postcode.**

Post Code	
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**If you are answering on behalf of a business or organisation, please give us their name.**

Name	
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Ways to complete and return your questionnaire		
1	<b>Respond online</b>	Please visit <a href="https://ourbigconversation.york.gov.uk/business-intelligence/2024budget-consultation2/">https://ourbigconversation.york.gov.uk/business-intelligence/2024budget-consultation2/</a>
2	<b>Or use this QR code:</b>	Use the camera on your smart device to scan the QR code which will take you to the questionnaire
3	<b>Scan and email</b>	Complete, scan and email your response to: <a href="mailto:ourbigconversation@york.gov.uk">ourbigconversation@york.gov.uk</a>
4	<b>Visit us</b>	Drop into any <b>Explore library</b> or <b>West Offices</b> where we can assist you to complete online.
5	<b>Get help over the phone</b>	Call customer Service on <b>01904 551550</b> and leave your number and we will call you back.
6	<b>Drop off</b>	Hand in the completed form at any <b>Explore Library</b> or drop into the post box at <b>West Offices</b> .
7	<b>Paid return envelope</b>	Call our Customer Services team on <b>01904 551550</b> to request a freepost return envelope.
8	<b>Return by freepost</b>	<b>Our Big Budget Conversation</b> Freepost RTEG-TYYU-KLTZ CYC, West Offices, Station Rise, York YO1 6GA
9	<b>Video Relay Service (BSL)</b>	Use our BSL Video Relay Service: <a href="http://www.york.gov.uk/BSLInterpretingService">www.york.gov.uk/BSLInterpretingService</a> Select 'Switchboard' from the menu.



## Alternative formats statement

Alternative formats		
If you require any reasonable adjustments or this document in an alternative format (e.g. large print, braille, Audio, BSL or Easy Read) you can:		
	Email us: <a href="mailto:cycaccessteam@york.gov.uk">cycaccessteam@york.gov.uk</a>	
	Call us: <b>01904 551550</b> and customer services will pass your request onto the Access Team	
 Video Interpreter	Use our BSL Video Relay Service: <a href="http://www.york.gov.uk/BSLInterpretingService">www.york.gov.uk/BSLInterpretingService</a> Select 'Switchboard' from the menu.	

## Section B: Ideas for Raising Money – Council Tax

### Council Tax:

We are suggesting a council tax increase of 4.99% for the year 2025/26 and the next two years.

For example, for a Band D property, this could mean an increase of about £96.99 more per year. That works out to about £1.87 more each week.

The total council tax includes charges for services we provide, as well as charges from the fire and police services, which we do not control. This example shows the most likely outcome, based on estimated costs for those services.

The reason for the 4.99% rise is to help us cover rising costs, like higher prices for the things we need and more people using our services. This increase could help us keep important services running without making big cuts.

### 5. How supportive are you of this measure?

<b>Strongly support</b>		<b>Oppose</b>	
<b>Support</b>		<b>Strongly oppose</b>	
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>			

### Why do you say that?

## Section C: Ideas for Raising Money – Parking Fees

### Parking Fees:

We are thinking about ways to raise money from parking in York to help support the city. We know that more visitors use our car parks than residents and we could make changes like increasing weekend charges, adding costs for special events, and removing some discounts. This could protect the services that you told us in the first consultation that you value – directly helping those who need it most.

6. An increase in parking fees could raise £1m. Here’s what we are considering:
- **Parking rate changes:** The cost for the first hour in premium and standard car parks could be £4.85, the same rate for the second hour. If you stay longer, the hourly rate could drop to £4.10 after the first two hours.
  - **Saturday rates:** There could be an extra 10% increase in charges on Saturdays.
  - **Residents with Minster Badges:** Residents who have a Minster badge still get a 10% discount on these rates for the duration of the two year permit.
  - Blue Badge users can park in any space in a City of York Council car park for free.

This approach could help ensure parking costs are fair and make family bus tickets a better value option for longer trips to the city.

### Do you support these changes to raise money?

<b>Strongly support</b>		<b>Oppose</b>	
<b>Support</b>		<b>Strongly oppose</b>	
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>			

### Why do you say that?

**7. Parking fees that are increased by 10% for visitors to events like the Christmas Market, could bring in £230,000.**

**Do you support this change to raise money?**

Strongly support		Oppose	
Support		Strongly oppose	
Neither support or oppose			

**Why do you say that?**

**8. A 5% increase for residents' parking scheme (first car) and 10% for second and third cars could add £50,000.**

**Do you support this change to raise money?**

Strongly support		Oppose	
Support		Strongly oppose	
Neither support or oppose			

**Why do you say that?**

**9. Reducing the level of discount for low emission vehicles to a 20% discount for residents parking and season tickets could raise £120,000. Charges are partly based on the space vehicles take on our roads, which helps ensure fairness for everyone.**

**Do you support this change to raise money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**



## Section D:

### Saving Money and Cutting Costs – Services and Staff

#### Changing Services and Reducing Staff

We are thinking about changing some of our services to save money. This might mean fewer staff in some areas. Here are some of the changes we are considering:

- 10. Consulting with Blue Badge users to determine whether we can install additional accessible CCTV cameras instead of using external contractors to enable city centre access. (£70,000 saved in 2025 to 2026).**

Do you support this change to save money?

Strongly support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly oppose	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neither support or oppose	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Why do you say that?

**11. Changing how we run community safety without reducing the frontline service, which could save £65,000 each year starting in 2025 to 2026.**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

**12. Removing some local recycling banks, usually sited in car parks, to focus on household recycling and save money (£88,000 saved in 2025 to 2026). We could retain those local recycling sites which serve a specific community need.**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

**13. “Make It York” could cover its own costs through event and market fees. Make It York manages the tourist information centre, city centre events, and the market on behalf of the council. With this approach, it could no longer need the council’s £62,000 funding.**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

## Section E:

### Saving Money and Cutting Costs – Transport, Planning and Waste

Our Transport Team oversees transportation, highways and planning to ensure the city remains accessible and well organised. Services include maintaining the highways, environmental health, waste collection and regulatory services including public health and safety.

We are looking at ways to save money by changing some services related to transport, planning, and waste. Here are some ideas:

- 14. Spending less on road improvements which could mean less money is spent on maintaining the roads and filling potholes.**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

**15. Reducing the traffic light replacement programme which aims to replace old traffic lights, meaning renewing them will take longer.**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

**16. The council helps fund some bus services that could not run without support, costing £720,000 each year. This funding helps people without access to a car, particularly in remote areas. Any decisions would involve citywide consultation and may result in fewer bus services.**

**Do you support a change to save some money from this budget?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

**17. Reducing CCTV coverage, which may affect traffic and safety (£100,000 in 2025 to 2026 and £120,000 in 2026 to 2027).**

**Do you support this change to save money?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**



**18. Thinking further ahead beyond 2025-26, were legislation to be agreed that allowed for a visitor levy (tourist tax) to be collected for overnight stays in York, is this something you would support as a way of contributing to the funding of council services?**

<b>Strongly support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Neither support or oppose</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Why do you say that?**

## Section F: Additional Suggestions

If you did not support our suggestions, please tell us which services you think could be reduced to save money. Please give your reasons for these choices.



As a reminder, the budget is made up of the following areas of spend:

- **37% = Adult social care and public health**  
Older people, disability, mental health
- **25% = Young people and education**  
Children, young people and education including family support, safeguarding, fostering, adoption
- **4% = Culture and leisure**  
Libraries, sport and leisure, parks and open spaces
- **10% = Environmental, waste and regulatory services**  
Environmental health, waste services including collection and regulatory services including public health and safety

- **3% = Housing and homelessness**

Support and services to ensure all residents have access to safe and affordable housing

- **6% = Transport, highways and planning**

Overseeing transportation, highways and planning to ensure the city remains accessible and well organised

- **14% = Supporting capital investment**

Promoting long-term economic growth and community development incl public facilities, economic growth and sustainable development as well as repayment of borrowing

- **1% = Council support and public engagement**

A range of services to support and engage York residents and ensure that residents needs and views are at the heart of decision making

**18. Which services could be reduced to save money, and why?**

**Section G:**  
**Feedback on Communication**

**19. Has the council explained the budget challenges and proposed solutions?**

<b>Strongly agree</b>		<b>Oppose</b>	
<b>Agree</b>		<b>Strongly oppose</b>	
<b>Neither agree or oppose</b>			

**How could this process be improved?**

**20. How do you like to get updates from city of York council?**

(Select all that apply)

<b>Council website</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Council newsletters</b>	
<b>Resident updates</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Resident Update</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Business Updates</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Family</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Climate</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health Update</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Waste Update</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Ousewem Updates (flooding resilience)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Social Media</b>	
<b>Facebook</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Instagram</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>X (formerly Twitter)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>LinkedIn</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Nextdoor</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Public meetings and consultations</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Collaboration with local media (e.g., radio, newspapers)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other (please specify)</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>

## About You

On this page we ask some questions about you. Any information you share may help us identify themes in specific groups to aid any future support and will not be used to identify you.

### Would you like to complete the 'About You' section?

If you do not wish to complete this section, please return the completed form to us using any of the methods shown on page 4.

<b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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### 21. Your age:

<b>Under 16</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>16 to 24</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>25 to 39</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>50 to 55</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>56 to 59</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>60 to 64</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>65+</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Prefer not to say</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>

### 22. Your gender:

<b>Male</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Female</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Non-binary / Minority gender identity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Prefer not to say</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 23. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?

<b>Bisexual</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Gay or Lesbian</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Heterosexual / straight</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Prefer not to say</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b>	<input type="text"/>		

### 24. Please select the appropriate box to describe your religion or belief:

<b>Prefer not to say</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Muslim</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Buddhist</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sikh Caribbean</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sikh</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Hindu</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Jewish</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Christian</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Atheist</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>No religion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other</b>	<input type="text"/>		

**25. What is your ethnic group?**

Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian - Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>
White – English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian - Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>
White – Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian – Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>
White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian – Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>
White – Roma	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Asian background	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other White background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed – White and Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black – Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed – White and Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Black / Black British / African / Caribbean background	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed – White and Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Arab	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other ethnic background	<input type="checkbox"/>

**26. Do you consider yourself disabled? (You are disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long term' negative effect on your ability to do normal activities.)**

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**27. Do you have any experience of being in care?**

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**28. Do you look after, or give any help or support to, anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to old age? (Excluding anything which is part of paid employment)**

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Please return the completed form to us using any of the methods shown above