

Edinburgh's budget challenge

Have your say on how the Council invests and saves money



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Now's your opportunity to have your say on how the Council decides where to invest and where to save money. Let us know your views by **19 December 2014**.

The Council is facing a budget challenge which affects how much money we have to invest in our services in the coming years. The amount of money we get from the Government and through Council Tax has remained about the same, yet it's costing us more money to run services and there are more people in the city needing our help.

Between 2015 and 2018, the Council's annual budget will remain around £950 million. However the cost of providing services is expected to be £1.01 billion. We need to save £67 million from our budget over the next three years and still make sure we can provide the services that are important to the people of Edinburgh. You can read more information about the Council's budget in our Key Facts and Figures booklet which you can find on our website.

This leaflet explains how you can have your say on what we should be investing in and where we should be saving.

Your feedback will help the Council to make its final budget decisions on 12 February 2015.

To find out more about the budget and the 2015/16 proposals visit www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget

Where our money comes from

£373 million – Scottish Government

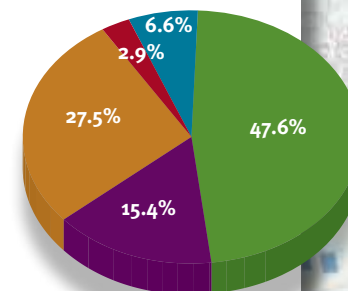
£366 million – Business rates

£206 million – Council Tax (net)

Where we spend the money now

- Creating an attractive city to live and work in
- Creating a strong economy for the city
- Creating better services for customers
- Creating opportunities for all to achieve their potential
- Creating a good quality of life for everyone

* These figures are approximate as some of our costs cover more than one area.



So what is Edinburgh's budget challenge?

2015/16 proposals

In 2015/16 we need to save at least £22 million and also deliver the right levels of service for the people of Edinburgh. To do this, the Council has made a number of proposals about changes we need to make. You can read and comment on these on the Council's website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget

2015 – 2018

We also need to plan ahead and think about the services where we can invest and save in 2015 to 2018. On the following pages you can see the Council's priorities and the services where we have to make budget decisions. Read these and then have your say using the form at the end, or you can balance the budget in our online planner at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget



A strong economy for the city

Our priorities:

- maximising Edinburgh's economic potential by investing in the city's development and regeneration, supporting inward investment and businesses, and helping people into work or learning
- increasing income from our venues and other services
- investing in Edinburgh's cultural and sporting future.

Services to invest or save in:

- economic development supports sustainable economic growth in the city by investing in jobs
- culture provides museums, galleries and other venues including Usher Hall and supports the city's major festivals which create jobs and attract visitors to the city
- major events programme provides an annual plan of events for residents and visitors and ensures public safety.



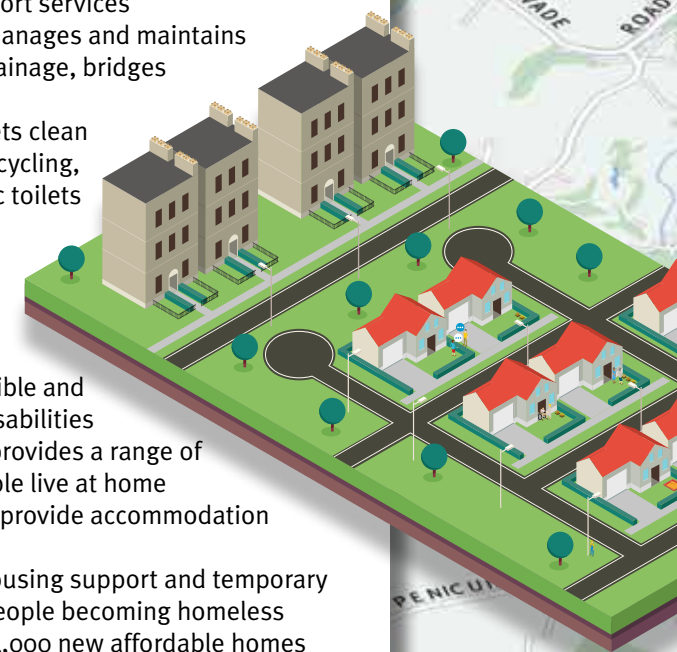
An attractive city to live and work in

Our priorities:

- making sure Edinburgh is clean, green and safe
- investing in new housing to ensure people are well-housed
- keeping the city moving efficiently by investing in roads and pavements.

Services to invest or save in:

- property and facilities management maintains all Council buildings
- parks and greenspaces looks after our natural heritage across the city
- planning and building standards provides advice, manages the planning process and issues building warrants
- public transport and accessibility subsidises and improves access to a range of transport services
- roads and street lighting manages and maintains roads, pavements, road drainage, bridges and other structures
- street cleaning keeps streets clean
- waste services provides recycling, waste collection and public toilets
- parking manages the parking within the city centre and reduces traffic congestion
- adaptations make private rented homes more accessible and suitable for people with disabilities
- older people's home care provides a range of services to help older people live at home
- older people's care homes provide accommodation and care for older people
- housing options advice, housing support and temporary accommodation prevent people becoming homeless
- investment helps to build 1,000 new affordable homes each year.



Better services for customers

Our priorities:

- improving the service we provide to customers.

Services to invest or save in:

- customer services and communications provide a range of services including benefits administration, income collection and payments and payroll administration
- finance provides business support across the Council, treasury management, insurance and procurement services
- people and organisation provides human resources, health and safety development and supports councillors
- information and communications technology delivers ICT services across the Council including the website and data security
- legal, risk and compliance provides legal advice, risk management, emergency planning, performance management and audit services across the Council.



A good quality of life for everyone

Our priorities:

- making sure people are well cared for
- giving people informed choices about the care and support they need and who provides it
- developing personalised, joined up and preventative services
- continuing to invest in prevention and redesigning services to reduce costs, not quality
- strengthening support for vulnerable children and their families
- focusing on earlier intervention and prevention to strengthen support to children and families.

Services to invest or save in:

- assessment and care management services assess the needs of people in their own homes, hospitals and care homes and the needs and safety of their carers
- community safety and CCTV provides 24/7 public safety CCTV and manages anti-social behaviour
- mental health services support people with mental health problems and promote wellbeing
- services for people with disabilities support people with a learning or physical disability including personal care in the home and short break and respite care
- sport and physical activity develop and run a plan and lead on the investment in our sports facilities
- substance misuse services offer help finding housing, short term support at home, counselling, benefits advice, access to education and employment for people living with HIV, AIDS or hepatitis C, as well as people with drug or alcohol problems.

Opportunities for all to achieve their potential

Our priorities:

- protecting spending on schools and delivering a first class education service.

Services to invest or save in:

- early years which provide a good start to life and learning for all children from birth to five
- primary schools which educate children aged up to 11 years old
- secondary schools which prepare 11-18 year olds for exams and for leaving school for further education, employment and training
- special schools which meet the needs of children with disabilities and significant additional support needs
- vulnerable children, children's social work, additional support for learning, foster care and youth offending services which provide support for children who need extra help
- library services including mobile libraries, and a 24 hour digital service, including ebook loans
- community services for adults and young people which provide adult learning, youth work, family learning, parenting support, and community centres.



Have your say

We value your views on how we spend and save money. There are a number of ways you can do this by **19 December 2014**.

Visit **www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget**

- view our film
- complete the online budget planner to have your say on what services you would spend or save money on in 2015 to 2018
- read the 2015/16 proposals and give us your views.

You can also give your views by:

- completing and returning the form attached to this leaflet
- emailing: **councilbudget@edinburgh.gov.uk**
- phoning: **0131 200 2305** (8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, 8.30am to 3.40pm Friday)
- writing to us at: Freepost, RSJC-SLXC-YTJY, Budget, Council Leader, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ
- speaking to your local councillor.

Your feedback will help the Council to make its final decision on 12 February 2015.



#edinbudget



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HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

You can get this document in Braille, large print and various computer formats if you ask us. Please contact Interpretation and Translation Services (ITS) on 0131 242 8181 and quote reference number 14-0935. ITS can also give information on community language translations.



Have your say on Edinburgh's budget challenge

1. Please tell us what you think about the Council's priorities and where you think the Council should invest or save in the services we provide.

2. How did you hear about Edinburgh's budget challenge?

Council website/Orb	<input type="checkbox"/>	Library	<input type="checkbox"/>
My local councillor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Council meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Facebook/Twitter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business community meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newspaper/radio	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent council/school	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>

About you

The following demographic questions are for statistical purposes and to ensure a broad range of people have been able to take part in this engagement. If you do not wish to answer one of the following questions, please leave that question blank.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or group, please give the name of the organisation/group in the box over the page. If you are responding only with your own views, please leave this box blank.

1. What is your gender?

<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Transgender
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2. What is your age?

<input type="checkbox"/> Under 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-44
<input type="checkbox"/> 45-54	<input type="checkbox"/> 55-64	<input type="checkbox"/> 65-74	<input type="checkbox"/> 75 and over

3. What is your home post code?

4. Which of the following ethnic groups do you consider you belong to?

White

<input type="checkbox"/> English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
<input type="checkbox"/> Irish
<input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveller
<input type="checkbox"/> Other White Background

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

<input type="checkbox"/> African
<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Black/African/Caribbean Background

Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups

<input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African
<input type="checkbox"/> White and Asian
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background

Other Ethnic Group

<input type="checkbox"/> Arab
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnic Group

Asian/Asian British

<input type="checkbox"/> Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani
<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian Background	

5. Do you have a long-term illness, disability or health problem that limits your daily activities?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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6. Are you the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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7. If you would like us to contact you with the results of the budget challenge, please enter your email address or other contact details below:

Please send the form to us by **19 December 2014** to: Freepost, RSJC-SLXC-YTJY, Budget, Council Leader, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ