



# Babergh District Council

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2003

Questionnaires circulated	
Number of Responses received	78
Response Rate:	

Questionnaires were handed out “on the street” during the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003. Surveys were carried out in the parishes of Sudbury, Lavenham, Holbrook and Hadleigh.

The findings of the consultation are:-

### General overview analysis.

1. Is Babergh contributing to making the area a better place to live and work for everyone?

Absolute Respondents	
Base	77
Is Babergh contributing to making the area...	
Yes	53
No	9
Don't know	15

2. Does Babergh provide its services efficiently and effectively?

Absolute Respondents	
Base	76
Does Babergh provide its services efficien...	
Yes	61
No	10
Don't know	5

*If no, which services are not provided efficiently and effectively*

- Road sweeping
- Street cleaning, emptying of dust bins
- Street sweeping/grass cut. Tip people are helpful
- Roads - water drainage - Whatfield Road
- Refuse collections/Re-cycling

**Council services are paid for by Government grant, charges and Council Tax. The level of Government grant is fixed by the Government.**

- 3. Do you think that services used only by some residents, such as leisure and car parking, should be paid for by charges on those users, by Council Tax on all residents, or a combination of both?**

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>	
<b>Base</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Council services are paid for by Governmen...</b>	
<b>Charges on those users?</b>	25
<b>Council Tax on all residents?</b>	33
<b>Combination of both?</b>	19

- 4. Your Council Tax bill covers the services provided by Suffolk County Council, Babergh District Council, Suffolk Police Authority and your Parish/Town Council. What percentage do you consider Babergh services account for?**

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>	
<b>Base</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Your Council Tax bill covers the services ...</b>	
<b>10% of that bill?</b>	28
<b>20% of that bill?</b>	18
<b>30% of that bill?</b>	12
<b>More than 30% of that bill?</b>	12

- 5. Bearing in mind that just to maintain services at their current level could result in Babergh's Council Tax increase being more than the rate of inflation would you want the Council to:-**

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>	
<b>Base</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Bearing in mind that just to maintain serv...</b>	
<b>Reduce services to keep the increase to the rate of inflation?</b>	14
<b>Maintain services at their current level?</b>	49
<b>Make some improvements to services?</b>	13

6. I will now go through a list of some of the areas on which Babergh spend money. Please tell me whether you think that the Council should spend more, the same or less in these areas:-

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>74</b>
<b>Village facilities, including shops</b>		
<b>More</b>		22
<b>Same</b>		46
<b>Less</b>		6

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>74</b>
<b>Facilities and opportunities for young people</b>		
<b>More</b>		44
<b>Same</b>		25
<b>Less</b>		5

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>72</b>
<b>Facilities and opportunities for older people</b>		
<b>More</b>		30
<b>Same</b>		39
<b>Less</b>		3

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>70</b>
<b>Community safety</b>		
<b>More</b>		23
<b>Same</b>		45
<b>Less</b>		2

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>68</b>
<b>Employment opportunities</b>		
<b>More</b>		26
<b>Same</b>		38
<b>Less</b>		4

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>73</b>
<b>Leisure facilities</b>		
<b>More</b>		32
<b>Same</b>		37
<b>Less</b>		4

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>72</b>
<b>Refuse collection and recycling</b>		
<b>More</b>		14
<b>Same</b>		53
<b>Less</b>		5

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>72</b>
<b>Affordable housing</b>		
<b>More</b>		56
<b>Same</b>		12
<b>Less</b>		4

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>72</b>
<b>Local environment and conservation</b>		
<b>More</b>		17
<b>Same</b>		50
<b>Less</b>		5

<b>Absolute Respondents</b>		
<b>Base</b>		<b>67</b>
<b>Town centres</b>		
<b>More</b>		14
<b>Same</b>		44
<b>Less</b>		9

7. Are there any areas that you would like to suggest that more, the same, or less should be spent?

**MORE to be spent on:**

- Better forward planning on schemes
- Schools
- Play areas for young children
- Land on the site of the Brett
- More consideration from Traffic Wardens
- More for pre-school children
- Council workers
- More mixed community
- Brown bins free for OAPs
- Affordable housing
- Swimming pool at High School
- Traffic control/cameras
- Hospitals
- Police & Crime Prevention
- Safety for elderly
- Feeder buses to towns from rural areas
- Post Offices
- Litter (river area)
- Street cleaning
- Better signage for Lavenham
- Grass verges and visibility
- Environmental issues
- Pest control
- Facilities for families

**The SAME to be spent on:**

- CCTV – same
- Crime
- Officers wages

**LESS to be spent on:**

- Council employees
- Council officials
- Members Allowance
- Red Tape & Government Dictates – cut down
- Minorities
- Administration
- Paperwork

8. Are there any other comments that you would like to make about Babergh and its services?

- 16 respondents are **IN FAVOUR** of a local lottery
- 3 respondents are **AGAINST** a local lottery
- 6 respondents are **IN FAVOUR** of Tesco
- 1 respondent is **AGAINST** Tesco
- Affordable housing - i.e. Prefabs?
- Object to extra charges for Garden Refuse
- Parking Hadleigh – don't use car parks.
- Volume and speed of traffic.
- Pavements outside the Co-op - very dangerous needs some rails at bottom of steps
- Better signing for Lavenham i.e. The Guildhall - TIC - Black with gold lose out because of this.
- Adequate policy - arson attacks
- Facilities for young people are available but nobody around to oversee them.
- Buses breaking up village roads and not used much
- Bins making villages unsightly and not good for tourism
- Blue bin queries - what happens in school holidays when homes have more refuse?
- Young to be able to work and stay in the community
- More facilities for young people

- Lack of care homes and carers
- Education - too much Government interference.
- Hospitals - too many people pushing pens
- Lack of care homes and carers
- Try to improve what we have
- Dial a ride?
- Prices at Kingfisher high - over 50's swim reduced at school holidays
- Quite satisfied but concerned over twin bin collection
- Great Cornard speed cameras - Sycamore Rd - speeding traffic calming measures in Sycamore Road. Lindsey Court - unmarried mothers - families living there
- Should be more done for local housing needs - affordable housing. The policy on extending small houses is against the needs of FT buyers
- Why are the Council spending money on a speed gun - which is useless and a waste of money
- Greater efficiency
- Babergh is not effective. Services should be organised locally
- Don't know what services Babergh is responsible for
- OAP's homes too close to road - rail needed - objection ignored
- Problem with composting in county
- Always helpful and understanding
- More to educate people not to leave litter. Good experience of blue bins
- Very good - no complaints
- What services do Babergh provide? Glossy publications go in bin.
- Like Blue Bins.
- Tip should allow in vans
- Road access at end of Clench Road - Mirror.
- Do pretty well - quite happy with Babergh
- Pretty good. Need for traffic calming in Holbrook village, pavements too narrow
- Not happy with all development in Hadleigh.
- No footpaths
- Car parking in High Street
- Refuse collection OK
- Toilet in North Street car park
- Traffic calming
- Better communications and relocation of services
- More power to Babergh DC to handle local issues
- Fly tipping
- Generally satisfied with good services
- Generally happy
- Try to improve what we have

**28<sup>th</sup> July 2003**