

To partners and stakeholders

We are seeking the opinion of partners and stakeholders on Lancashire County Council's proposed budget for 2022/23.

We are consulting on Cabinet's budget proposals for the coming financial year which are contained within "Money Matters" Cabinet reports and can be viewed [here](#), (**Note:** These are attached to the Agenda) once the Cabinet agenda is published on Wednesday afternoon.

The budget being proposed for 2022/23 does not contain any specific savings proposals requiring policy decisions for Cabinet and Full Council to consider as part of the budget setting process, reflecting the necessary organisational focus on responding to the pandemic. The budget reflects the provisional financial settlement which was announced on 16th December 2021. This provided confirmation of funding announcements made as part of the Spending Review including the proposal to apply a 3.99% council tax increase with 2% of this to be used to support the increasing costs of adult social care however some of the funding allocations are subject to consultation and could change as part of the final financial settlement and the figures are not expected to be confirmed early February 2022. Subject to final confirmation of funding levels, a funding gap is anticipated for 2022/23 which would need to be funded from reserves in advance of work being undertaken over the spring and summer to identify budget proposals for 2023/24 aimed at achieving a balanced budget in future years.

We would like to hear your thoughts on this proposal.

Your feedback will be considered and reported to our Budget Full Council Cabinet meeting on 17 February 2022. We would be grateful if you could provide any comments that you would like us to consider no later than Friday 11 February 2022 at 5pm.

Please send responses to [moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk)