

Budget 2015 – Specific Comments about Savings Proposals

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£1 million for high streets and local centres

- Encourage businesses to reduce empty shops. No point in having lovely paved streets when no shops to get to
- Money well spent
- Yes needed but probably not enough.
- Support this but must be allocated fairly for bids that can demonstrate economic growth.
- I approve of the recycling
- It is crucial to spend money on borough towns. I disagree with the 'drive'to get people up to Southwater. Our local high streets are going down hill.
- Laudable aim, but don't kill it with out of town supermarkets.
- Support but we should encourage the provision of basic goods/food availability. We need bus services to link communities to high street. We need to address local issues
- Needs to be done
- There should be ongoing investment into local centres. This is where we all live.
- Dawley, madeley and other towns will benefit with Government spending on the high street. Wellington is a great place to shop but lacks variety.
- This is very important but private funding is required as well as public funding
- About time
- Yes
- Yes as in Wellington, 13 charity shops
- Should be much more
- These are the nearest centres to where we live and are vital to the life of the town (I never use the town centre)
- Agree local centres are in a poor state
- agree
- obviously not enough
- Well done
- I agree but to make people buy more stuff it needs to be cheaper than Primark.
- Yes and no. I think that the streets are OK but local centres need improvement.
- Small centres yes like Wellington, Leegomery etc.
- yes a good idea, especially since it should revitalise surrounding areas
- Yes good for economy some places need it
- Good, some areas probably need more focus than others however
- Yes and no..I think that they could do with some money for improvements but not that much
- I think its a little too much. I think around £500.0000 is Okay
- Yes because the streets need to be clean and the local centrrs are not very suitable
- Because it will help places like Wellington high street and local buisnesses and attract more people to these places other than Southwater
- £1million isn't enough, i would like to see more plants and natural environmental things going on in the High Streets.

- Agree people need to be attracted to come to local centres rather than further away
- Money well spent it involves heart of local community.
- Yes
- yes
- Yes For the parks
- *** 1 million boost to high streets isnt going to make a blind bit of difference when you keep letting the large supermarkets build everywhere. i mean, just how many tesco/aldi/lidl/asdas etc do we actually need!!!!???
- *** No point at all, the bigger supermarkets have saturated the smaller shops. You need to invest in new businesses or help people start up. It doesn't matter what we think though does it? I saw the majority of people comment saying they didn't want even more shops to replace DO IT ALL but your'e doing it anyway. When will you wake up and realize that Telford is a boring place? We have 2 cinemas , bowling alley, ice rink and a Park. Every big name artist that apparently will gig at the International centre cancels. What about the old ASDA, more shops?
- *** Perhaps you could put that 1 million to better use.....social care for vulnerable adults...the council have cut so much from these areas...then you put that you want to 'boost' the high streets....re look at the priorities!!!!!! Seems the council don't have a clue what they're doing!!!!!! The above was published only 7 days ago and perhaps they should ask the vulnerable adults if their 'not being affected'
- *** Council get so much money year if it isn't spent by a certain time they have 2 blow it on crap !!
- *** Help small businesses keep going by keeping the business rates low for them!
- *** We dont need no more big shops restaurants etc put the money to good use like homeless old people youth kids and start making activity centers to keep the people of the streets we dont need big flashy thungs in telford thats not who we all are save it for the bigger cities leave telford to be rural town
- *** Stuff building more shops, what about investing money in building some outdoor places for kids, tourists, the elderly etc. And what's with all the flippin house building in Telford? Its as though you can't bare to see abit of green land free, better pu...
- *** Wow.... You cut funds to mental health services, the community mental health teams and wheelchair services, and now you can afford new shops!!!!!! What the point ... Really!! We have enough bloody shops. Oh and yeah the cuts have affected a lot of service users actually, a lot of us now don't have help from cmht or anyone!!! But thanks Telford & Wrekin
- *** Money should be spent in better areas such as adult care and mental Health
- *** guys in the long run this model could bring tw council more money into the services
- "*** *** Hadley centre, the ward in which I live and grew up transformed for the better and forever, THANK YOU!
- *** stop calling them 'district centres' give them back 'towns' & 'villages'. Be aspirational, not 1970's.
- *** I live in a Town (Wellington), not a district centre. Please respect that. Thanks.
- *** £1m is welcome, of course. But pales in comparison to the public spend at you-know-where."
- *** I live in a town too... Telford!
- *** well, its just a postal district to me. Catch-all term for the area :)

£250,000 (over 3 years) to attract more visitors to the borough

- You may be aware that the rebid for the HMRC IT contract takes effect in 2017, which may result in a significant reduction in the number of staff employed by both HMRC & the IT suppliers in Telford. Although

not all employees live locally, the majority do - & those who don't contribute to the economy by regularly using the local shops. I believe that even with the best efforts of the Council the burden of potential job losses for borough residents (plus the knock on effect of reduced local spending) could make the 'Destination Telford' initiative a millstone for the Council if you have planned & budgeted for growth without being aware of this possibly significant reduction in employment.

- Money well spent
- Is this necessary?
- Agree you have to speculate to accumulate. Just cutting is short sighted
- We should encourage more tug boats on the canal, but there would need to be more in Newport in order for people to spend a day.
- Yes so long as it is across the whole borough, not just focussed on Telford. I do not support T Live concerts.
- car parking and toilets need to be made available for visitors
- Good idea
- We need more people to come to the Borough and spend in our centre
- The Ironbridge Gorge already attracts many visitors, what may be required is to encourage those visitors to extend their stay and visit other parts of the Borough.
- If it is to all the Borough not just to telford Town Centre
- Should be greater investment. The money that we could generate from our World Class facilities is enormous but we must invest more.
- OK but need more individual shops in Town Centre, are the rents too high?
- need to speculate to get business and people to visit
- What are the attractions?
- Yes providing this supports employment in the borough in the leisure/tourism sectors
- Important
- agree
- good
- Good thinking
- I agree because of the Ironbridge
- Yes to help visitors to enjoy the Borough
- T Live Fund? Enough money has been spent getting people into Southwater.
- Yes for the same reason as before
- Yes prevents telford from becoming a back water
- Yes again its important for the economy
- Good idea tourism is important. How would this happen though?
- Yes with more visitors we would make much more money
- I think that its OK because the more visitors are attracted the more money we get since they will sleep in out hotels. Buy food and other things which will cost money.
- Tourism can really help local businesses
- This is great any investment to attract more visitors is always good.
- Good idea
- Depends on how/where it is spent
- yes

- yes
- yes

Almost £4 million to roll out superfast broadband across the borough

- Why is this the responsibility of Government. It appears to be a business subsidy which is unnecessary
- Ensure this includes rural areas
- Definitely needed
- Well overdue. Urban T&W very fast. Rural area with most home based ventures needing broad band stuck with rubbish speeds
- This is essential. Many businesses are ???, located in homes or small offices in the towns and villages and having superfast broadband would help businesses to grow and support new start ups.
- Cool
- Not a priority
- No comment
- What do you have to do, when I had top pay to have mine installed
- Would be good to have faster broadband as more and more people are able to get on the internet
- Are you helping with the cost to buy computers?
- Can something be done to addresss mobile phone coverage?
- Yes, it is required
- Seems such a large figure in comparison to money spent on local high streets
- Only in this supports employment and buisnesses in the borough
- very important I live in an area without super fast broadband and work from home
- agree
- good
- Well done
- Yes, yes, yes
- Yes the internet system is not strong enough and is one thing the Government must look at vety well.
- Agree. Infrastructure good for buisness
- No not a bad thing persay just think there could be bettr uses for the money
- Yes keeps telford modernised good for buisness and personal usage
- Yes definately needed for communication and is very important overall
- Would help businesses as well as people
- no make people talk and be social this is not the Council's problem
- I think the amount of money is too much for just broadband. We should use the money for better things like building more free hospitals and helping the poor.
- Great for the community, broad band always good investment
- Too much money. Why don't network providers pay for this?
- Not being an internet user I have no strong opinions either way
- yes

- yes
- yes be faster
- *** cant make tomorrow, but can we have faster broadband in Longdon On Tern and other rural communities. Villages are ignored.

A further £650,000 for youth unemployment initiatives

- I think your efforts to reduce youth unemployment & your success are impressive. However, if you are planning ahead, have you considered the contribution that the 1500+ staff employed locally by HMRC and on HMRC's IT contract make to the local economy?
- Make sure the initiatives are in the right areas. Consider transport issues.
- If unemployment figures for youth unemployment are down then its good investment
- Yes good investment.
- Support this but it has to be more than a short term fix and leave a legacy of ongoing support that is sustainable.
- The more you can do on this the better.
- This is really important. Youngsters are struggling we need more apprenticeships.
- I support this
- Definatly.
- Need to attract companies
- Its a pity that more can't be spent
- Raelly good. Great to help the younger people to get work.
- This is vital for the future. We must be concerned about the young people with limited qualifications and encourage them to get involved in training.
- What about older unemployed people and people with difficulties such as aspergeers syndrome
- Perhaps more money should be directed at schools to teach children to read and write. I invigilate at a number of schools and last week there were 51 children who needed help with reading. Disgraceful!
- Youth require jobs so that they have a work ethic
- Great
- We have to support our youth in the longer term interests of the economy locally and nationally.
- I have children and so also support this
- Agree but should be on a carrot and stick basis to ensure money not wasted
- ongoing problem so must always be invested in
- Yes to stop people on the streets
- Yes i think if youths get jobs it will improve the Country and make it in a better state.
- Yes
- Yes youth are the future
- Yes
- Yes very important for young people to have jobs
- Seems like a lot for this, considering how much youth unemployment has already fallen.
- Yes there is a lot of youth unemployment in telford so this would be good

- I think that its OK because there are a lot of jobless youths and that will not help the counrty's economy. They will always rely on social welfare for money
- People have jobs around the area and young people don't have any jobs at all.
- Always good
- Good idea for kids to get into the work place
- Money well spent, giving more young people hope and sense of self worth is always beneficial.
- yes
- yes
- yes for jobs when young people leave school

£6 million (over 3 years) to maintain and improve our roads

- Probably not enough but I understand the constraints.
- Do the right job! Too many potholes are filled in a poor way, so need doing after a few months..
- Needed
- Well needed
- Support this but needs to be done alongside traffic management and enforcement to stop large vehicles damaging roads.
- The Council seems to look after the roads fairly well. Church Aston footpaths and roads are a concern. Dropped kerbs are at a wrong angle for electric chairs and dangerous on ice.
- This seems a lot?
- You can't spend enough on this, it is essential to spend money to maintain infrastructure
- Support, must ensure that pot holes are done properly and correctly sealed. The cycle path along the A518 to telford shouldn't have been done before linking Newport to Lilleshall safely.
- Not enough is spent on roads
- Don't think that the roads are too bad, need to focus on winter gritting and pot holes. Not too much of a problem just need to be passable.
- A good idea because roads are breaking up
- More of this money should go to Borough towns
- Good very pleased
- Maintatining the infra structure is vital for the local community.
- Good idea, what about footpaths
- Improve roads surfaces but not more traffic lights which slow traffic flow.
- Be aware of pothole/raised manholes on pavements as well as roads
- Good
- Essential to maintain the road infrastructure to maintain its town attractions to developers and new businesses.
- Agree
- Agree it is a priority but better to do the job properly than patch
- not enough
- Very good in Wellington But what about Albert Road off King Street, Wellington?

- No don't agree with this
- Yes the Government gets a huge amount of money from road tax.
- Agree perhaps scrapping excessive traffic lights would reduce maintenance costs.
- Yes though more should be done to encourage use of public transport (i.e. trains) and walking/cycling to places.
- yes
- Yes infrastructure is very important to maintain main part of almost everyone's lives
- maintenance yes, unsure of how much improvement is required.
- Yes there has been a lot of wear and damage to our roads which causes accidents and damages.
- I think it's OK since better roads are really useful. Better roads prevent more accidents
- I don't think that so much money is needed for road maintenance and that money should be used in high streets and local centres.
- We always need road improvements and potholes
- Definitely potholes are getting bigger.
- Provided it is not just spent too thinly in patching up/sticking plaster way it should be beneficial. Best to make real solid long term difference in a few schemes/areas.
- yes
- yes

£1 million for a second round of Community Pride Fund in 2017/18

- £1 million for a second round of Community Pride Fund in 2017/18
- I support the Community Pride funding where the projects will provide increased social & community support in line with the need for children's & adult social care & support
- Good use of money
- Definitely NOT needed. Money spent in some cases in helping individuals
- Support this
- Anything that supports the Community and keeps people interested. Newport in bloom is good to keep people together.
- I support this
- Definite support but consider a covenant to make people feel safer that the use will be prioritised for local people
- Yes but not for religious settings
- Good
- Encourages local community involvement
- Yes
- good
- Only in support of Parish Council efforts.
- Not sure about this how well does it work
- Agree
- OK

- yes
- Waste of money. If you invest in the other things efficiently then this project would be nil anyway
- Yes can change things and is good for the economy. Good for getting everybody in a community to be an active citizen.
- Good idea and encourages people to get involved in their area as well.
- ? Not sure to be honest
- Good idea
- All monies for local schemes welcome. Do feel though that the figure should be higher important that everyone knows about it from the start.
- yes
- yes
- yes swimming pool
- "It's good to see that the Community Pride Fund is being funded to such an extent.
- However, I have three relatively simple questions, namely:
- What proportion of the monies is spent on administrative costs?
- Who actually monitors the spending of the monies?
- How are the successes, as well as failures, recorded and reported and to whom?
- Good luck with this exercise if it is truly fit for purpose AND value for money.
- The Community Pride Fund is for the benefit of so many. We should applaud this excellent initiative from @TelfordWrekin"
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£750,000 (over 2 years) to address residents' key environmental issues

- I do think the 'advert' for 6 things people can do to help is really good as it brings funding to the council while making people aware of the services & facilities available, but I think it could be more effectively publicised than hidden in the website.
- Good
- Is this just for new town areas or all of the Borough?
- Now that the CRC is gone from Newport the rubbish goes in the bin now.
- I support this
- Definate support
- yes support
- Good
- Again vital to maintain our environment and and the community
- Get on with it then
- Good
- I agree
- Good
- Yes to maintain quality of life for population at large
- Cannot comment as do not know what issues are involved
- Agree
- OK
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes and no It needs doing but we could get volunteers from the local area.

- Brilliant working with PET good at responding.
- Good idea, but would need to find out what local people think is an issue
- Excellent idea if residents are involved in identifying problems/eyesores where they live
- yes
- yes
- yes

£650,000 for St. Georges regeneration (including Gower Street youth centre)

- The £650 allocated to bring the building into a useable state, is in my view, too low. The reported asbestos content and replacement of heating plant and retiling of the roof and related insulation will quickly eat up that grant. What happens when there is an overspend? Does the scheme grind to a halt?
- I fully support any budget proposals for The Gower Former Youth Centre becoming a building for community activities and resources once again. I support this providing the local community and independent volunteers are involved with any decision making in the buildings future. This includes ownership of the building. At present there is not enough representation on the building plans from the wider community. Valuable research that would engage different partners and other organisations with proven track records of sustainability is not being considered. The community should become more knowledgeable on the different options available for regeneration and the partners and organisations that can support. The community should be engaged in making the choices of who will do what during The Gower's regeneration. The budget proposal needs to include costs to put restrictions, once more, at land registry on any future sale of The Gower. The building was given to the community for its' residents. To support this further The Asset of Community Value application for The Gower should be encouraged. I would like to raise concerns about Labours recent political campaign and the use of Gower within it. It's unfair on all the 100's of hours by volunteers that have played a part in saving the building and forming an unincorporated group with members and volunteers. Please can you confirm this has been passed onto the budget evaluation department. I look forward to receiving feedback soon.
- Not convinced about Gower Street
- Too much for one area. Spread the money around more areas.
- More should be spent on regeneration of old buildings instead of knocking them down
- It does need preserving.
- No opinion
- Support
- Should be used for under 18's. Non alcoholic drinks. Should be a coffee cafe, not organised activities. Avoid kids hanging round on corners.
- It should look better than it does now.
- Great scheme
- Yes!
- About time
- Yes
- Yes Gower Street needs looking after
- Good

- It is the responsibility of the public sector to maintain and regenerate valuable old buildings where the private sector cannot make a suitable business case for regenerating buildings.
- Ok
- Agree
- Think this will fall short of what needs to be done
- Yes
- Thanks to XXXXXX, XXXXX wanted it knocked down and Council agreed
- Yes
- Yes and no it needs doing but it is a lot of money to put into development
- Yes
- Why not
- Unfamiliar with the area so not strong opinions either way. But improving a youth centre does sound worthwhile.
- yes
- yes
- yes re build centres
- *** But how are you going to pay for the maintenance, staffing, and other bills long term that comes with a building like this? Is it going to be closed down or have limited opening or reduced staffing in the future?
- *** Lovely building, glad its being restored
- *** FANTASTIC news
- *** Just a guess as to the refurbish plan, houses flats and shops be different for once, try small business units, comunity ctr
- Don't waste money on St. Georges youth club if the benefits do not match the expenditure.
- "No housing to be built on The Gower grounds or anymore plans passed through for new housing in St Georges at all. There is very little green / open space left in the area and services need to be built. Some children and young people are currently playing in cages because they are too close to roads and houses and there are huge neighbour disputes and danger risks with parking issues.
- The StGeorges infrastructure, school, roads, no local medical service, lack of open space, youth services, cannot cope with anymore housing for families. It is a social disaster.
- Accommodation space in the former caretakers residence could be used for housing single people, especially young men who are vulnerable to becoming homeless.
- St Georges businesses who supported all 3 petitions, Steve Handley's 2010, Ryan Wood's Change.org Aug 2013 and Independent volunteers door to door Dec 2013, should be given the option to run their business in The Gower building. All local commercial businesses should be involved with all stages of the regeneration plan.
- Commercial property from existing local businesses moving into The Gower space could be utilised for single person residential.
- This would be a positive step towards creating a central hub for the community with car parking whilst meeting some housing shortfalls for single people.
- Research work carried out by volunteers during The Gower's closure and subsequent withdrawal of demolition plans should be recognised. This is now part of The Gower's long history.
- Also, voluntary research work carried out for regeneration during this period should be considered as an option. This includes links made with Locality, English Heritage, Princes Regeneration Trust, local and national heritage and regeneration consultants.

- Volunteers with knowledge, expertise and skills on all different levels should be encouraged and supported. Volunteers with aspirations to develop skills and learn should feel valued in this process.
- Any employed or voluntary work related to regenerating The Gower, including coordination, project management, funding, construction, delivery partnerships etc should become open to tender with information on this shared to the community. This should start now and be a remit for any other agencies involved, now, and, in the future. This would support local employment and allow the community to become more knowledgeable on the choices that are available.
- Independent volunteers and residents should be encouraged to attend development meetings.
- Hope this can be included in T&W's plans and policies for Community Engagement in The Gower Regeneration.
- I notice that you are about to do a regeneration of St Georges including the Gower St area. As someone who has lived in this road for 30 years can I say that it definitely does not need more take away's or off licences. Also there are way too many new housing estates going up, and one of my biggest concerns is the number of busses using Gower Street. They often are doubled up and with few passengers. Please get this area back to what it was 30 years ago!
- Don't waste money on St. Georges youth club if the benefits do not match the expenditure.

£200,000 (over 4 years) for free swimming for over 50's

- Telford Support could give users for one free session of ice skating or swimming? Telford Wrekin Take up of the issued vouchers would be small. Not much actual cost but lots of potential reward
- I am pleased to read about the free swimming for over 50's as I am a tight budget this would be great help to me. An entrance fee of £1 would be just as good if the free admission was refused.
- However, as you are asking people to contribute to the local economy by using Council facilities, it seems like a stupid idea to give free swimming to over 50s. Most 50-somethings are still working (we can't afford to retire now the pension age keeps moving!) & are able to afford to pay. Much as it pains me to agree with a Conservative member of the council, I believe XXXX alternative suggestion of 5 free lessons for non-swimmers is much more constructive, as if people learn to swim they may continue to use the facilities even once they have to pay. (Personally I would love to use the leisure facilities more, but the one & only evening yoga class on any of the sites is always fully booked / oversubscribed! I'm sure that with a good instructor like the one at Stirchley & a reasonable time slot you could easily fill another class to bring in more income.)
- Do not see the need. It is this age group that is generally most affluent. Suggest limiting to over 60's.
- Not required.
- Not needed
- I understand the rationale given health/ageing population and it isn't a lot of money, but lots of over 50's can afford to pay but many families with children can't.
- Don't agree. Money could be spent on frontline services. People can afford to pay. Charge half if wealthy. Protecting vulnerable people takes precedence.
- I swim, twice a week any way and I'm over 50
- Sounds good to me if at any time as it will encourage use.
- In favour, will improve enjoyment of life.

- Should only be for over 65's. Supporting walking groups would provide psychological benefits from walking in a group
- Not free, perhaps everyone should pay at least £1.00
- A good idea
- This would be great
- Yes! Vital to help to improve health and wellbeing
- Great idea, I'll go myself
- Yes
- Good idea
- Age should be increased in line with pensionable age
- Yes providing the Council's public health responsibilities justify this
- Agree fitness, tackling obesity, health prevention very important
- Agree
- Good but up the temperature of the water
- Very good get more people exercising
- Yes
- No I don't think that this is important or necessary enough
- Yes
- yes
- Yes
- Good idea to decrease the age so people get fitter
- Yes they need something to do and if retired may struggle to pay for it
- I think its a bad idea because swimming has to be paid for and should only be free for medicinal purposes.
- yes and no, can over 50's afford to pay themselves? Could this money be used to encourage people to swim who can't afford it?
- Good idea for people to keep fit
- Feel money could be spent in other ways that benefit a higher percentage of the population.
- no
- no
- yes
- *** My only problem with this is that the free swimming for over 50's feels like you are effectively ignoring the younger age groups who, also have just as much need to exercise regularly. its a good idea other then that.
- **** @TelfordWrekin it's all very well saying that it's free but swimming provision has been decimated since Madeley Crt closed
- *** Ab Dab has a cracking pool. Living in Dawley I wish I had one so close :)
- *** @TelfordWrekin its capacity thats the problem (half that of Madeley Court) I pointed this out during the AbDab consultation"
- **** How about swimming for <16? I would attend but in my experience T&WC staff treat Telford residents views as an inconvenience
- *** Hi. Under 16s in the Borough can already get free swimming at Council pools.
- *** the timetable at Abraham Darby (the only pool in South Telford) doesn't exactly encourage <16 does it?
- *** please drop me a line *** I'll look into your concerns

- *** @TelfordWrekin I already did email you in 2013 after I met *** & *** at Addenbrooke hse which was a farce"
- "*** I think it's great idea, but how much will this cost the council? Maybe reducing th cost to £1 per session? Some sessions at Newport are already full of OAPs, a lot of whom stand chatting, and block the pool, putting myself and others off using the pool during certain times.
- *** I think the idea is that so it will help improve their health and ultimately reduce health/social care costs
- *** Absolutely, and as I said first of all, I think it's a great idea. But surely those who are keen to improve their health will pay a small contribution for the facilities? Do they genuinely not currently care about their health but will do if they get something free? And what about those of us who want to use the pool, but can't physically swim in it due to the overcrowding of people who don't actually swim in it? How beneficial is it to people's health just to stand in a pool and have a natter, or may be do half a dozen lengths in an hour? What about those under 50 who want to improve their health, do we not matter? It will be interesting to see if more over 50s go swimming, or whether the council will just be giving away free swimming to those who are currently paying. The council used to offer free swimming to a certain age group. What happened to these people when they had to pay? Have the over 50s who don't currently partake in exercise been questionned about what they would be willing to pay, or would they only go if it were free? Will current Aspirations memberships, or session costs increase to combat the financial shortfall? The council should have these figures in place? As I said, its a great idea, but I think there needs to be a happy medium.
- *** , ***i f you follow the link it gives you the exact costings
- *** It only says it will cost £200k. I'd like to know how have they got to this figure? Is it just taken from the amount of over 50s who currently pay? How will this money be gained? Will staff lose their jobs? Or other prices go up?"
- *** I think the idea is that so it will help improve their health and ultimately reduce health/social care costs
- *** Great idea as I am fast approaching the big 50
- *** can you make it 45 pls?
- *** great idea
- *** how about funds for a junior @telfordparkrun get loads of kids into sport at a young age, but apparently there's no funds?
- "*** should be younger to encourage people so it sticks into later life. over 40's would be best .
- *** over 40's because that's when we need to focus on good exercise which is non impact.and introduce it early so it sticks "
- *** That sounds great! Over 50s would love that, we love swimming! :) When is it going to take place?
- "
- *** over the last 4yrs how much was spent in each area of the borough? le Donnington, Oakengates, Dawley,
- *** : We're looking to make swimming for over 50s free - What do you think ? #TFbudget" - give it to people on low incomes
- *** I completly agree with ***.
- *** Don't those on benefits already get free/heavily subsidised health centre membership?
- *** I thought that was stopped a few years ago? Also, I thought the same for the elderly.
- *** I haven't used municipal facilities for a while but last time I was there it was cheaper for them"
- *** That gives me 5 years to wait for free swims. Good idea but the cost of getting to a pool still high for some.

- *** I know it's incredibly hard to finance but free swimming for all would help strengthen families.
- *** residents in the borough who are under 16 already get free swimming, helping families
- *** That's the kids, but giving the *family an hour of free escape to bond and be healthy 'd be good
- *** If choice of giving over 50s blanket free swimming or an hour session for families < the latter
- *** it is also about improving the health of residents and over 50's main health care users
- *** imagine your family has no time out, unable to afford respite, what could they do together?"
- **** Yeah and kids go swimming and parents watch in the spectators area. Anyway, just my view.
- *** a voucher that @TelfordSupport could give users for one free session of ice skating or swimming?
- *** Take up of the issued vouchers would be small. Not much actual cost but lots of potential reward
- *** Good to hear ideas & views - put this idea forward in the #tfbudget consultation"
- *** thank you for a swift reply such an good idea will help to slow down the pace of my disabilities advancement
- *** Good exercise without to much pressure on the joints!
- **** Hmm, no excuses now
- *** Haven't been swimming for long time so see this as a real incentive, hoping to take my 81 year old dad with me
- *** fair play to @TelfordWrekin - might come in handy soon!!"
- Invest instead of giving free swimming to working aged people, personally I feel saying 'over 50's' sounds patronising! Make a nicer pool and charge more for it, then you can afford to give over 50's free swimming without using precious budget next year!
- I don't agree with the free swimming for the over 50's in the budget proposal. I think this money could be better spent else where. This is the age group where people have money to pay for things like this
- I would like to see free swimming for the over 50's, I have arthritis so swimming is a great help.
- I think the free swimming for over 50s is a great idea. We would definitely use the facilities more. Good news for all older souls!!!!
- "On the proposal to provide free access to swimming for the over 50s - I don't think this is a good way to spend money.
- Many of the over 50s have plenty of money and don't have the expenses of young families. If the idea is to encourage activity for health reasons - then it is not a good idea because most people don't like swimming - and it is bothersome, and not everyone lives near a swimming pool.
- A much better way to encourage activity in the over 50s would be to encourage walking, or voluntary work in the open air. Many local footpaths are affected by encroaching vegetation, muddy surfaces, litter etc. that could be attended to by volunteers - under the guidance of a paid volunteer co-ordinator. With the provision of tools, materials, transport and the organisation of suitable tasks, there are many retired people who would enjoy carrying out the work as volunteers - and get exercise, and get the satisfaction of doing good works - and it would encourage walking by the rest of the population. I know this sort of work goes on already, but there is plenty more that needs to be done.
- The potential free swim for over 50s is just brilliant.

£30,000 for the local food bank

- I agree with food bank & crisis loan funding - though businesses could be encouraged to support food banks more & the Fairshare credit union is already a cheap way to borrow money if people are encouraged to use it (though people do need to save a little bit before borrowing, which I appreciate is a potential problem for some). Support for organisations which provide (free) financial planning / budgeting may be more productive in the long term - as would persuading local employers to pay the Living Wage or avoid Zero Hours contracts.
- The principle is good but more needs to be done to stop abuse.
- support both of these (£240, 000 for crisis support loans)but it is actually shameful that national policy has created the demand for this.
- Will Newport food bank see any of this money?
- I support this it is important to help people who can't help themselves.
- support, Mark's Pit Stop should also be supported.
- yes support
- Good
- Great idea
- Yes
- Good idea, even better if we didn't need them
- Should be more
- Necessary I am afraid
- Seems very low compared to need
- What a sad reflection on the 4th largest economy of the world that these are even necessary
- This isn't alot of money
- There is more than one food bank in Telford
- It's a shame it has to be needed
- This is a pity but obviously needed
- yes
- Yes this helps people who are homeless to at least have daily bread
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes so very very important
- Important
- Some people need to be supplied with food so its a good idea
- I think its OK since there are many poor people
- Great
- Don't believe in food bank for people who already recieve benefits
- Small sum of money targetted towards the needy good idea.
- yes, more money should be put in to help people
- Should be more
- Yes

£240,000 for crisis support and cheap loans

- I agree with food bank & crisis loan funding - though businesses could be encouraged to support food banks more & the Fairshare credit union is already a cheap way to borrow money if people are encouraged to use it (though people do need to save a little bit before borrowing, which I appreciate is a potential problem for some). Support for organisations which provide (free) financial planning / budgeting may be more productive in the long term - as would persuading local employers to pay the Living Wage or avoid Zero Hours contracts.
- Shouldn't be needed
- Good
- support both of these (£240, 000 for crisis support loans)but it is actually shameful that national policy has created the demand for this.
- people should have access to services they can't afford
- Support
- Good idea to keep people out of great debt.
- Yes
- Very much needed
- Should be more
- Necessary I am afraid
- Good
- OK for support of credit unions
- Ok
- Agree
- Good
- A necessary fund
- Agree with crisis support, not with cheap loans to be honest
- Yes
- Yes
- No it's too much money to commit to this.
- I think that its OK since nobody knows what is about to happen to oneself so if something like a fire occurs.
- Great
- Not for people with drug problems. People need to live within their means.
- Unsure what crisis support is but as a big fan of credit unions the idea of making cheap loans available sounds a good one.
- yes
- yes
- yes fairshare credit union

What do you think of this package overall?

- While it is difficult to go into detail on individual items, with the exception on the areas identified above it is probably a reasonable programme.
- Fairly good
- A good plan despite the depth of central cuts.
- Like the fact that Telford is investing to grow and therefore protect services.
- Should bring help to people who can't help themselves
- Public health transfers resulted in cuts to walking for health. This service should have been continued. I support the decision re Council tax given the rules around referendum and freeze grant.
- We need out CRC back
- I am concerned that the Council is 'advertising' that it has an under spend, will this result in the Government giving us less money?
- Don't just invest/promote telford Town centre and Town park.
- Good
- very pleased with the whole package
- Given the difficult financial circumstances the Council seems to be doing its best
- So so. What about the Council asking for improved bus services?
- Fair
- Yes
- Not bad except for the huge amount spending on broadband
- Only OK if we generally support our infra structure, the environment the quality of life and ensure we maintain our valuable old buildings
- Good
- OK but no mention of help for seniors
- Good as always never enough but the best that's available
- OK
- Pretty good to be fair.
- It's an Ok set of investments but some should be re looked at.
- Good idea provided that the Council has money its good for the community.
- Good mix, the more spent on regeneration schemes the better in my opinion.
- I think they are good, in some cases there's too much money
- There is only one that I don't agree with
- Amazing