



Let's **talk**  
about Council  
**SPENDING**

# Let's talk about Council spending



- 8 December 2025 to 11 January 2026
- Fife residents invited to help shape options to spend or save by completing a survey or attending a facilitated event
- [Let's talk about council spending - Fife Council - Citizen Space](#)
- 2,454 completed surveys were received (93 paper, and 2,361 online)
- 34 facilitated conversations across Fife involved 386 people
- Topics covered
  - Prioritising our spending
  - How we could save money
  - Council tax

# Prioritising our spending



## What should influence spending? Options given:

Help children and young people achieve more in school

Help increase household income

Prevent crisis and improves quality of life for people in difficulty

Help anyone living with long term health issues to be as independent as possible

Improve the look and feel of places across Fife

Help improve health and wellbeing for all

Changes that have delivered benefits or improvements elsewhere

Have a positive impact, or minimises negative impact, on the environment

Delivered by the council – rather than private, partner, third sector or community run

Support long-term financial stability for services

# What should influence spending?



## Most important

- Helps children and young people achieve more in school (824)
- Helps improve health and wellbeing for all (387)
- Helps increase household income (352)

## Least important

- Improves the look and feel of places across Fife (593)
- Delivered by the council – rather than private, partner, third sector or community run (543)
- Changes that have delivered benefits or improvements elsewhere (380)

# Spending money



## What's most important to you? Options given:

Council-owned network of swimming and leisure facilities

Holiday meal schemes for children and families (on top of cash payments made to families entitled to free school meals)

Low carbon heat schemes that improve energy efficiency across Fife

Town centre footfall and attractiveness

Reducing waiting times for home care packages

Skills and training programmes to help people into work

Council-owned and run care homes

Bus service improvements

Fixing potholes and doing more / longer-term road repairs

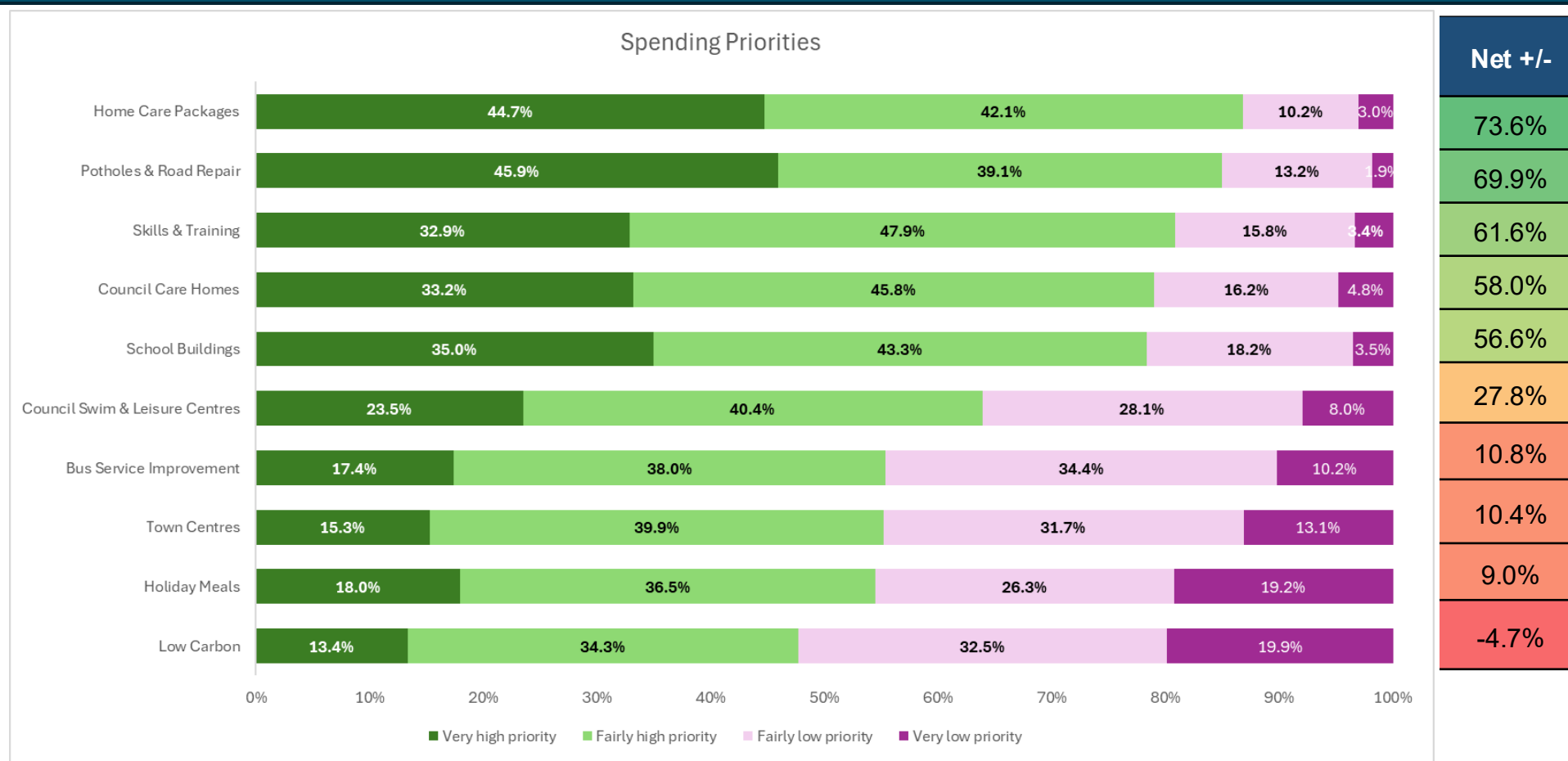
School building improvements / new schools

# Service priorities – extent of support



Strong public support for investment in:

- road repairs
- home care packages
- school building improvements
- skills & training
- council care homes



A **net score** (+/-) is worked out by combining all the positive responses - in this case, people who said they were *very supportive* or *fairly supportive* - and all the negative responses - those who said they were *not very supportive* or *not at all supportive*. Each group is turned into a percentage of all responses, and the negative percentage is subtracted from the positive percentage. The resulting figure shows the balance of opinion: a positive score means more people are supportive overall, while a negative score means more people are not supportive.

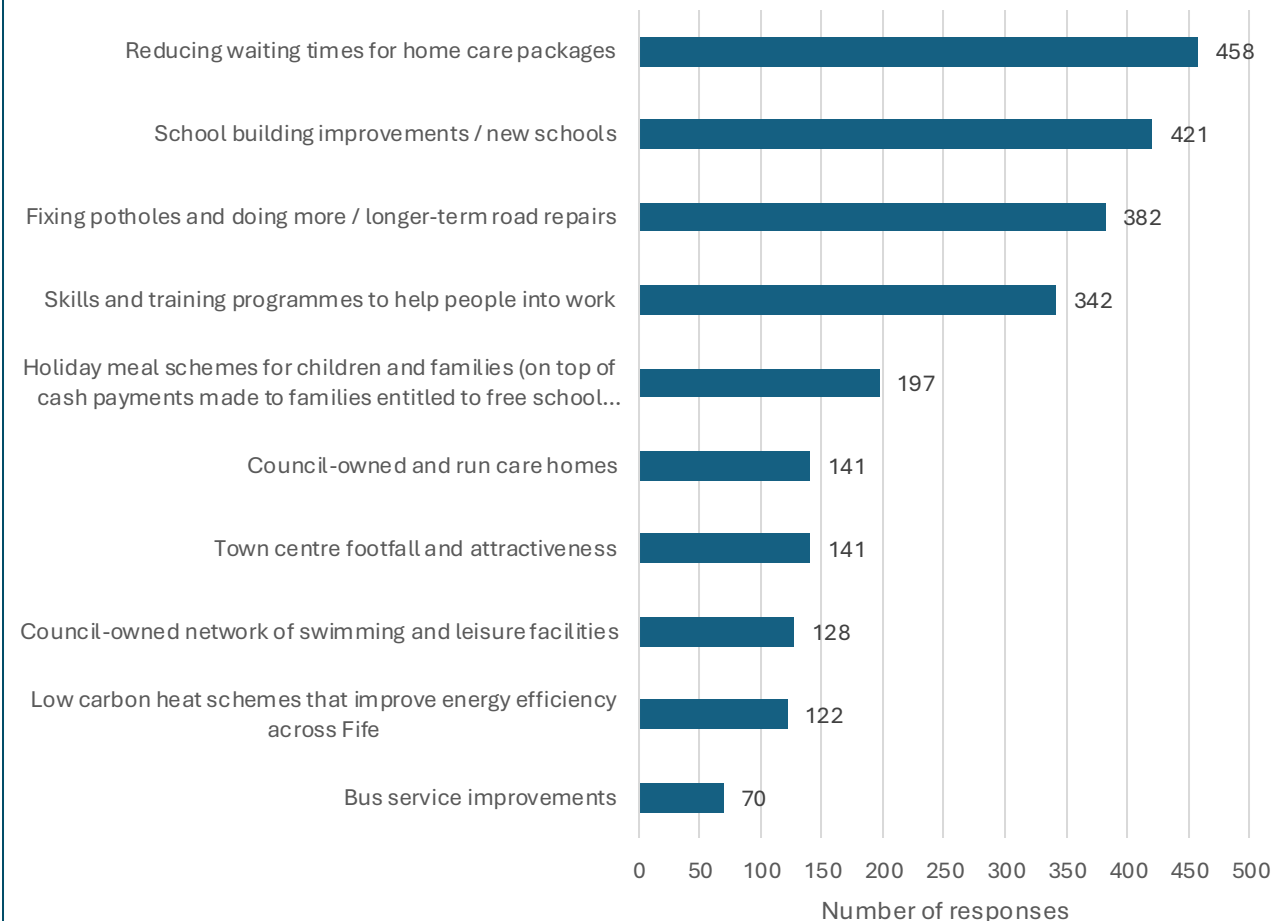
# Service priorities



## Highest priority

- Reducing waiting times for home care packages (458)
- School building improvements / new schools (421)
- Fixing potholes and doing more / longer-term road repairs (382)

Service priorities (2,402 responses)



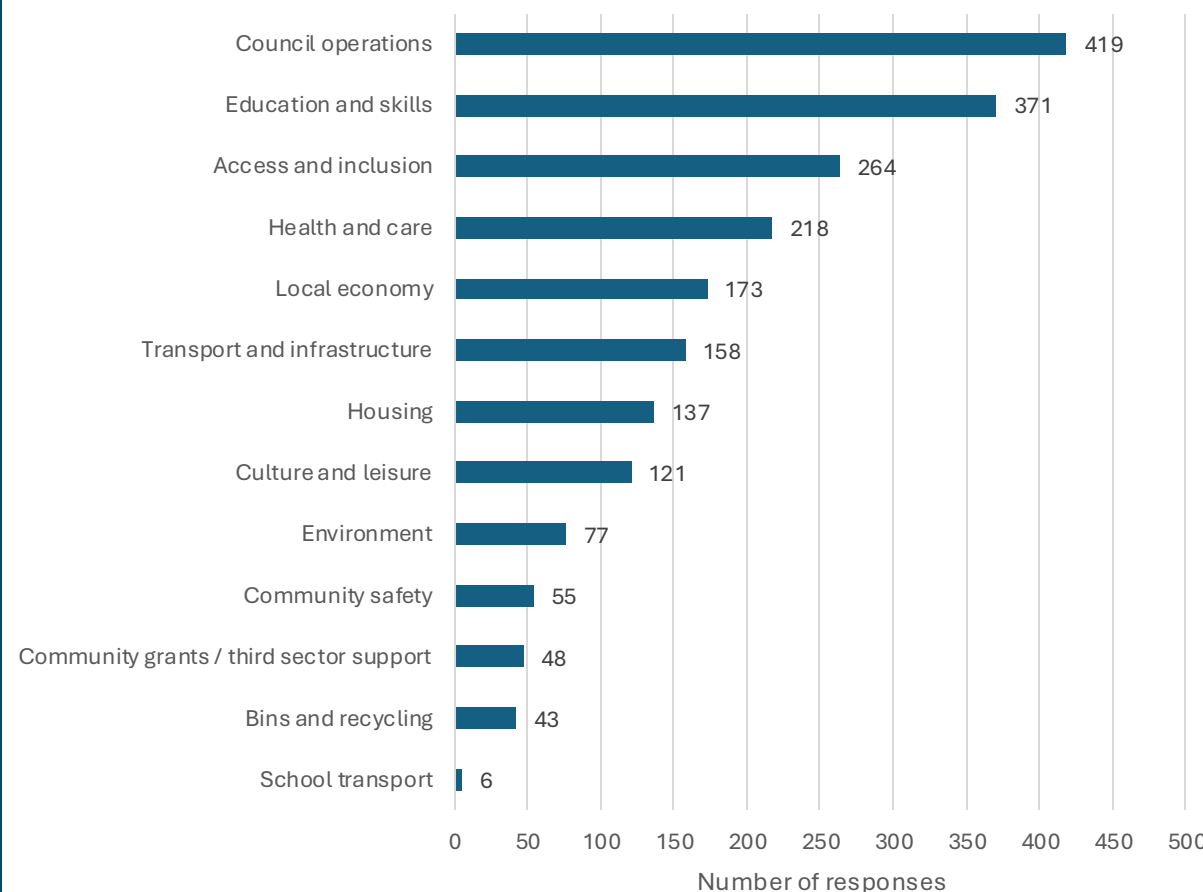
# Other priorities – what's missing?



## Top three mentions

- Council operations (419)  
(efficiency, value for money)
- Education and skills (371)  
(increase school staffing, ASN support, community learning, life / employability skills)
- Access and inclusion (264)  
(fair access to services and support, housing / transport / infrastructure accessibility)

Other priorities (1,436 responses)





# Saving money



## How could the council save money? Options given:

Reduce the number of council buildings used by communities across Fife

Introduce a small annual charge for garden waste bins

Change the free bulky uplift service to cover some of our costs

Change who receives free school transport

Review pricing concessions across services

Increase parking charges in car parks the council owns – in line with other local authority and commercial rates

Introduce a visitor levy (a small additional charge) on overnight stays in Fife

Make more use of technology in frontline services

Changing our corporate office opening hours

# Savings ideas – extent of support

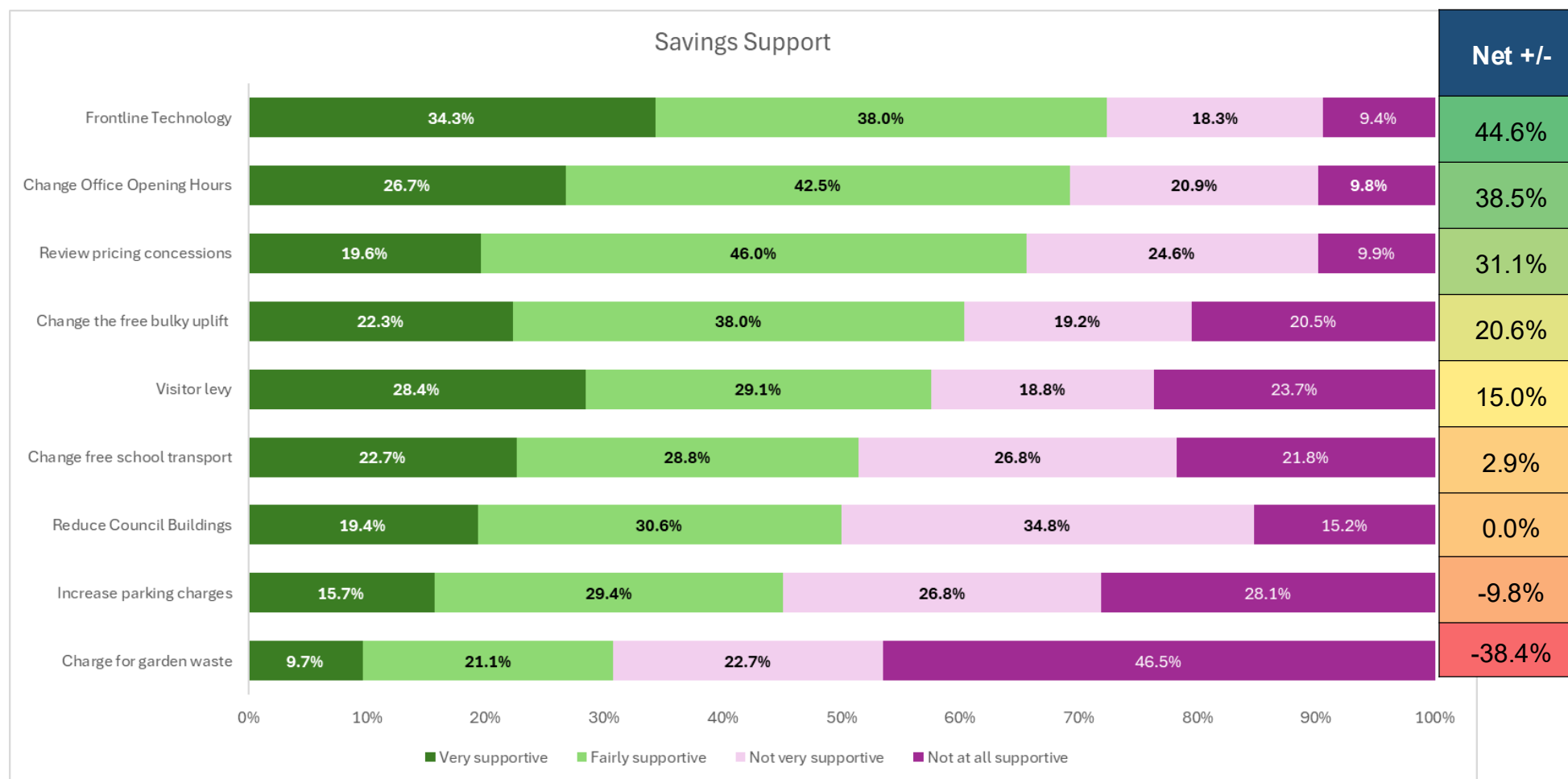


## High support

- Technology use in frontline services
- Changing office opening hours
- Review pricing concessions

## Low support

- Charge for garden waste
- Increase parking charges



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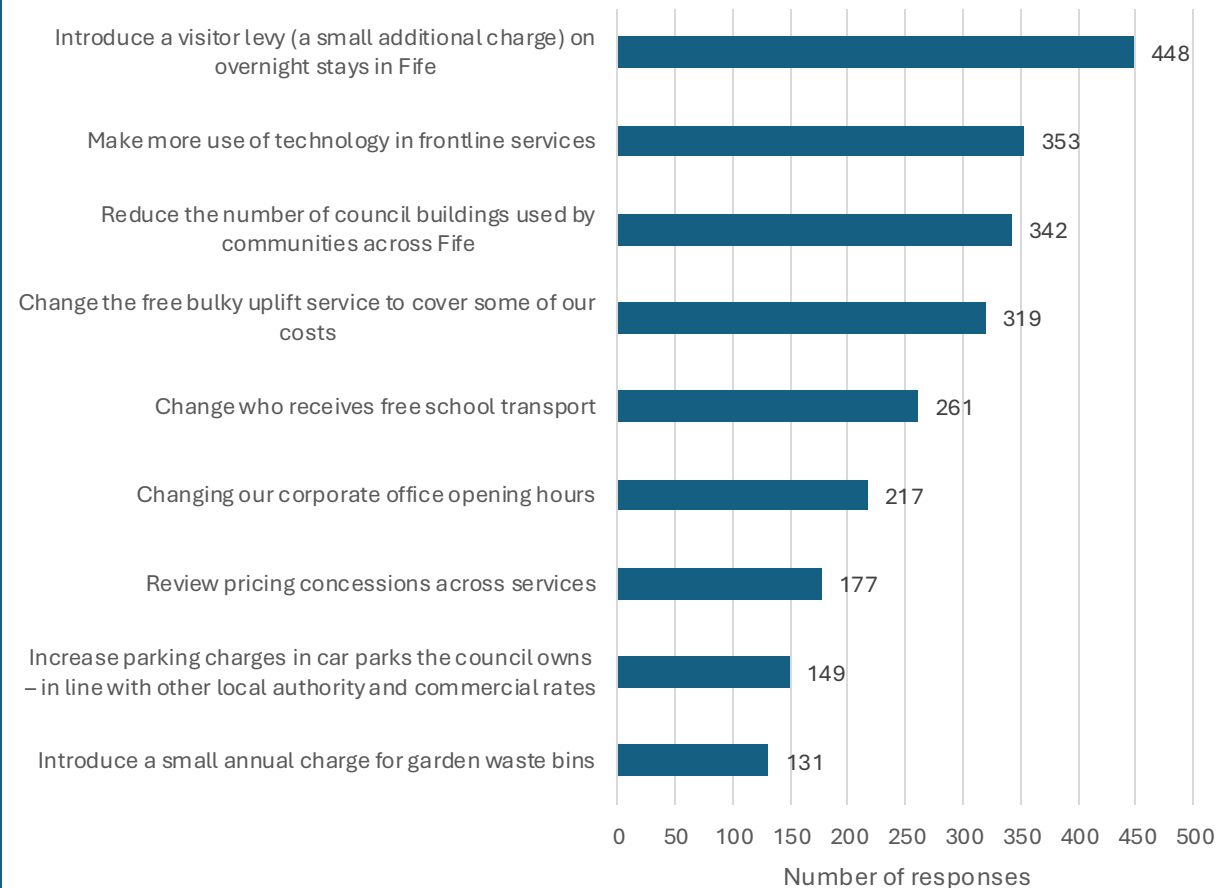
# Savings ideas – support the most



## Support the most

- Introduce a visitor levy (a small additional charge) on overnight stays in Fife (448)
- Make more use of technology in frontline services (353)
- Reduce the number of council buildings used by communities across Fife (342)

Savings ideas (2,397 responses)

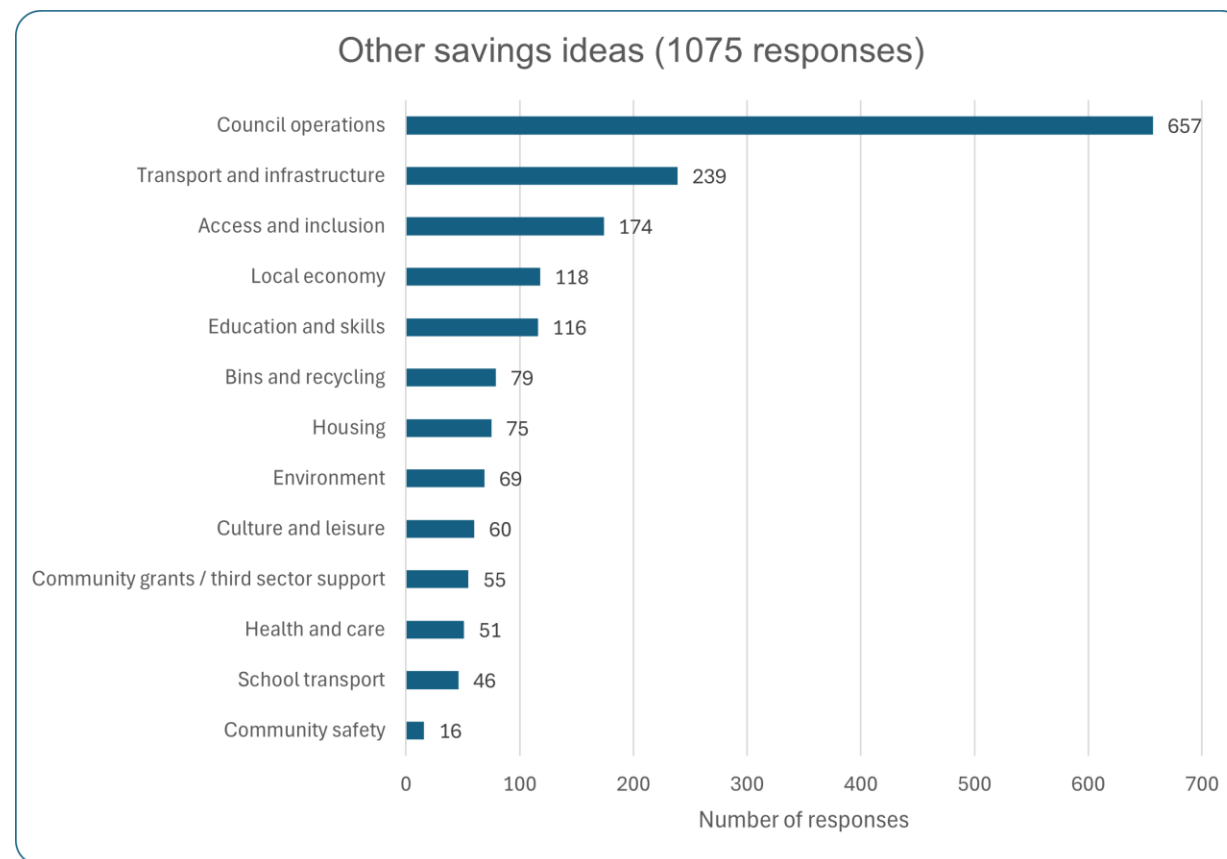


# Other savings ideas



## Top three mentions

- Council operations (271)  
(management structure / salaries, inefficiency, value for money, procurement, assets)
- Education and skills (169)  
(means-test instead of universal provision, value for money, school meals food waste)
- Access and inclusion (136)  
(means-test entitlements, early support / prevention)



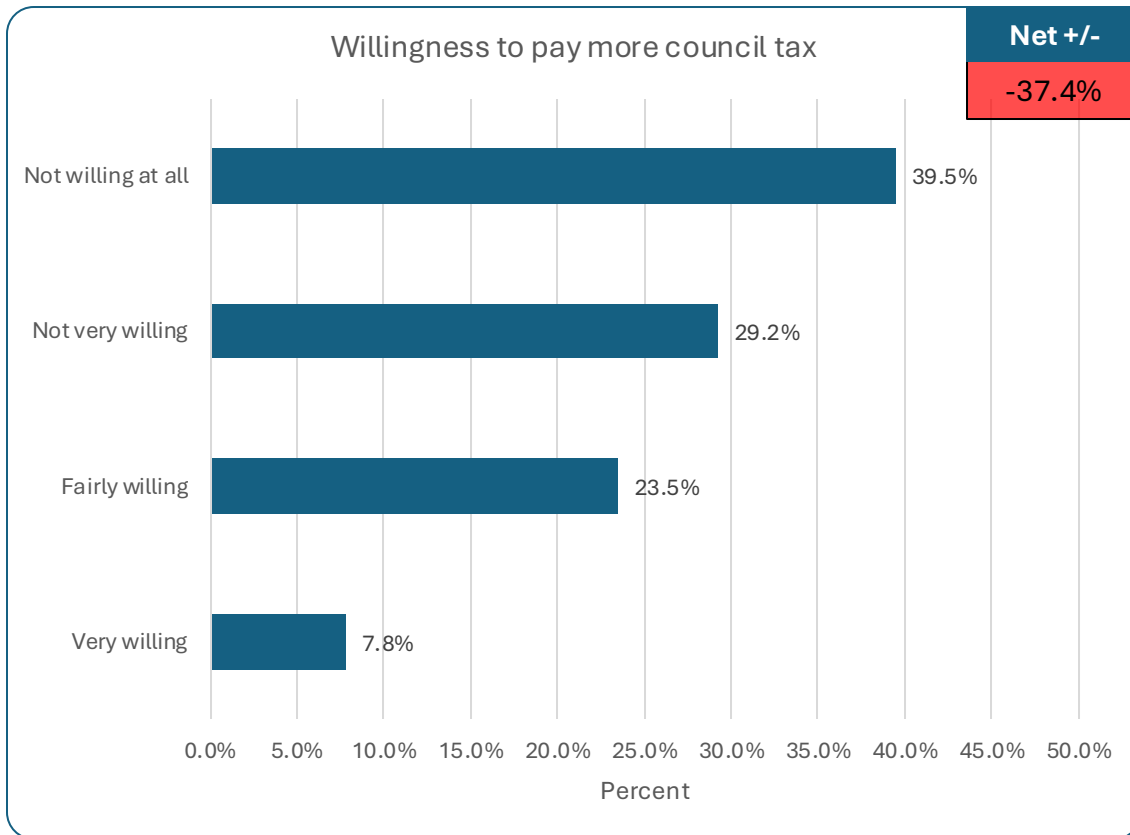
## Increasing council tax?

Valuation Band	Annual Council Tax 2025/26	+5%	+6%	+7%	+8%	+9%	+10%
A	£999.17	+£49.96	+£59.95	+£69.94	+£79.93	+£89.93	+£99.92
B	£1,165.70	+£58.29	+£69.94	+£81.60	+£93.26	+£104.91	+£116.57
C	£1,332.23	+£66.61	+£79.93	+£93.26	+£106.58	+£119.90	+£133.22
D	£1,498.76	+£74.94	+£89.93	+£104.91	+£119.90	+£134.89	+£149.88
E	£1,969.20	+£98.46	+£118.15	+£137.84	+£157.54	+£177.23	+£196.92
F	£2,435.49	+£121.77	+£146.13	+£170.48	+£194.84	+£219.19	+£243.55
G	£2,935.07	+£146.75	+£176.10	+£205.45	+£234.81	+£264.16	+£293.51
H	£3,671.96	+£183.60	+£220.32	+£257.04	+£293.76	+£330.48	+£367.20
Potential increase to Council budget		£10.595m	£12.714m	£14.832m	£16.951m	£19.070m	£21.189m

# Council tax



## Willingness to pay more



## What percentage increase?

