

Appendix 2

Council Spending Survey (Businesses) 2018 (for 2019-20 Budget) - Literal Responses

Some of the questions and the way some services are lumped together on this survey make it difficult to answer. For example: working with the police on safety issues. Why is public safety not 100% a police responsibility? There seem to be too many vague areas that leave wiggle room for ducking responsibility.

Supporting the police & other services is essential for a safe caring environment

I do really feel that Saffron Walden, a town like most others that depends on an easy flow of traffic, whether that is to make use of the town centre as a very important shopper or as a supplier to deliver to these shops or industrial businesses within the town. Currently the state of the roads, the hedges that aren't kept under control means that these lorries will not pass each other along, for instance the London/Newport road since it will cause damage or more likely movement to their all important nearside mirror being forced into the hedge as well as damage to the sides of the lorry. Then too we encourage people to walk to keep fitter and reduce congestion but again many pavements are shockingly narrow as well as overgrown by hedgerows. Sparrows end Hill and the Newport road from Walden was recently verge cut, when it really needs a hedge cut back, still the numerous walkers along this road take their life into their hands by doing so. Don't get me started on the roundabout- I have tried for 5 years to 'sponsor' it, that is to pay for that privilege and to pay for its maintenance in exchange for permission to have signage on it- but Uttlesford don't have authority 'its Essex' and neither do Essex as its 'an Uttlesford ' thing. Oh Please! Anyway I'm not sure this will change anything we will just put more money into easy 'investments' that will cost more and more money to service whilst the services that need the investment will get more and more neglected. I just wonder if anyone on the council goes outside into the district with their eyes open?? Rant over, have fun spending hours and hours of debate and meetings trying to find a pattern within this survey.

Bin collections have been missed regularly over the last year, and road quality continues to degrade. About 50% of our colleagues have had to replace tyres due to pot holes in the area. New development in the area with little or no regard for amenities or infrastructure appears to be continuing - in particular the proposed Chesterford new town and the closing of the Walden School for redevelopment into residential property. The area badly needs more schools and doctors' surgeries, and the road network is becoming overloaded with traffic. I understand that some of this falls at county-level, however Uttlesford need to advocate for the local community.

Car parking is a major problem

Council Spending 2018 – A survey for Uttlesford businesses

I believe it is important to support the business, retail and research community within Uttlesford. This will make Uttlesford vibrant and attractive to employees and will help grow the economy of Uttlesford district. Parking fees are not always attractive to encourage shoppers whilst the business parks offer free parking to visitors to those areas. It is a difficult balance, I know, but there should be consideration given to town center parking charges that ensure the parking maintenance is covered and financially there is money set aside for future investments. Business rates is important to small businesses and, being a business owner, I welcome and appreciate the rate relief for small business as this has and continues to enable me to invest in my business and employ new people. It is noticeable on the investment in fixing pot holes and a continuing programme on road improvements is welcome. Broadband is still poor in the rural environment and speeding up the roll out of Broadband improvements should be a priority for the district as this will in turn help inward investment by business and increase the productivity of people in the district.

Liasing with the various organisations such as the NHS to provide the best 'joined up' cover and not let things fall between the gaps.

The Council needs to invest money in the three High Streets in the District.

Caring for those housebound, care in the community. and/or Build & run more Communal Community projects; Reduction in Stress; causing Mental Health Problems.... Stop Causing them.. Big Brother! You are here to Serve the Community.

Uttlesford should look at its own efficiency and business practices. Local business should be able to look after itself although opportunities for promotion are always welcome this should not be at the expense of Uttlesford Council.

Would very much like to see UDC using more local suppliers! Did you know UDC uniforms come from Manchester?

I am shocked to hear that there is not a proper recycling service for businesses and some residents in Saffron Walden Town Centre. As an example a local pub doesn't not recycle any of their bottles and food waste and puts all rubbish into one large bin outside their premises. Its outrageous that such a large amount of glass etc is going into landfill rather than being recycled. You put pressure on householders to be vigilant and recycle but don't seem to put the same pressure on local businesses. Come on Uttlesford, this isn't good enough in this day and age. Also, having just purchased a flat at Ingleside, i am equally amazed that there too there isn't recycling facilities? There is plenty of room in the communal car park for individual recycling and non-recycling bins that the residents could use. Why aren't they provided? This is also the case at Harris Yard.