

## Findings from budget consultation with local business representatives (Nov.2020)

Invitations to participate in this survey were circulated during week commencing 5 October through Cambridge Bid, Chamber of Commerce and other business forums alongside an invitation to local business representatives to attend an event with the Leader of the Council. This event is scheduled to take place on 11 November 2020.

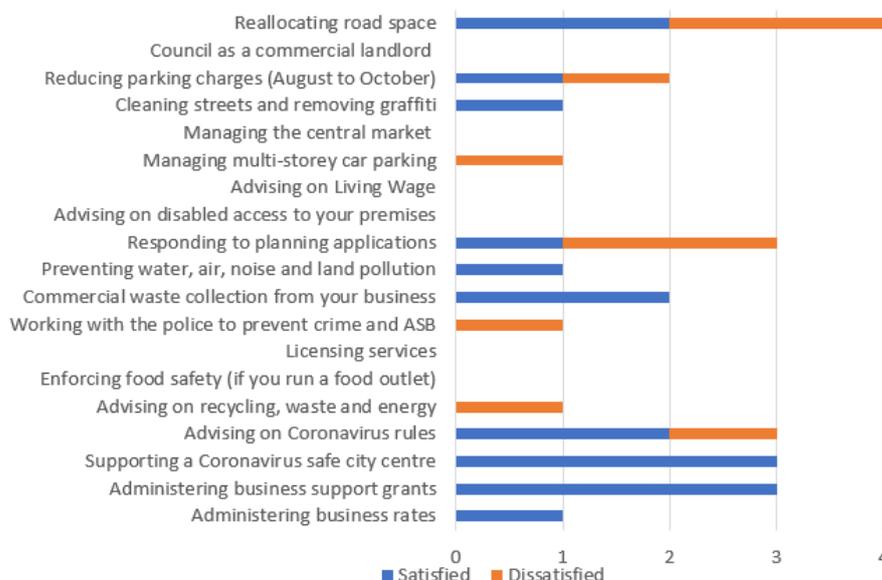
The aim of the survey is to help get a feel for what local business representatives think about council services to business and other issues to help inform the Council’s budget and priorities. Respondents were therefore self-selecting and do not provide a representative sample of the views of local businesses – just those taking part in the survey. The closing date for responses was 6 November. In the lead up to the closing date two reminders to participate in the survey were circulated. A summary of the views of six completed online questionnaires is shown below. For the same survey, 52 businesses responded last year. It could be said that local businesses may have other priorities on their mind at present.

**Thinking about the Cambridge City Council services you have experienced as a business, please tell us how satisfied or dissatisfied have you been with the following services? If you have not experienced these, please tick the "not experienced" box.**

The stronger feelings of satisfaction (2) were for *supporting a Coronavirus safe city centre*.

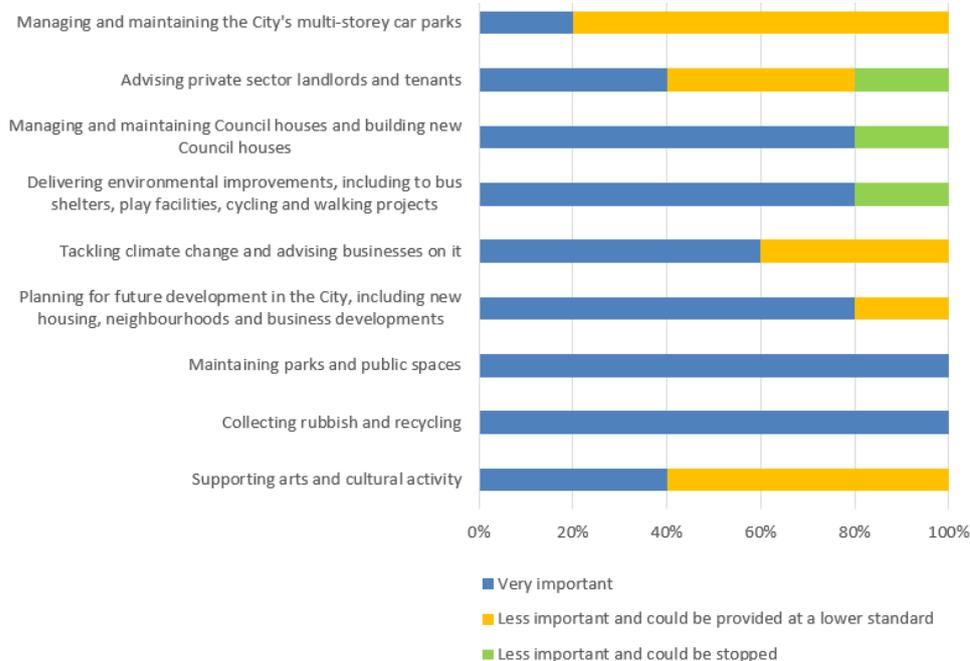
The stronger feelings of dissatisfaction were for *reallocating road space*.

Additionally, one respondent expressed strong dissatisfaction with the *City Metro project*.



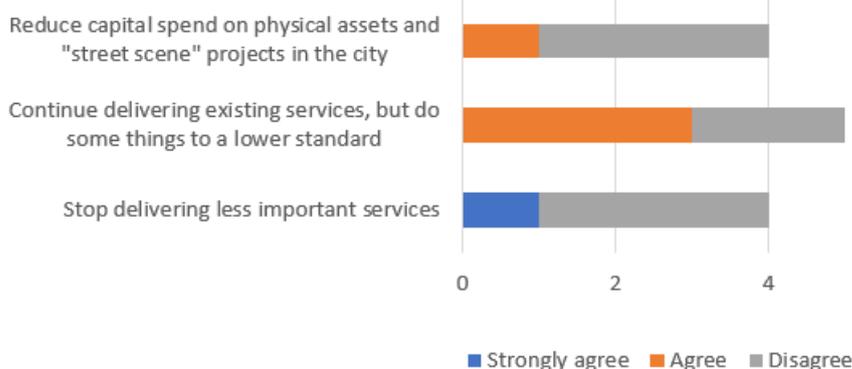
**Thinking about some of the other services Cambridge City Council provides to promote a positive business environment, what level of importance would you attach to each, as a business?**

The highest levels of support were for *maintaining parks and public spaces* and *collecting rubbish and recycling*



**How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the approaches Cambridge City Council should take to balancing its budget?**

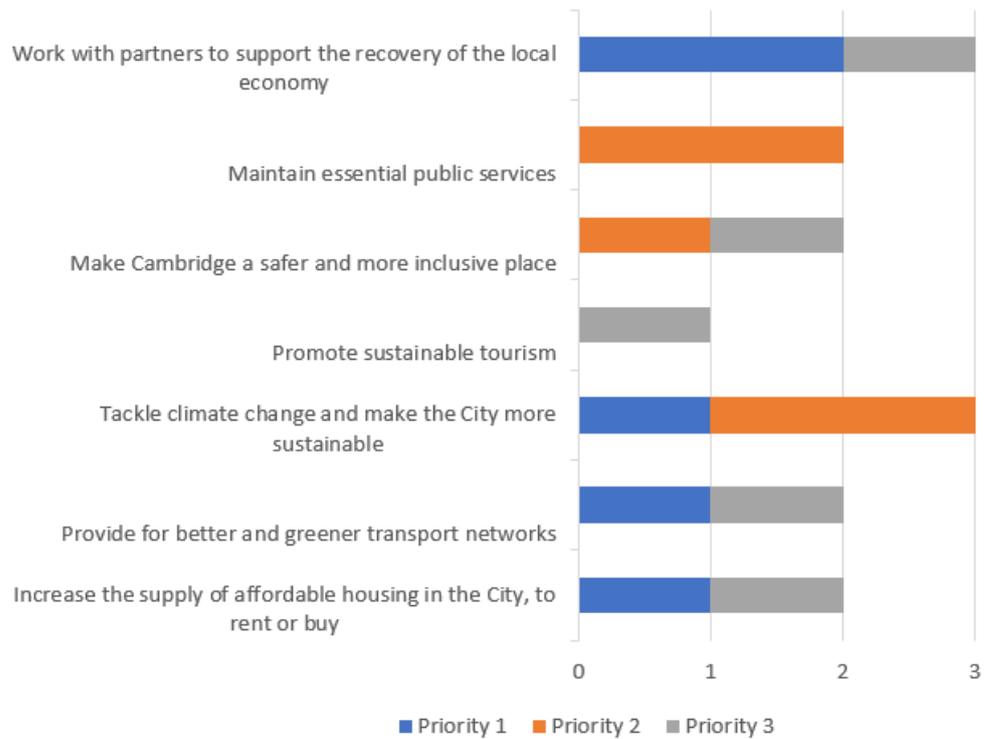
The highest level of support was for *Continue delivering existing services, but do some things to a lower standard*



The following statements or phrases may describe some of the things that need to be done in Cambridge City by either the City Council, its partners, or other agencies. Please indicate, below, the three most important priorities for you, that would improve the prospects of your business.

*Working with partners to support the recovery of the local economy was the greatest priority.*

*There was no support for reducing inequality or developing the skills of local people.*



All respondents said their business was based in Cambridge City. Three said they represented a large business (more than 250 employees) and two said they represented a micro-business (less than 10 employees).