Dorset County Council area – Key Results

Consultation Questionnaire and Household Survey Results [1]

This area summary report is provided for convenience and should be read in conjunction with the full report and executive summary.

To what extent do you agree or disagree …

	… that Dorset's councils should focus on cutting out duplication and reducing administration costs wherever possible?			… with the proposal to replace the NINE existing councils (option 1) with TWO new councils (options 2a– 2c) in order to protect services as far as possible? [2]		
Open questionnaire	**88%**	**5%**	**8%**	**67%**	**4%**	**28%**
Representative Household Survey	**91%**	**5%**	**4%**	**73%**	**8%**	**15%**
	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Agree	Neither	Disagree

Please rate how important you think each of these criteria are where "10" means that the criteria is critically important and "0" means the criteria is of no importance.

Criterion	Open Questionnaire		Household Survey	
	Rank	Overall average score (out of 10)	Rank	Overall average score (out of 10)
Accountability	3	9.0	3	8.7
Quality	1=	9.1	1	9.1
Local Identity	5	7.8	5	7.5
Access	4	8.2	4	8.3
Value For Money	1=	9.1	2	9.0

[1] The results above include all individuals who indicated that they lived in the Dorset County council area and made responses to the relevant questions. This includes 6,314 respondents from the open questionnaire and 2,804 residents in the household survey.

[2] The proportion whose views are unknown for a specific option but who gave a valid response to at least one of the proposed options (option 1, option 2a, 2b or 2c) are included in the base but are not shown in tables. As a result, these percentages will not sum to 100%.

If two new councils were created, to what extent do you support or oppose each of the possible options that are being considered? [2]

	Option 2A				Option 2B				Option 2C			
Open Questionnaire	26%	9%	56%	-30	54%	9%	32%	+22	29%	11%	50%	-21
Representative Household Survey	35%	18%	36%	-1	62%	14%	17%	+45	22%	20%	45%	-23
	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net

Further Comments [3]

All percentages shown are of those who gave further comments. Each individual may have made comments about multiple topics, so results will not sum to 100%.

Coded comment	Open Questionnaire % of respondents who made comment	Representative Household Survey % of residents who made comment
Concern and opposition about general proposal Generally disagree with proposals/Option 1 is best/Councils are fine as they are/happy with current provision of Councils/maintain current arrangement	18%	8%
Concern and opposition about general proposal Loss of local identity/links with local communities must be maintained/every area has different needs	14%	11%
Other comments Other criticism of consultation	9%	6%
Concern and opposition about general proposal Accountability/less direct involvement for people/more bureaucracy	9%	6%
Criticism/issues with current situation Negative comments about current council/specific Councils	8%	10%
Alternatives One large unitary authority wanted/worked for Wiltshire/most cost effective	8%	3%
Concern and opposition about general proposal Access/concern about loss of local services/urban areas will be prioritised and rural areas left behind	7%	12%
Other comments Other general comments about specific Council services e.g. Issues with bins/recycling services/health services etc.	7%	15%
Other comments Relevant comments about specific Council services being affected by the proposals	7%	5%
Concern and opposition about general proposal Concerns that proposals will lead to a lesser quality Council/proposed changes will lead to a poor quality service	6%	6%

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[3] The further comments presented here are the top 10 most frequently occurring sub-themes identified from responses to the open consultation questionnaire.