

# Subsidised deckchairs on Weymouth Seafront

## Introduction

It is important that the council reviews all budgets to ensure all subsidised services are still relevant and justified.

Currently residents of Weymouth and Portland Borough Council area aged 60 or over can receive free deckchairs (and half price windbreaks) on Weymouth seafront. This current policy has been in place for over 30 years. There is a staff cost to providing the necessary passes and the chairs themselves. It also means chairs used in this way are not available for hire, reducing revenue. As there is alternative free seating on the front the council considers the policy is outdated and is proposing removing this benefit and using some of the extra revenue to provide free or subsidised swimming for disabled people at Weymouth Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre and would like your views on the proposal.

**Do you feel that the council should continue to provide subsidised (free) deckchairs for those aged 60 or over who are resident within Weymouth and Portland Borough?**

298 (81.0%) *Yes*

70 (19.0%) *No*

**Would you like to see any increase in income from changes to the free provision of deckchairs to be made available to provide free or subsidised swimming for disabled people at Weymouth Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre?**

88 (25.2%) *Yes*

261 (74.8%) *No*

**How do you feel that changing the policy of providing subsidised (free) deckchairs would particularly affect you personally?**

307 (100.0%)

## About You

### Are you answering this consultation as...?

- 334 (91.3%) *A resident of Weymouth and Portland*
- 22 (6.0%) *A resident of Dorset (other than Weymouth and Portland)*
- 10 (2.7%) *A visitor to Dorset*

**So that we can see how different people may be affected by the proposals and to ensure we get feedback from a representative sample of our population, we would be grateful if you could complete a few questions about yourself. These questions are optional.**

### Which of the following describes how you think of yourself?

- 165 (45.1%) *Male*
- 195 (53.3%) *Female*
- 1 (0.3%) *In another way*
- 5 (1.4%) *Prefer not to say*

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted, or is likely to last 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

### Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010?

- 62 (16.9%) *Yes*
- 279 (76.0%) *No*
- 26 (7.1%) *Prefer not to say*

**If yes, please tell us which type of impairment applies to you. You may have more than**

**one type of impairment, so please select all the impairments that apply to you.**

- 35 (42.2%) *Physical disability*
- 1 (1.2%) *Learning disability / difficulty*
- 42 (50.6%) *Long-standing illness or health condition*
- 4 (4.8%) *Mental health condition*
- 10 (12.0%) *Sensory impairment (hearing, sight or both)*
- 14 (16.9%) *Prefer not to say*
- 4 (4.8%) *Other*
  - Please specify*
  - 16 (100.0%)

**Which age group do you belong to?**

- 0 (0.0%) *Under 18*
- 10 (2.7%) *18 - 24*
- 11 (3.0%) *25 - 34*
- 21 (5.7%) *35 - 44*
- 26 (7.1%) *45 - 54*
- 120 (32.7%) *55 - 64*
- 169 (46.0%) *65 or over*
- 10 (2.7%) *Prefer not to say*

**Which of the following best describes your ethnic origin?**

- 325 (90.5%) *White British*
- 7 (1.9%) *White Irish*
- 0 (0.0%) *Gypsy/Romany or Irish Traveller*
- 3 (0.8%) *Any other White background (please specify below)*
- 0 (0.0%) *Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi*
- 0 (0.0%) *Asian or Asian British - Chinese*
- 0 (0.0%) *Asian or Asian British - Indian*
- 1 (0.3%) *Asian or Asian British - Pakistani*
- 0 (0.0%) *Any other Asian background (please specify below)*
- 0 (0.0%) *Black or Black British - African*
- 0 (0.0%) *Black or Black British - Caribbean*
- 0 (0.0%) *Any other Black background (please specify below)*
- 0 (0.0%) *Mixed ethnic background - White and Asian*
- 0 (0.0%) *Mixed ethnic background - White and Black African*
- 0 (0.0%) *Mixed ethnic background - White and Black Caribbean*
- 0 (0.0%) *Any other Mixed background (please specify below)*
- 0 (0.0%) *Any other ethnic background (please specify below)*
- 23 (6.4%) *Prefer not to say*
  - Please specify*
  - 11 (100.0%)

**Thank you for taking time to fill out this questionnaire. Please click 'submit' below to send us your response.**

**The results will be used to guide councillors' decision making on this issue.**

**Results will be published on the council's website after the closing date.**

**This survey will close on Sunday 18 June 2017**