

**Dumfries and Galloway Council
Budget 2020/2021 Response Forms**

PART B

Responses from Citizens and Customers

P74 - P326

Response Forms have been published in full where the respondent has given permission.

Data such as names, signatures and post codes have been removed.



Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG 7
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Some thoughts:

* Free school meals offered to all p1-3 pupils - I do not think this is necessary. There are so many people who do not require that financial support and for the many that ~~it~~ would benefit, it could be given to those who do require the support without stigmatisation.

* Reducing ^{the} support for Learning budget would be hugely detrimental to the young people we are trying to support, inspire and motivate.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I am aware that the Council is considering removing funding to the Bethany Christian Trust Supported Housing.</p> <p>Reading through the Care service inspection report's 2015 and 2017 I would like to draw to your attention significant facts.</p> <p>Firstly comments by service users.</p> <p>"They talk to us, listen to us, they do not judge us either. we would be lost without them all, They are more than helpful understanding and non-judgemental."</p> <p>"When others would have abandoned me you stuck by me. I am totally different than I was when I came to Bethany."</p> <p>I can see light at the end of what has been a long dark tunnel. if it wasn't for them I would be dead."</p> <p>I would consider this to be taxpayer money well spent Surely we all want those trapped in the cycle of adictions and crime to escape and enjoy a more normal life.</p> <p>Bethany Christian Trust is delivering positive results in the lives of very vulnerable individuals. For what is in council terms a very small budget it is this service must be allowed to continue.</p> <p>{NAME REMOVED}</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Presentation and factual information: the information provided in the Budget 2020/21 Options document is incomplete as there is no column with the current budget (2019-20) which makes it very difficult to have a quick and easy comparison of the current budget with the proposed budget on an item by item basis, or, to compare current budgets for a number of entries. Only some entries include the actual % proposed cut. Without this information in full it is very difficult to know the extent of some of the proposed cuts. For example, it's likely that a 5% cut on a service will have a lot less impact than an 85% cut. There is also no information in this document about what each department spends its budgets on. Without seeing the full list, it's hard to know if efficiencies could be made elsewhere. For example, do council meetings pay for bottled water? If so, that's an expense that could be cut.</p> <p>There are some cuts that have not been proposed but which other councils have made such as turning off some streetlights from 12midnight to 5am. Has this been considered? It would save money and electricity.</p> <p>I support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Reduce grass cutting on verges on national speed limit roads." This is vital to improve biodiversity. <p>I strongly disagree with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Reduce the discretionary library book stock funding of £85,000 by 85% with the remaining budget focussed in a way that reflect changes to library use particularly digital lending." Save £72,000 pa. <p>First, the library is not a discretionary service and to refer to it as 'discretionary library book stock funding' is disingenuous. It implies that it's optional to provide book stock, and that 25% of the current bookstock (which may have had cuts in previous years) would be ok. The public library is a statutory service and evidence across the UK shows that where bookstock budgets are cut, it leads to fewer book issues (naturally), and fewer visits, with the service then seen as 'not needed'. I visit the library to borrow books. I don't really want e-books, I would like choice over a range of paper books. And for the choice to be there for children and adults. Libraries are absolutely vital to contributing towards people's learning, literacy, education, health and wellbeing etc, and more should be done to attract more users, not put them off by slashing the book budget by 85%.</p> <p>The drastic proposed cut would leave the service with very little to spend on all its books. My calculations based on the limited information provided are that the current bookstock</p>

budget is £84,705 pa. A cut of 85% (£72,000) would leave £12,705. This would equate to under 9p, per person, per year. If books are assumed to cost about £10 each, it would mean 1,300 new books a year, to be shared between adults, children, fiction, non-fiction, large print etc, across the entire D&G library service. It would equate to about £550 per service point, per year. I sincerely hope the council do not think 9p per person, per year, or £550 for each library branch for its entire annual bookstock is adequate or qualifies as meeting the provision of a statutory service.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I have concerns about the amalgamation of youth work and lifelong learning service provision as these are two separate client groups with different needs albeit with many shared longterm goals (inclusion, equality, access etc). However, it would be difficult to meet the needs of young people if this was seen to be disproportionate in terms of budget etc when equally valuable lifelong service needs were being considered.</p> <p>Who decides where "Further development of streamlined and targeted Youth work and Lifelong Learning services based on principles of co delivery, Ward/area specific directed delivery focussing on our most vulnerable communities" would be most appropriate? It is all well and good to transfer responsibility for delivery of such things as Duke of Edinburgh's Award to the voluntary sector (where it has always been) but it requires some form of access to co-ordination and management. Simply targeting specific wards could reduce access for those who are not 'at risk' but could be, if not given access and support. HMIE always praise schools who have good DofE provision, but Councils have offered no financial support for this for a number of years, leaving teachers to be creative about how they run their groups. Cost of training leaders has been passed to groups; cost of technical advice has been passed to groups and admin is carried out in teachers' time which may be further reduced in cost-saving plans. I would suggest further steps in streamlining, targeting and co-delivery run the risk of creating a tipping point where goodwill is lost, and many years of expertise are also lost.</p> <p>To give some idea of how costs could be reduced elsewhere, can I suggest some efficiencies could be introduced? An example: I reported fly tipping on the Council's excellent site, and specified it included plastic rubbish and broken glass. A team came out and removed the plastic. They then phoned my home to advise it would require a second visit by a different team to remove the glass. Imagine one team had dealt with the call - one trip and a phone call saved. How many times does this happen?</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I really feel strongly that all kids at School should receive a hot meal every day of the school week.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>With regard to Education budget planning. After reading the Transformation Budget Plan ideas from the council. I have some thoughts and responses.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distance learning using a teacher teaching at distance across the internet to a classroom elsewhere in the county, may or may not work in the High Schools depending on how it is supervised etc, BUT I feel strongly that this method of teaching should NOT be used in primary schools. 2. I feel money could be saved if puddings were taken off the school dinner menus. Puddings, is something that some parents try not to make an always to be expected part of a meal, given the sugar content. And having puddings at school for some parents undermines their arguments about not needing to have puddings at the end of every meal. 3. I don't think that school dinners for schools under a certain size should be cold dinners only at all times. This is giving small schools an unfair disadvantage especially in the winter months. Also some poorer families rely on their children getting a hot meal at school. Small schools also have to work hard at keeping the enrolment levels up and if parents saw that their children would only get cold lunches they may choose a different school, thus penalizing the school further through no fault of their own. 4. If the school day (for children) finished at 12 pm on Fridays, thus allowing teachers to have their specified non classroom time they are obliged to take, during this time. It would a) reduce the number of hours teacher time would be required to fill the gaps by other teachers which would save money. (Of course the permanent teachers for the school are not getting their hours cut or their pay reduced in this scenario.) The side effect of kids finishing at 12pm on Friday is no school dinners on Fridays throughout the whole county thus big school dinner savings. Out of hours school provision may need to be made for an interim time while families get time to adjust their working hours or arrangements. 5. Although catchment areas are being looked at. Small schools who have done well to fight to stay at functioning levels should not have their catchment areas adjusted deliberately just to make those schools fail to reach required numbers in a bid to close them by the back door. Catchment adjustment should be FAIR!
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I have worked along side and supported The Bethany for about 8 years. I am very disappointed to hear that you are withdrawing funding for the housing project.

This organisation is a firm support for those who are at rock bottom and are needing a gentle but firm approach to build up their self esteem, confidence and regain motivation to have a go at living meaningful lifestyles.

These men and women who have issues as large as icebergs, only ever having the seen 10% of their very complex needs. There are very few organisations and housing associations who are willing to support and help these folk up and through the 90% of the hidden and very often the root of their problems. They even support them once they have moved out of the supported accommodation.

Please Please reconsider your funding; I have respect for the bigger Housing Projects but I do not feel they can offer the support and care of these precious members of our society.

I understand that you are short of funding but I find it very difficult to understand why you are cutting funding for this organisation when you are more than able to spend so much on the Youth groups of this town, especially paying for trips and conferences to America and Taiwan.

I can think that you are sweeping the problems of this community under the carpet because you can not live with the failure of your past mistakes with the past generations.

From a very disappointed Volunteer and Supporter of The Bethany Housing Project.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A. - PARENT.

Please share your views in the space available below

RE: INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SERVICE.

A MOVE TOWARDS A COMMUNITY MODEL WILL RESTRICT ACCESS TO THOSE PUPILS WHO ARE LESS WELL OFF. RESTRICTION TO SQA PUPILS ONLY WILL MEAN LOSS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR TUITION IN THE EARLY SECONDARY YEARS, (AND IS LIKELY TO REDUCE NUMBERS PURSUING THIS SUBJECT TO SQA LEVEL), AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUPILS WHO MIGHT PURSUE A MUSIC CAREER OUTWITH THE EXAM SYSTEM.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	NIA - VOLUNTEER, BETHANY TRUST.

Please share your views in the space available below

RE: REDUCING HOUSING SUPPORT CONTRACTS.

THIS REDUCTION IS LIKELY TO HAVE A DEVASTATING IMPACT ON THE MOST VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, MANY OF WHOM ARE HOMELESS AND WHO RELY ON THIS ESSENTIAL SAFETY NET.

IT IS COUNTER TO THE COUNCIL'S ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE AND WILL LEAVE MANY CLIENTS WITHOUT THE SUPPORT THEY REQUIRE.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A

Please share your views in the space available below

RE: STREAMLINING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING (ASL) TEACHER COHORT.

THE MOVE TO A CONSULTATION AND ADVICE MODEL HAS LITTLE OR NO RESEARCH EVIDENCE INDICATING IMPROVED OUTCOMES.

DIRECT ASL TEACHING INPUT MUST BE MAINTAINED IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE MOST NEEDY PUPILS. (INDEED WITHOUT SUCH INPUT, ANY CONSULTATION/ADVICE IS LIKELY TO BE POINTLESS).

THIS PROPOSAL GOES AGAINST THE SERVICE REVIEW OF ASL SOME YEARS AGO, APPROVED BY COUNCIL, WHICH SOUGHT TO PROTECT THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE/NEEDY PUPILS.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I must admit that there needed to be a lot more information in the budget documents in order to make informed decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There's no information on the current budget for each area, which makes it hard to compare to the proposed budget. • There's no detail on what money gets spent on. Entertaining visitors? Bottled water? Storage of unused recycling bins? Buying out failed contracts from recycling companies? Golden handshakes? Private cars? Money wasted on buildings that aren't fit for purpose and have to be closed and partially rebuilt at huge expense? These are examples of the hundreds of things where the Council would be seen to be wasting money, but without being given those details, how can anyone make informed decisions? • I think the flood defences idea is a waste of money. Instead, clear some junk out of the river – trolleys etc. • Some Councils turn off streetlights in many areas from 12pm to 5am, saving money and electricity. Dumfries doesn't seem to have considered that. • I notice the idea of reducing grass cutting at verges. You could take this further. All verges and grassy areas like that could be left, since they provide wildlife habitats. Even better – add wildflower seeds and wild meadow plants. Let them develop into natural environments, untouched. (Though there still needs to be litter picking in these areas.) Likewise the Council often plants ornamental flowers that need replanting every year. Instead, in those areas, put in mixes of native flowers and bushes that don't need replanting, and then let them establish. That way it is better for wildlife, and is less work. • There needs to be more litter picking, especially out of town. Some roads are strewn with it at the edges, with litter every metre. Same with some cycle paths and paths near estates. Once it is left, it encourages more irresponsible people to clear it. The Council also needs to join up its thinking. As well as picking up litter, you have to prosecute litter droppers more often as a deterrent. It's easy to set up temporary cameras in certain areas, then move them to others. Footpaths, car laybys etc. Catch some people and it will send a message. Also, why allow more shops that sell junkfood in throwaway packaging? That makes the problem worse. If you can't apply more tax to places that lead to littering, then don't give them permission to open in the first place.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I would like to respond to two of the proposed budget cuts. Firstly the proposed removal of school crossing patrols for schools with 'less demand'. The very thought that children's safety is being discussed like this is quite frankly disgusting. Brownhall school is considered rural and is located very near the national speed limit sign as you exit the town. Vehicles everyday speed past this school to reach these limits, the signs are very rarely abided by. Our school crossing patrol also knows each child personally and is aware of who is picking each child up every day. That is invaluable and key to our children's safety and well being. There are several schools in town that have at least 3-4 crossing patrols and lights. These patrols are there basically to press the button for the lights? maybe this is something you need to look at instead of persecuting small schools continually. Whether a school is small or large they both deserve the same amount of care.</p> <p>Secondly the proposed cuts to hot meals for schools with less than 50 pupils. How very dare you think that this is a viable and fair proposal. It is discrimination. The Scottish government states that every child from p1-p3 should receive free school dinners. So what are you doing with this money? Why should small schools be treated differently to schools with bigger head counts. Every child deserves to be treated equally and fairly. You do realise that for lots of children this is the only hot meal they get each day. This proposed cut shouldn't even have been considered and if you wrongly think it should then it should apply to EVERY school and EVERY child not just small schools.</p> <p>I attended the transformation events and these proposals did not even exist and were never discussed so where have they magically appeared from? The mere thought of treating children in this way saddens me greatly. Yes I agree cuts have to be made but children's basic human rights and safety should not even be brought to the table.</p>

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03 DEC 2019



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NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	Residents

Please share your views in the space available below

Whilst we appreciate the need to make cuts to the Council budget, we hope you will reconsider the decision to stop funding - in whole or part - to the Bethany Trust.

Dumfries has a prison and we have seen from recent publicity (ie the London Bridge incident) that people are being released from prison without sufficient follow-up supervision.

The Bethany Trust is a long-established charity acting as a responsible, caring influence on such ex-prisoners - with a hands-on approach.

They also support, engage and help those in need - drug/substance abuse - homeless folk - they counsel etc. The services they offer give their service-users a sense of self-worth and surely that is something worth striving for.

These are the reasons we, as ratepayers, feel is why Bethany Trust should carry on with the great service they offer.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A

Please share your views in the space available below

I have concerns over the proposed cuts to the Music Program.

The program was already cut the last couple of years and does not have enough staff to cover the area as is and there are kids waiting on a waiting list to be taught.

How are the children through no fault of there own going to have the same opportunities as those who can pay privately? Music is not just for the rich it is for everyone. This is not the message you are selling with this Budget!

How are you going to protect our children. In the budget you have said that you will be directing children to private tuition within the area. Is the council going to vet every tutor it recommends to the parents?

SQA National 5 is also a concern without the basics of music being taught at primary and through this program, how do the council expect the children to take national 5 and pass without the foundations being taught.... are you expecting them to do this in the two years and still obtain a grade to further progress... i feel that the council are not aware that you are setting these children up to fail and putting more stress on you much valued Music Teachers to get these children to pass. Eventually Music will no longer be taught in any of our schools as there wont be any Children taking up the places.

My other concern is the impact this will have on music groups around the region. Brass tuition in particularly is non existed within this program due to there not being a brass instructor. The fear is there will be no children coming to these organisations due to lack of tuition within the schools.

I ask ... and i understand cuts need to be made but to reconsider the implications this will have on what our region prides its self on. Its Music, Arts and food culture are all thriving and this will have a bigger implication than what the council is portraying.

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED A PETITION

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG10
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Expand D&G Handy Van service that provide practical help to people with disabilities and older people.</p> <p>Designated area for dogs to run-free in our parks and open spaces - especially for assistance dogs.</p> <p>Introduce therapy dogs initiative (perhaps a commissioned service) for emotional support for children and adults with additional needs / disabilities.</p> <p>Improved public realm, including better car parking in and around public services, for example at train stations / bus stations.</p> <p>Expand health and day centres</p> <p>Retain specialist ASL teachers. Class teachers are already inundated with learning and teaching, and pastoral care.</p> <p>Look at using volunteers to provide additional support in schools, for example breakfast clubs / after-school clubs / reading.</p>
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I strongly disagree with the proposal to cut funding to Bethany and First Base.

Bethany, as well as housing support, provides a lunchtime drop-in service for homeless and vulnerable adults. Service-users are welcomed into a safe and comfortable environment; given food and hot or cold drinks and made to feel that they matter and have value. If Bethany loses its funding it will have to withdraw from Dumfries and this invaluable service will be lost.

First Base has become increasingly busy over time, as more and more people, some families and some even in work, find that an event in their lives, or a problem with their benefits has tipped them over into not being able to afford to feed themselves or their families. The food bank is desperately needed.

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Community Council	DG 11
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Please share your views in the space available below

I THINK IT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO REMOVE HOT MEAT OPTION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AS FOR MANY CHILDREN IN A DEPRIVED AREA SCHOOL DINNERS ARE OFTEN THE ONLY HOT SUBSTANTIAL MEAT THEY RECEIVE.

I BELIEVE TO INCREASE CLASS SIZES AND REDUCE TIME IN CLASS FOR ACADEMIC STUDENTS WITH A LOT OF VIBRANT SUBJECTS IS ALSO A COST CUTTING MEASURE WHICH WILL ONLY SERVE TO DISABILE DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY AS WE WILL BE CHURNING OUT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE RECEIVING A "LESSER" EDUCATION WHICH WILL ONLY SERVE TO DISADVANTAGE THEM IN COMPARISON WITH OTHER REGIONS OR ENGLAND. A COST CUTTING MEASURE OF MOVING STUDENTS TO OTHER SITES OF LEARNING TO STUDY HIGHERS AND ADVANCED HIGHERS WILL ULTIMATELY DRIVE STUDENTS ACROSS THE BORDER OR WILL COST THE COUNCIL MILLIONS IN TRANSPORT. HOW CAN THIS BENEFIT ANYONE?

AN INCREASE IN LACK OF ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS HAS NOW BECOME COMMON PLACE BUT TO SUGGEST THAT EDUCATION CAN WITHSTAND FURTHER CUTS IS LAUGHABLE!!
TO REMOVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TEACHERS AND LEARNING ASSISTANTS TO SAVE MONEY WILL NOT BENEFIT THE CHILDREN OR THE COMMUNITY AS PTO

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WE ARE GUARDIANS OF OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE DOES THIS NOT MEAN
THAT WE HAVE A DUTY OF CARE TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE A
FUTURE TO LOOK FORWARD TO WHERE THEY CAN COMPETE TO THRIVE
WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD AS CONFIDENT AND EDUCATED
AND INDEPENDANT CITIZENS.



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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A

Please share your views in the space available below

I have concerns over the proposed cuts to the Music Program.

The program was already cut the last couple of years and does not have enough staff to cover the area as is and there are kids waiting on a waiting list to be taught.

How are the children through no fault of there own going to have the same opportunities as those who can pay privately? Music is not just for the rich it is for everyone. This is not the message you are selling with this Budget!

How are you going to protect our children. In the budget you have said that you will be directing children to private tuition within the area. Is the council going to vet every tutor it recommends to the parents?

SQA National 5 is also a concern without the basics of music being taught at primary and through this program, how do the council expect the children to take national 5 and pass without the foundations being taught.... are you expecting them to do this in the two years and still obtain a grade to further progress... i feel that the council are not aware that you are setting these children up to fail and putting more stress on you much valued Music Teachers to get these children to pass. Eventually Music will no longer be taught in any of our schools as there wont be any Children taking up the places.

My other concern is the impact this will have on music groups around the region. Brass tuition in particularly is non existed within this program due to there not being a brass instructor. The fear is there will be no children coming to these organisations due to lack of tuition within the schools.

I ask ... and i understand cuts need to be made but to reconsider the implications this will have on what our region prides its self on. Its Music, Arts and food culture are all thriving and this will have a bigger implication than what the council is portraying.

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED A PETITION [3387 signatures]

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Coming to the oasis is good as there is always food available which is important to us as we don't always have money. It would be good if there was always a way we could have hot food and learn to cook it.

I've made lots of friends which was important when I moved here. I don't know how I would have made friends if I didn't come to Oasis.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Youth work has always let me be myself
I'm never afraid here and IT has saved
me many times and I ~~am~~ would not
be the person I am today.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

THE CUTS DIRECTED TOWARDS LIFELONG LEARNING SEEM REDICULOUS SINCE IT IS ALREADY THE LEAST FUNDED SECTOR OUT OF ALL 12 MAIN AREAS. CURRENTLY D&G YOUTH CENTRES ALREADY FOCUS ON VULNERABLE AREAS OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND IF FUNDING WAS CUT THEN IT WILL MAKE IT NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY ON SUPPORTING THESE AREAS WITH THE ALREADY CURRENTLY ~~STRETCH~~ STRECHED BUDGET. IF ANYTHING, MORE ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO LIFELONG LEARNING DUE TO THE BENEFITS THAT ARE RECOGNISED ALREADY BY THE COUNCIL & THE PUBLIC. THIS COMES FROM THE VARIOUS EVENTS, WITH YOUTHBEATZ BEING ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE, THAT ARE PUT ON AND ABLE TO BE PUT ON WITH THE CURRENT FUNDING. WITH THESE CUTS IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT THE BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY WILL BE REDUCED AND UNTIMATLY SEEING AN INCREASE IN ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR, SUICIDE RATES, A DECREASE IN EMPLOYMENT ETC TO NAME A FEW. I ALSO FEEL THAT YOUTHWORX AND ADULT LEARNING SHOULD NOT BE PUT IN THE ~~SAME~~ SAME CATEGORY AS THEY ARE TWO COMPLETELY SEPERATE TEAMS. HONESTLY, I HAVE NO CLUE ON WHAT ADULT LEARNING IS... LONG STORY SHORT. RECOGNISE THE BENIFITS YOUTHWORX HAS TO THE COMMUNITY AND AWARD IT MORE FUNDING RATHER THAN LESS!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

WITHIN THE 2020/21 BUDGET IT STATES THAT YOUTHWORK IS GOING TO BE STREAMLINED THIS IS GOING TO MAJORLY AFFECT ME IN MY COMMUNITY AS I ATTEND LOCAL YOUTH WORK GROUPS / CLUBS AND THEY HAVE / ARE HELPING ME IN VARIOUS WAYS SUCH AS TAKING ME IN OUT THE STREETS, STOPPED ME FROM GETTING INVOLVED IN RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR AND THINGS THAT ARE NOT GOING TO HELP ME IN MY FUTURE. THE YOUTHWORK TEAM AND ^{THE} A BUILDING SUPPORT ME IN MANY WAYS AND IF YOUTHWORK GETS STREAMLINED THEN THIS IS GOING TO HAVE MAJOR CHANGES AND AFFECTS TO YOUNG PEOPLE WITHIN THIS COMMUNITY. YOUTHWORK SERVICES WITHIN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SHOULD NOT BE CUT AS YOUTHWORK IS A PRIORITY!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	Youth work Dumfries & Galloway

Please share your views in the space available below

Through out my journey of youth work I started off as a shy and quiet boy the progressed onto becoming more confident and becoming a young leader I couldn't do the things that I could do today if it wasn't for the continuous support of the workers. They have also given me so many life changing opportunities that make me who I am today.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	Youthwork Dumfries & Galloway

Please share your views in the space available below:

youthwork means a great deal to many young people across D&G, from small rural areas where the Drop ins are some of the only groups available to young people to larger areas where youthwork acts as a permanent place of support. I see youth work as a family people who believe in me when I don't even believe in myself a family, people who never give up on me and help me fight to be the best person I can be, a place for support, guidance, education and most of all a place to have fun, the region would be completely different if youthwork was not in place and I can assure its not just young people who agree, Parents, carers as well as young people can support this statement!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Youth work is really important,
It should not be cut. Youth
Work Services - THE OASIS Youth
Centre is like my second home,
It has given me confidence,
I have learned new skills
and I enjoy coming along to
the different groups.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

It is important to keep youth work
because its important for young people
to have positive role models.
I enjoy meeting friends and having fun

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I would ask that D&G Council reconsider its proposal to provide notice on the Housing Support contract with Bethany Christian Trust for Supported Temporary Accommodation (£81k). Bethany Christian Trust has been working in Dumfries for well over 15 years and many lives have been turned around and transformed by the unique support that Bethany offers. The activity in Dumfries has been supplemented by Bethany central funds in Edinburgh for a number of years, ranging from £40,000 - £50,000 a year, showing Bethany's commitment to the local Dumfries community, especially the marginalised and vulnerable in society. Removal of this council funding would put at risk much of the valuable work and support that Bethany provides, potentially resulting in service users having to instead access other council departments and thus negating any proposed saving. Indeed, it could result in Bethany withdrawing from the region entirely, resulting in loss of employment and worse still a huge detrimental impact on vulnerable adults in Dumfries.</p>

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I believe it is wrong to cut funding to The Bethany Christian Trust which provides supported temporary accommodation and to First Base, the Food Bank and the Hub rent deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>I also think that the many people affected by this are unlikely to be heard in this consultation as they are the least able to have access to a computer or the ability to respond.</p> <p>If the funding for the above organisations is reduced/stopped, the council will ultimately need to provide more housing and support for homeless people and to take over the role of the organisations and, especially given that the organisations have voluntary workers (as well as paid) I cannot see how this can be cost effective.</p> <p>As a landlord, I have personal experience of the effectiveness of the hub rent deposit guarantee scheme. I was persuaded to take two tenants who could not afford the deposit (and they turned out to be very good and grateful tenants). In fact, as a landlord, I know that if the Hub was given a little more funding, rather than less (to cover loss of rent if tenants become unable to pay rent, rather than just cover for damage - this would probably still be cheaper than finding them alternative accommodation), there would be a much greater uptake of struggling tenants by private landlords and the homelessness problem would be greatly alleviated (many other landlords agree with this).</p> <p>It is inconceivable to me that funding to help prevent the most vulnerable people from struggling to survive the cold and wet days and nights (freezing in winter) without a home, and to find themselves enough food to do this, should be reduced while funding for the arts, sports and festivals is still provided.</p> <p>Last year, I heard about a shortage of housing for the homeless in this area. I called the council homeless department twice to discuss the use of one of our (10 bedroom) houses for the homeless. I left messages about this but no-one called me back. I would have asked for a relatively low rent for this.</p> <p>I do not believe that the council takes the matter of homelessness seriously enough.</p>



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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme because I feel that this is a vital service for people in housing need and offers a way to avert homelessness. Housing support is greatly needed in the region and cutting these services even further just makes housing and homeless issues even more serious.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme as having been homeless previously and having been helped by the service for my deposit I know just how important it is. I would have been on the streets if it had not been for the Rent Deposit Scheme and I am sad that other people won't get the same opportunity.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme as this service is crucial to averting homelessness. The shortage in social housing means that the private landlords play a big role in providing accommodation, however, this can be prohibitive for people on low incomes. The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme can help people to secure a tenancy which provides them with a safe home, the thing that underpins other basic human rights.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme because housing issues are in crisis in the region and removing even more potential sources of help to avert can only prove to increase homelessness for more people putting increasing pressure on wrap around services.</p> <p>This cut is extremely short sighted and shows a disturbing disregard for averting homelessness!</p>
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 and regionwide
Organisation (if applicable)	The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (T/A the hub- your community action centre)

Please share your views in the space available below

We wish to raise our concerns about the proposal to cut the £35k annual funding for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme (RDGS) and the presumption this will save Dumfries and Galloway Council money.

We would also like to raise concerns about the Budget Options Proposal process itself in terms of how the RDGS was assessed and selected by the officers involved.

The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme (RDGS) assists people on low incomes, who are in housing need and who are unable to obtain social housing as they are not deemed a priority. We pro-actively help identify landlords with available properties to rent and negotiate with them to accept a guarantee bond instead of a cash deposit in order to help people get a rented home in the private sector.

This averts a potential homelessness situation and the need for the council to provide temporary accommodation; it helps keep people in the communities they want to live in; it reduces pressure on social housing waiting lists; and ensures private rented properties are of the required standard by ensuring private landlords are registered with the local authority; and additionally that they have all the necessary regulatory certification in place i.e. gas safety, electrical report, compliant lease, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and electrical performance certificates etc. (Please note these documents are not generally checked as part of the Lendlord Registration process).

Every week we also collate information about all available private sector properties being advertised across the region and produce an information resource that is circulated to council staff and other agencies who work with people in housing need to assist them in their support and advice roles.

Our position is that the council will not save £35k by the proposal to cut funding for the RDGS for the following reasons:

- If the RDGS ceases the council will have to provide a cash equivalent of existing deposit bonds to the hub to retain in their accounts for liquidity purposes in order to reimburse landlords for future guarantee bond claims.
- The council would not be able to "in-house" the RDGS or use another provider to deliver a similar contracted service as this would mean TUPE applies and existing hub staff delivering the RDGS would have to be employed by the council or any other provider delivering a similar contracted service.
- The loss of RDGS will inevitably mean more time is taken up by council Homelessness and Housing Options staff liaising with landlords and finding alternative homes for people in housing need. For example last month alone the RDGS contacted 93 landlords with available tenancies and this resulted in only 3 landlords willing to take people on low incomes as tenants. The cost of time spent on this activity would be far greater to the council in terms of its own staffing costs and staffing capacity issues.

In addition the proposal to cut funding to the RDGS:

- Has not been considered properly in terms of any evidence of a cost benefit analysis or impact assessment being made by officers before selection as an option proposal.
- Does not evidence any partnership working, consultation or engagement taking place with the RDGS. The hub, who has delivered the RDGS for many years, was not informed the RDGS was being considered for inclusion in the proposal until the day the Budget Options Proposal Report was made available to the public.
- Will leave D & G as one of the few regions in Scotland without a RDGS service.
- Will increase levels of homelessness in our region.
- Will affect rural communities most where there is very scarce social housing available and people rely on the private rented sector. Lack of access to the private rented sector for families on low incomes will impact on the viability of local services i.e. schools, transport, shops etc.

As outlined above we reiterate that the inclusion of the RDGS in the Budget Options Proposal will not generate the cost savings and would actually incur greater costs to the council as well as reduce a service to vulnerable people in housing need in this low wage economy region.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord during the tenancy and to the tenant this region would have more homeless people.

In the long run this will not save the council money and will cause more distress to people who need this help.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord during the tenancy as well as to the tenant this region would have more homeless people which would cost the council far more money!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.</p> <p>I am a landlords agent that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy in rural areas and keep our services and schools viable. There are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages and can't afford deposits so without this scheme and the help the hub provides our rural villages would decline.</p> <p>I manage properties on behalf of 15 landlords who all agree with this response.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlords that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy in rural areas and keep our services and schools viable. There are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages and can't afford deposits.

Closing date for returning your Response Form is **Wednesday 4 December 2019**
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Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG6
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy that would struggle to get a tenancy without it. There are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages and can't afford deposits. The hub has provided invaluable help to me and my tenants during their tenancy.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord during the tenancy and to the tenant this region would have more homeless people and families. There will never be enough housing association properties to house them all.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord during the tenancy and to the tenant this region would have more homeless people and families. There will never be enough housing association properties to house them all, especially in the rural villages.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlords agent that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy as there are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies available are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages and can't afford deposits so without this scheme and the help the hub provides these people would be homeless.

I manage the properties of 5 landlords who all agree with this response.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 and DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.</p> <p>I am a landlord and a landlord's agent that has used this scheme for many years and had an excellent service from the hub. I am able to take a chance on tenants who wouldn't be able to get a tenancy due to their low incomes. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord and my tenants during the tenancy this region would have more homeless people.</p>

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that has used this scheme for many years and had an excellent service from the hub. I am able to take a chance on tenants who wouldn't be able to get a tenancy due to their low incomes. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord and my tenants during the tenancy this region would have more homeless people.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.</p> <p>I am a landlord that has used this scheme for several years and been assisted and advised by the hub. It has encouraged me to consider potential tenants I may not have considered and helped people without a deposit get tenancies from me.</p>

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.</p> <p>I am a landlord that uses this scheme and have been assisted and advised by the hub. It has encouraged me to consider potential tenants I may not have considered and helped people without a deposit get tenancies from me.</p>
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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG16
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord and this scheme and the assistance provided to me meant I was able to take a tenant who is in low paid work without a cash deposit. without this many people would not be able to get a home near to their work and families.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1, DG2, DG11, DG12
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

We do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

We are a landlords agency and manage 53 properties. We use this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy that would struggle to get a tenancy without it. There are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages and can't afford deposits. The hub has provided invaluable help to us and our tenants during their tenancies.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy. Without this and the assistance the hub gives to me as a landlord during the tenancy and to the tenant tis region would have more homeless people and families. There will never be enough housing association properties to house them all.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

I am a landlord that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy and it gives me the confidence to offer a tenancy to them.

I manage 22 properties in A & E area.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG13
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the council proposal to cut funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme delivered by the hub.

I am a landlord and a landlords agent that uses this scheme and it gives a chance to people on low incomes to get a tenancy in rural areas and keep our services and schools viable. There are not enough social housing properties so the only tenancies are those privately rented. Many people in work are on low wages so without this scheme and the help the hub provides rural villages would end up with older people and holiday homes and no younger people and families able to live there.

I represent a further 14 landlords with properties I manage that agree with the above.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I disagree with the budget for the Rent Deposit Gaurentee Scheme being cut as it is a necesary service enabling those in need to access housing without the intervention of the council homeless services. This in itself must save the council a vast sum of money as homeles accomodation is extreemly expensive some a much as £48 per night, paid by the council!!!!

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The scheme has been successful in helping people get on their feet and if funding is withdrawn then it can only be predicted that it will leave a trail of indirect burden on the council. The scheme prevents further issues which council may have to pick up with financial consequences

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed
outstore Rent deposit guarantee
Scheme.

without the scheme I wouldn't
have been able to get a
property in DTG + live near
my gf + kids.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed
 ask the rent deposit guarantee Scheme.
 helps alot of people who
 are on low income +
 cannot move but need to
 move. The deposit + rent
 in advance is high

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the
Proposed cuts to the rent deposit
guarantee scheme.
People who on low incomes +
bad health that are on
waiting lists struggle to
get deposit.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

According to the Scottish Government, councils have a statutory responsibility to anyone threatened with, or experiencing, homelessness and must offer a minimum of advice, assistance and temporary accommodation.

Currently the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme allows homeless individuals or families to take up a tenancy. If the scheme ceases to be funded, such people will no longer be in a position to apply for accommodation and will therefore fall back on the council to provide it.

In addition, landlords who have already received assurances under the scheme will now demand deposits.

I cannot see how this would prove to be economic.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal
cuts to the rent deposit guarantee
scheme. This scheme helps
those on a low income +
allows them to move when
they cannot stay in their current
household or do not have a home.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This is a valuable service & helps the very people the council should be helping those with a low income & not great circumstances.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This scheme covers the entire DTG which helps homeless + people on low income with the scheme they become a further strain on DTG Council will the initial saving mean you see in the long run?

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This helps low income families stay in accommodation suitable to their needs locality size etc.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. To take away the scheme how does it save money the low income + homeless need to go somewhere. To the council. So does taking away the scheme helping those who need it most save any money really?

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
This cut in funding will make vulnerable people on low income even more vulnerable and at risk of not being able to secure a tenancy and home.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme provides an important lifeline for individuals and families on low incomes to afford the often expensive deposits required to secure a suitable home to live in. Removing this lifeline will result in a loss of choice and could potentially put prospective tenants at risk physically and mentally.

The RDS also provides important advice to service users which helps them understand the processes and the options available. Cutting this fund will cut yet another lifeline to the poor and vulnerable yet again through no fault of their own.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG13
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

This is a vital resource for people on a low income and the lack of it will lead to more risk of homelessness. It seems a false economy to remove schemes like these

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme provides backstop and help to those most in need.

Whilst ongoing self imposed austerity drives this countries economic model no-one (not even you now reading) are that far away from from its consequences.

Redundancy, I ' ll health inability to pay the bills following constrained income equals bargaining with the landlord or mortgage provider.

I ask the individuals responsible for the retraction of funding for this essential scheme to consider how vulnerable they would be should their health or employment fail and where they would turn once financial credibility is lost. Where would your dignity be.

Place yourself in the position of the needy and imagine; then consider that political ideology put you there.

How would you feel? What would you do? What could you do? Where would go? To whom would you turn?

Above all consider that should this country turn its back on the EU unemployment followed by homelessness may affect millions more people over an extended timescale.

We ' re this equation of HSE denomination safety nets would be obligatory.

This chance to maintain the Rent Guarantee Scheme must not be ignored for living in such a low income limited opportunity region like DnG we all may need it or something similar if political tide turns further out from our favour.

Scottish Parliament is currently debating the imposition of across the board business rates. Which is apparently capable of raising 3bn sterling how on earth can the minimum safety net funding involved here be refused.

My understanding is that a sum just in excess of the average national wage is required to keep the scheme ongoing.

Is it not possible to reduce to make reduction in costs by that amount to maintain ongoing funding. Surely in the light of muted local authority control of business rates in the pipeline it would be prudent to continue Deposit Scheme for the time being.

Homelessness is not the affliction of the addictive or the uneducated but the creation of a a society that has begun not to care.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG6 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

As a person on low income if I had to look at private let. I would struggle to come up with money for a deposit particularly with dwp atos lieing in my medical assessment which stopped my personal Independence Payment which Im in process of appealing with citizens advice and in meantime as my disability money has stopped I'm only getting esa at £500 a month. Dwp are over the 28day rule for making their submission. I've also no savings due to being on low income

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

I have used the Rent Deposit Scheme previously when I needed to get out of a bad situation and it was a lifeline, I would not have been able to afford to move if it hadn't been for the scheme which gave me security and the space to get myself back on my feet. I personally feel this service is vital, even more so in the current economic climate

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG10 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the option of providing notice to stop the rent deposit guarantee scheme (RDGS). Dumfries & Galloway has a low wage economy and it is almost impossible for some people to get a "deposit" together. There is also significant pressure on social housing & stopping RDGS will only make this worse.

The RDGS is a service that offers value for money. It is inexpensive to run (£35k) and yet enables a number of people to secure housing that they otherwise would not be able to.

I would also question ultimate savings - how will existing deposit bonds be repaid? Will the tenants be secure and will landlords withdraw? The cost of this proposal will probably outweigh any possible savings.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme Because taking away the rent deposit scheme Helps the most vulnerable in society to obtain homes and would potentially add to the problem of homelessness

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

This is a vital scheme for low income households. especially in rural areas without enough social housing.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The council are making cuts in the wrong places, they are hitting the poorest 1st, we are a rural community so travel, fuel, heating fuel & private rents are at an all time high, we have pensioner poverty as we as homeless poverty, in work poverty & child poverty, the rent deposit scheme helps people secure a private tenancy when they have no other way of securing a deposit, the council need to cut middle management & stop buying vehicles that are never used, hire out empty properties at a reasonable rent

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2.
Organisation (if applicable)	Comm. Development.

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Shocking that this is being cut. This will have a huge impact on people who are striving to provide stable upbringing to their families & people most in need.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	Commonly Wounded

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Housing is in a crisis - The
Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme saves
people's lives. Would be a
disgrace to lose it and see more
homelessness in Dumfries & Galloway

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	Comm. Dev.

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

To end this scheme is to put people in a situation where they may have to live in already bad situations but have no way of escaping these situations (abusive) to better their lives.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	Member of the Public

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I HAVE BEEN HOMELESS MYSELF. THE
RENT DEPOSIT GUARANTEE SCHEME GAVE
ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET BACK INTO
SOCIETY / EMPLOYMENT.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	D99.
Organisation (if applicable)	NHRS

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

THE IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS AND INDIVIDUALS / FAMILIES IS ALWAYS IN A CRISIS - REMOVING THE ABILITY FOR THOSE LOANS MAKING INSURANCES AND FINANCIAL HANDSHIP WILL ONLY INCREASE THE WELFARE OF INDIVIDUALS + FAMILIES BY FUNDING CUT THE RENT DEPOSIT GUARANTEE SCHEME, THIS IS AN EXTREMELY BAD IDEA FOR THOSE IN LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	D48
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Given the escalation in homelessness & poverty, especially child poverty, this is a vital service which supports vulnerable members of our community.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DA 9
Organisation (if applicable)	/

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

This is an excellent project which
assists the many people who are
living in poverty.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Because the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme helps disadvantage people with the deposit of a private rent property. and the funding will help lots of people who need the help.

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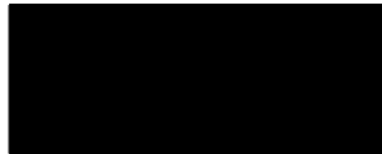
District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

because it is outrageous + people will struggle to secure a home.

They should be doubling the money not cutting it.



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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with The Rent Deposit Gaurentee Scheme being cut from the councils budget as I see in the local paper that £140000 has been allocated to a private company from council funds to refubish and old building into 7 town centre flats, yet £35000 can't be found to prevent people becoming homeless.

Its the very vulnerable and impoverished that will suffer here, yes those 7 flats will provide homes, but for people who can afford to secure them. Meanwhile the council will need to pay £45 per night to keep homeless people in homeless accomodation when they could have secured a private tenancy with the rent deposit Gaurentee Scheme. Absolute nonesence!!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	NHS.

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

THIS IS AN INVALUABLE SERVICE THAT
WILL NEGATIVELY IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS +
FAMILIES WHO DO NOT HAVE FINANCIAL
CAPACITY TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF
A NEW TENANCY.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	COMMUNITY WORKER.

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

THIS IS AN INVALUABLE SERVICE
THAT WILL NEGATIVELY IMPACT ON
INDIVIDUALS + FAMILIES WHO DO NOT HAVE
THE FINANCIAL CAPACITY TO MEET THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A NEW TENANCY.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	Community Development

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

This will lead to more and more people being homeless who are already vulnerable.

Cuts should be made to other areas where there is more of an option to apply for funding to fill the gap.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
Invaluable to people needing housing who have no other way of raising deposit. Housing
is basic human need and poverty is rife in our region. Maybe reducing salaries of highly
paid council managers could be more palatable.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I didnt even know there was a scheme.

I have been refused every type of help because I am in a private rent. Ive had to max credit cards to pay for deposits, buy furniture, and so on.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Important that funding is not cut as people on low income have a great struggle to find a deposit for private landlords.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

BECAUSE IT DISCRIMINATES PEOPLE
ON LOW INCOMES.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	NA

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I would be homeless without Rent Deposit</p>

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	NA

Please share your views in the space available below

Please don't stop this valuable service of rent deposit.
Help prevent people falling through the gaps in the housing rental situation.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG13 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
We have seen the rise in poverty for people in Dumfries and Galloway over the past few years. The programmes that exist to support these people, sadly, are being cut and as such the capacity we have as communities to help our most vulnerable is becoming limited.

We at the Langholm Initiative believe strongly that communities need to formulate their own responses to local poverty as it exists differently throughout our vast region. However, this can only happen with the committed support from our Council who have made a genuine pledge through their Strategy to "prevent people from falling into poverty; support them to escape poverty and ensure they are able to lead independent, safe, happy and fulfilled lives." Objective 2 of this strategy states that the Council will "support people experiencing poverty to move from dependence to independence."

That the council should remove its support for essential services supporting housing does not fulfil its self-set obligations. We are all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and we all need to have a voice in protecting others, protecting ourselves and protecting our communities.

We do not support this action by Dumfries and Galloway Council and hope they reconsider removing their support from the RDGS. In the face of budget cuts, let's be a bit more human and provide support and capacity where it needs to be provided.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed cuts to the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
 I have relied on the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme - it is invaluable - without it, I would have been faced with homelessness or, on another occasion, remained stuck in an abusive relationship with no way of leaving that situation. The stress of this situation - of feeling there is no way out because you simply do not have the means or the time to save a deposit - is unimaginable unless you 've been in that situation. The toll on mental health and well-being is huge.

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Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (If applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

its a good thing to keep going alot of
people would struggle what it
may end up on the streets.
if people on the streets this is a
burden to the Council.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme.

I am a single parent and was left more or less homeless due to a relationship break down, this scheme would have been really beneficial for me in my circumstances. I think it is important that more funding is made available to help individual as much as they can in securing a safe warm environment for themselves and family.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

VERY VALUABLE IN SERVICE TO THOSE
ON LOW INCOMES.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>I feel that cutting this budget will only increase homelessness for low income families.</p>
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>It's a valuable scheme for people who have maybe just started work or have been on a low wage and wanting or needing to set up on their own! I know people have have used it successfully who otherwise would never have had the means to live in their own house</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

We need to support those who depend on benefits like this. More people will be become homeless and the crisis is bad enough.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

It seems ridiculous for the council to cut funding for the Rent Deposit Guarantee scheme. Not only will people continue to borrow of family, friends or even loans getting themselves further into debt, when there is a scheme there to help. The council benefit off this scheme, for example if there was no scheme and a publican got a loan, then never repayed the loan. Then borrowed further - and further, debt then spiralling out of control, then the government write off debt when it gets to a certain unaffordable point.

It not only helps lower income people, it's gives happiness and warmth to ones mental health. Reducing costs in the NHS with depression etc.

If the council go ahead with this - there budget in other places would be higher!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
It's a service that helps those in need on low incomes secure private lets and the council want to cut it therefore putting severe strain on other services as there isn't enough affordable housing options in our region

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>The scheme helps prevent homelessness which costs the council and community even more. Theres people working more than one job who still need assistance gathering a deposit, its not something that is as easily obtainable with rental hikes and cost of living not matching the current employment climate of low wages and zero hour contracts etc.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>It is very hard for those on low incomes to save any money at all. This means they are unable to get access to private lets. There are not enough other viable options in the area if this funding gets cut.</p>
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Any scheme in place to help low to middle income earners get into a house should be supported, not cut.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

The rent deposit helps people on low incomes access private housing by setting them up with a deposit, there is not enough social housing for people so this gives everyone a chance to access housing and therefore empowers people to make their own choices.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme is vital because it provides access to accommodation, and in turn empowers and supports, rather than restricts applicants in making their own life choices. As there is a lack of social housing, the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme is one of the few avenues that can be pursued to assist those in need, and is therefore a precious service that must not have its funding cut.</p>
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

Homelessness is on the rise all over Scotland and is a serious and increasing issue, with some areas seeing some of the highest increase rates in the past 10 years!!

In the past 9 years under a Conservative Government and their rubbish "Austerity" along with their fascist policies and ridiculous budget and vital benefit cuts has plundered many hard working Scottish people and families into living in poverty, relying on foodbanks etc being unable to earn an actual living wage that supports basic living needs and requirements.

Dumfries and Galloway Council have and can gain access to more than enough funding to keep this vital resource and other similar schemes for people that are in need of things like accommodation and support.

If the Rent Deposit Scheme is cut from the Dumfries and Galloway Council's budget we will literally be turning our backs on some of our most vulnerable constituents and will only add more strain on community housing resources.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

This country is already in a race to the bottom without stripping a valuable scheme such as this. One of the biggest disasters to befall this country is people being allowed to buy their council houses in the 80s forcing people to rent. It's not easy for young people especially to find a deposit and a months rent (1000 pounds nearly) it would be scandalous if this scheme was stopped.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The Council's proposal directly impacts those who are least able to manage alone, those who need help and financial support.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>This is another useful public service being ruined by austerity.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

So many people are struggling to make ends meet and so few can accrue enough savings to pay rent in advance and a deposit. This means they face being trapped in awful situations or are forced into homelessness. More landlords are selling their houses so the rug can be pulled from tenants at any time. This worry and pressure is detrimental to both physical and mental health.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. It would have a devastating effect on young families and people on a low income. Having benefited from this scheme myself in the past I am very aware just how important it is that this safety net remains in place for people less advantaged than others.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
This would effect the working class families, young people moving towards independence and wanting to rent,
Many of whom find it difficult to save for a deposit due to low wages , cowboy crooked companies paying less than the living wage,

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
I think this is a valuable service to so many needy people whos life would be better with an ability to have a roof over there head while so they can get back on there feet and have stability to work on bettering there lives without the stress of not having a place to feel and be safe.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. I'm fully aware as to why the Council are cutting services, on account of cuts from Westminster, but I really feel that this avenue is morally, and ethically, wrong. The youth are the future of this land, and, if they're held back from moving on, they'll never grow. They'll end up domiciled in their parents house, unable to move on, and we'll end-up stagnant. Simple as that.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
It's a service that helps those in need on low incomes secure private lets and the council want to cut it therefore putting severe strain on other services as there isn't enough affordable housing options in our region.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
 I don't know the figures, but I'll bet the rent deposit guarantee scheme helps thousands of people on low income with securing housing. Wouldn't cutting this just cause more financial problems down the line with perhaps even an increase in numbers of homeless. Always difficult to know what to cut to save money (sad that we need cuts at all) but access to housing should be a basic human right and cutting this scheme curtails that.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
This funding is so important. We should be doing anything possible to help stop homelessness.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>The risk of removing people from their communities in which they are happy in, and risking homelessness</p>
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>This scheme is a vital service for vulnerable people and should not be cut. It provides a life line for people in need of housing, who need emergency accommodation.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I DO NOT support Dumfries and Galloway Council's proposal to cut funding for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>I believe that EVERYONE should have the right to a roof over their head regardless of whether they can afford one or not. It is a HUMAN RIGHT.</p> <p>Homelessness is a growing problem in this country, so for Dumfries and Galloway Council to consider cutting funds to a scheme that is there to help people put a roof over their head, is not only contributing to the problem of potential homelessness, they are contributing to a breach of HUMAN RIGHTS.</p> <p>I live in a Private Flat so I'm well aware of the high deposits landlord's charge to secure a privately rented property.</p>
--

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Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>I do not support the councils proposal to cut funding for the scheme for several reasons;</p> <p>It supports a high number of individuals on low income to access housing. I know several people who have engaged with the scheme and it has enabled them to stay within the community in safe housing. This keeps individuals being made homeless and developing other issues associated with homelessness.</p> <p>As a social work student I feel it is essential to support schemes like this within our locality to continue providing accessible housing for individuals on lower incomes.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme</p> <p>Councils' duties to homeless people include a statutory responsibility to anyone threatened with, or experiencing, homelessness.</p> <p>By law, councils must offer a minimum of advice, assistance and temporary accommodation to all homeless households and those at risk of homelessness. For example, they must assess the levels of homelessness in their area and provide information and advice about homelessness, free of charge.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. This is a much needed service that helps under privileged people at a disadvantage financially to get accommodation, affordable housing in the private sector. Without it some family's would end up homeless relying on and over stretched waiting list for rehoming when there s a shortage of houses, flats etc to meet the rising numbers of familys needing housing. This would have a detrimental affect on family s on low threshold income pushing them further into poverty. Please save this rent deposit scheme which I consider a valuable resource to the community.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme it helps a lot of people who are potentially in dire situations to be able to start affording a nice home. It puts them on a correct path and saves people from potentially having to go through the homeless system which can be a awful experience.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
 The rent deposit scheme helps people in need depending on there circumstance and more
 and more people are having to turn to private let as not enough council houses and may
 not always be able to afford the big deposits that estate agents asks for so taking this
 funding away will not be helpful for people in need

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG13 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I moved to Langholm just over a year ago and work in Annan. Recently a family member was suffered a breakdown and moved to Langholm so I could give support. However there was no accommodation available socially and so we secured a private flat. This meant I had to loan £700 for the deposit and first month's rent and sign as a guarantor. As I am a low income earner myself, this somewhat depleted my savings and puts me in a difficult position. My relative is now applying for universal credits, which takes time and it is unlikely he will be able to repay the loan in the foreseeable future. The rent deposit scheme is essential in rural areas such as Dumfries and Galloway as there is no other housing available in towns such as Langholm other than private, unless you have many years to wait. My relative is fortunate to have family to help out, what would he have done if we couldn't find the money to help him?

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
 This is a much needed scheme for those who cannot get access to social housing and are forced to turn to private landlords. These landlords expect a months rent as a deposit. These rents are usually high and if your on a tight budget it can be impossible to pay.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I have worked with many people who have used the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. Without this vital scheme many of these would have become homeless or required to move to areas within D&G which were unfamiliar, and then risked becoming socially isolated with no familiar community support.

To scrap this scheme would be a more expensive option. I disagree with this decision.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I am disappointed that the Council see this as a good idea. This scheme supports a lot of people to move into the private sector who otherwise would be presenting themselves at the homeless department. This allows people to choose a private landlord over an RSL and gives them the means to move on. Great Scheme, don't end, and doesn't cost a lot for the good service it gives.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

It is my understanding that it is false economy to end this service and it's removal would lead to increased costs for the council and hardship for potential service users.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
I work within a housing support organisation which involves supporting many vulnerable individuals and families who are on extremely low incomes and can barely afford to feed themselves and their families. Not everyone is entitled to an RSL property, for various reasons, and this leaves them with very little in the way of housing options, other than private lets.
These rentals are often costly and almost always require a deposit of a month's rent. Therefore someone has to find anywhere from around £600 to £800+ depending on the size etc. of the private let.
How can they do this????? They do not have a magic pot of money. They barely have enough to make ends meet on a day to day basis. The majority do not have anyone else who can lend them this money and I have never come across a landlord who would let someone pay a deposit up over a period of time.
This then leaves the person, or family, with absolutely no housing options. None. In fact, it leaves them homeless. Isn't it everyone's human right to have their basic needs met? Secure and appropriate housing being one of the most basic of needs.
I appreciate that cuts have to be made, but yet again it seems that the people with the least are being penalised and pushed further and further down until they are practically in the gutter. I would ask the Council to seriously think about this before cutting off the money to this invaluable service.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
This is a vital fund for those desperately in need and to cut it will mean hardship for many.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>I believe that Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme is an invaluable service aiming to support people and families on a low income who otherwise would not be able to afford and access could quality housing or have a choice of where they want to live. Families who work hard but earn minimal wages struggle to access good housing for their children and this is when the Rent Deposit Scheme comes to play as it allows them to access deposit bonds, which otherwise they would struggle pay.</p> <p>I'm really shocked to hear that this scheme is being planned to be removed and no longer made available to people, especially when it is vital to people and families. Without this support families or people might struggle to maintain their tenancies and the knockout effect could be that people might become homeless, in rent arrears and demand on other services will become greater.</p> <p>I would like to ask the person/or group of people who came up with the idea of scrapping the Rent Deposit Scheme to really reconsider their way of thinking here and ask if they also have considered the potential repercussions to people when removing this service and increased demand on public sector who already is strained to its limits, in result making statutory services who are for people, being unkind to people.</p>
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme because it allows people on low income a choice of properties to rent if they are unable to be provided with social housing. The scheme allows this to happen by way of providing the deposit when someone can't afford to pay a large amount in advance.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
Without the RDGS I wouldn't have been able to get my rented flat. I would have had to carry on flitting from friend to friend and family members with everything in bags and never feeling settled. Jobs in Dumfries don't pay enough and lots of people like me are on part-time and ever changing hours. There is no way I could have got a deposit together. It wasn't just that but the help I got from the RDGS at the hub in finding a flat with a landlord who would take a chance on me. If this scheme goes what is going to happen to people in the position I was in or does no one care - are we just not that important as we don't have big unions or council staff fighting our corner to save projects like this that help people like me?

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. People on low incomes depend on this. There aren't enough quality council / budget housing organisation houses so people have no choice but to rent privately. Many cannot afford to pay their deposit and first month's rent whilst still paying their bills where they currently live. It can be upwards of £1000 on top of their usual bills for the month and for those scraping by this is simply impossible. The rent deposit scheme gives those people a fair chance to move into a new home in an area where they feel safe and is more appropriate for their family needs. It also allows those that don't mind where they live as long as they have a home, get out of homelessness etc a bit quicker. Please keep it to avoid people getting trapped in poverty. It is a small kindness that means everything to those who receive it.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

I wholeheartedly disagree with the proposed funding cuts concerning the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The scheme is vital for individuals/ families on low income to access private housing in their local area. In the absence of this scheme people will find themselves without a choice and on a verge of homelessness. Furthermore, by having an access to RDGS people can stay in their own communities and continue to support their local services and infrastructure.

I feel in these times of hardship and austerity, the scheme must remain and continue to support those in the utmost need.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

I believe Dumfries & Galloway Council have a moral obligation to support those on low income and who are needing of accommodation through the Rent Deposit Scheme at the Hub. There is a lack of Social Housing in this region and The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme supports people on low income who need accommodation to identify landlords and property suitable to their needs, in addition to this their staff negotiate with them to accept a guarantee bond instead of a cash deposit in order to help people get a rented home in the private sector. This Scheme supports D&G Council by ensuring private rented properties are of the required standard with private landlords being registered with the local authority. This is true partnership working that should not be taken for granted.

Finally, there WILL be an impact on Dumfries & Galloway Council addressing the needs they have set out in Local Outcome Improvement Plan: Outcome 4 There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most. You have said that you want to prevent homelessness and support younger adults (especially care leavers), veterans, prison leavers, those leaving hospital after a long stay and single adult households in securing tenancies and living independently. Houses across our region should be warm, efficient and in good condition. You have said you will provide support to householders, especially older, single people in rural areas, including through Registered Social and Private Landlords to secure this and particularly to address fuel poverty.

Although D&G Council have to make huge cuts I believe removing the funding for this vital service would be detrimental in the long run for local people and for D&G Council as at present the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme is: Preventing potential homelessness situations from arising whilst supporting Dumfries & Galloway Council from the need to offer temporary accommodation. Having an impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals and families most in need as those on low income would not have this support. The Hub through this project is also assisting Dumfries & Galloway Council in addressing Outcome 3 of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan to ensure Health and wellbeing inequalities are reduced.

As a member of the public I would encourage our Elected Members to consider the bigger picture in this Region for those who need your/our support most.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The RDGS helped me to get my own home. I was sofa surfing for over a year and was on a very low income. I would not have been able to get my own flat without the help of this scheme.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme assists people on low incomes, who are in housing need and who are unable to obtain social housing as they are not deemed a priority. This averts a potential homelessness situation and the need for the council to provide temporary accommodation; it helps keep people in the community they want to live in; it reduces pressure on social housing waiting lists; and ensures private rented properties are of the required standard with private landlords being registered with the local authority.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>It is another harmful idea which will affect the most vulnerable people.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
The rent deposit guarantee scheme helps people who cannot afford to sustain housing.
It's a vital protection to stop people falling into homelessness. Apart from
The obvious human impact of becoming homeless, surely it costs the council more in the long term?

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

THE RENT DEPOSIT GUARANTEE
SCHEME SHOULD STAY AS IT
IS SUCH A BIG HELP TO
PEOPLE TRYING TO STAND
ON THEIR OWN TWO FEET.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG6 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This helps people like myself who can't have afforded to move to a more appropriate property.

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23 NOV 2019



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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

THIS SERVICE (RENT DEPOSIT SCHEME) IS A GOOSEEND FOR THE LIKES OF MYSELF WHO HAVE WORKED ALL MY LIFE SO FAR (40 YEARS) AND STILL CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY THE AMOUNT OF MONEY UPFRONT FOR RENT. IF YOU CUT THIS INVALUABLE SERVICE, YOU WILL BE TAKING AWAY ANY CHANCE OF A LOT OF PEOPLE GETTING INTO SOME HOUSING.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. This is a great scheme which enables people to get housing who otherwise wouldn't be able to.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. This is a cost effective practical way of helping people on low incomes obtain homes in the private sector. Without this what are people supposed to do. It will increase pressure on waiting lists. It will also mean people can't live in places where there is very little social housing ie rural areas. This will have a knock on villages becoming holiday home villages or just for older people who already own homes or who have bought up social housing. This will undermine the sustainability of schools etc.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
This is a great scheme which enables people to get housing who otherwise wouldn't be able to.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The hub provide an absolutely fantastic project called the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme which helps a large amount of people in Dumfries and Galloway - not just Dumfries.

It provides a vital service in supporting people access a list of rented accommodation on a weekly basis to individual support in going through the rent deposit scheme to access a home.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

This scheme is pro-active and inclusive in the sense that it is enabling individuals and families to live independently in their own communities. The preventative support that is provided by this scheme is small compared to the cost that may be incurred should the same individuals or families were to become homeless.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The scheme provides a much needed security of deposit for tenants that do not have the finances to provide a deposit for private lettings. The scheme itself does rigorous checks on the landlord and the property to ensure that all standards are complied with and the tenant is suitable and does not have the immediate funds to find what is, in effect, 2 months rent at the start of the tenancy. Without this scheme, many tenants would not be able to move from place to place to meet their immediate needs.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

As a private landlord, this scheme helps those who cannot raise funds for a deposit as well as the first months rent and all the costs of moving into a new property. I have personal knowledge of people who have had their budgets stretched beyond their resources to get together a deposit, which then just lays in a bank account with the deposit holder until the tenancy is terminated, which could and hopefully would be years. People have had to go to moneylenders (payday loans etc) at exorbitant rates which severely effects their financial position for months and sometimes years ahead.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

Not everyone is rich and even those who are working can not always save for a deposit so please do not end or cut funding for the rent deposit scheme as it will affect many

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. It is a vital service that is offered. A lot of very vulnerable people would be in a spiral of homelessness and chaotic life if this service is withdrawn. How would you address the essential need to our local families that need a helping hand to get a roof over their head if you withdraw this?

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG3 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.
This scheme is invaluable to people who have come from hardship.

E.g. someone who has come out of an abusive relationship, every little help to get their life back on track is something society should offer.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. Yet again the council are cutting something that a lot of people are very fortunate to be able to get the help for,, without the help of the hub & the rent scheme, a lot of people are in accommodation that they would have to wait or even be able to live in area or houses they need.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. This scheme makes a huge difference to peoples lives, it enables them to secure housing in the private sector when they are on a low income, it means then that not as many people are presenting as homeless therefore taking strain of this service. There is not enough affordable social housing for everyone so this scheme is invaluable as it allows people access to the private housing sector and means they can take control of their lives and basic needs.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal to end the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The RDGS is a vital lifeline for so many people on low incomes, it gives people freedom to choose where they live and prevents homelessness, and change homes when their circumstances change.

The scheme allows people on low incomes to secure a roof over their head without having to find a huge amount of money to pay a deposit as well as their first months rent in advance.

Without this scheme there would be an even bigger strain on the councils budget as more people would present as homeless and therefore would need the council to provide a roof over their head at a greatly inflated cost.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I THINK THE RENT DEPOSIT SCHEME IS AN ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIC IDEA, ALOT OF PEOPLE CANNOT AFFORD TO WAIT FOR COUNCIL HOUSING AND HAVE ~~THE~~ TO RESORT TO PRIVATE LETS. I MYSELF HAD TO GO PRIVATE FOR VARIOUS REASONS AND HAD TO PAY £500 DEPOSIT. I COULDN'T AFFORD THIS AND HAD TO GO AROUND FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO SCIMP AND SCRAPE IT TOGETHER, MONEY THAT I STILL OWE. ITS AWFUL.

THE RENT DEPOSIT SCHEME IS ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING INITIATIVES WE EVER HEARD OF, IT WILL HELP ALOT OF PEOPLE IN DIRE NEED, AND TO CUT IT WOULD BE A HUGE MISTAKE

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

It is very essential that people do still receive the Rent Deposit, because it helps them get into a property with a roof over their heads, and gives them a little time to sort out there finances, to pay the rent on time.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Through my voluntary work I have become aware of many people using this scheme. It has many benefits for both tenants and landlords.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

In my opinion this is a very valuable service to Dumfries & Galloway
With rent rates rising and landlords now asking for 1.5/2 months rent value as the deposit as well as one months rent in advance. So before you have even moved in, you have paid out almost and perhaps more than £1000.

It makes it almost impossible for people to rent a property by themselves!

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I do not feel you should cut the funding for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.</p> <p>For people on low incomes who can't get a cash deposit together and who can't get social housing because its not available in areas they need to live this is a valuable cost effective service.</p> <p>How are people in this region ie the lowest wage economy in Scotland, supposed to access private tenancies without this scheme?</p> <p>Short sightedness and not seeing the impact over the longer term by whoever selected this as a possible cost saving!</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme, it helps a lot of people like myself who do not have a lot of money and the deposit was too high on my own. I have 2 kids and trying to find deposit and an rent in advance is quite a hardship.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A

Please share your views in the space available below

THE RENT DEPOSIT GUARANTEE SCHEME HELPS
PEOPLE WHO NEED IT. IT ENABLES THEM TO
HAVE A STABLE FOUNDATION TO GO ON TO BE
HAPPY AND HELPFUL WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the rent deposit guarantee scheme.
The rent deposit scheme will help me as I cannot find a deposit on my own without the scheme. Houses have a huge start up cost, before you even move in.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

RDCS Helped us so much -
such a quick + effective
service, don't know what
we would of done without
RDCS scheme.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

It is a valuable service - I would
 & been homeless + had to give up
 my family dog without it.

ITS a great scheme - helps so
 many people.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme , it helps a lot of people like myself who do not have a lot of money and the deposit was too high on my own. I am a single mother with 2 kids so trying to find a deposit by myself was very hard until I heard about the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme as this is a very helpful scheme which benefits people on low income or benefits to help them get suitable accommodation which they otherwise would not be able to get. This is a worthwhile scheme which should remain well funded by the council.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
 I struggled with my situation to cover the deposit and this scheme helped me cover my deposit and secure a property.
 This is wrong taking away from people that need to get into housing.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme without the deposit scheme I would not be able to move, following a breakdown of a relationship and needing to move out the shared home. Without this I could not have been able to move quickly and would have been stuck in the shared home until I had saved enough to move.

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Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

*Unfortunately, if you do not agree to your comments being published, these will not be made available to Councillors when considering the responses.

District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
its very good scheme and helps people with low incomes move houses quickly when I had a pending eviction due to
landlord selling home

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Working at the Hub, I am aware of the rent deposit scheme and how it benefits those on a low income. Without this scheme, there would be more people at risk of not having a roof over their heads: a place to call their own is a basic right that we all should have. Reducing or withdrawing funding would jeopardise this.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
 I HAVE USED THE SCHEME IN THE PAST TO
 GET MY PRESENT TENANCY. DO NOT KNOW
 HOW I WOULD HAVE COPEd WITHOUT THE
 HELP OF THE RDGS.

Closing date for returning your Response Form is **Wednesday 4 December 2019**
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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
IT IS INVALUABLE.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I believe the rent deposit scheme, to be a very valuable service. I have seen first hand how the scheme can help people on low income secure a safe house for them that ordinarily they could not afford.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This is a valuable service for people in low income households that urgently need to move due to circumstances.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed finding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme.

For those that are unable to come up with a deposit + rent in advance but need to move due to eviction / abuse / unsuitable living conditions this is a great service which helps many.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme.
This scheme enable landlords to accept people on benefits that couldn't ~~not~~ afford the deposit up front.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed finding cats to be rent deposit guarantee scheme. This is a valuable service helping all over Dumfries + Galloway. It enables homeless people to be given homes without waiting on council lists.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposal finding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. This scheme enables homeless people to be referenced + accepted by the scheme + given help to locate a home that accepts the scheme + with this help they are not homeless + sitting in temporary accommodation.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I THINK ITS UNFAIR AND IT SHOUDNT BE STOPPED

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

This project is a lifeline to a huge number of people. Can you imagine being on a low income and finding yourself threatened with homelessness. Not able to raise the deposits for a roof over your head?

This scheme saves the council a fortune as it prevents people becoming homeless and therefore prevents them from putting a further strain on the homeless budget.

It would be a very short sighted decision to cut funding to this project.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG 11
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I disagree with the council cutting the rent deposit guarantee scheme.
 Having benefitted from the scheme myself, I do not know how I would have managed without it.
 There was no way I could have raised a deposit + my first month rent on my minimum wages.
 My partner and I had separated + I couldn't afford the house we rented together so I needed something smaller and more affordable. The scheme meant I could do this + not become homeless.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme
UNFAIR TO PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒

NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

The scheme gives people on low income a choice of where they want/need to live. People are not always in a position to move to a different area or town, they may be reliant on help from family for child care etc, to enable them to work & be independent which is important for mental health & wellbeing.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG4
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

This is very useful for low income families / people to be able to find their deposits in a new home & will reduce homelessness & the cost of homelessness to local government.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I think this is a requirement for people to move home into private accommodation. If this funding is removed this will increase the homeless figures and in return will impact more on council budgets..

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DA1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

There are a large number of homeless which this scheme supports. People often become homeless for reasons beyond their control, what would they do not without this support. The council's homeless budget would be impacted.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme
It is very hard to find money for a deposit and people in bad circumstances to find a
property to suit their needs, if it is cut this will be a constraint on the council.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed funding cuts to the rent guarantee deposit scheme the scheme is vital to people on low incomes like myself who cannot afford the high deposits on property. Due to my circumstances I needed to stay in the same area and had I had to go to other avenues may have ended up elsewhere.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

In relation to scrapping the rent deposit scheme which helps people on low income to secure private rented accommodation. This will affect people in the most vulnerable situations and may even prolong their situations if they can't get help to progress into rented accommodation. It has been a saviour for a lot of people and has helped them progress from homelessness to their own place. It would be a much missed service if it were to go.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9 XXXXXXXXXX
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed funding cuts to the rent guarantee deposit scheme because anyone struggling financially will be unable to find money for a deposit and it will put more people on streets and more strain on the local council.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed cuts to the rent deposit guarantee Scheme without the scheme I would not have been able to move out of my unsuitable home with my child.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I Feel the rent deposit Scheme
is a very important Service being
Delivered, which I have witnessed
First hand by the hub staff
to Support people on low
Income.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme being cut because more + more people are struggling to make ends meet and get good secure accommodation.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed finding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme. What this scheme me + my baby would have had nowhere to stay.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	N/A

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cut for the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

I THINK THIS IS A VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND IS CURRENTLY UTILISED BY A NUMBER OF VULNERABLE PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO FIND A DEPOSIT.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG9 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme
It is a good thing and when you dont have too much money and cannot afford a desposit
and a rent in advance all at the same time. Helps have security when you need to move
for the sake of a child.

Closing date for returning your Response Form is **Wednesday 4 December 2019**
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree to the proposed funding cuts to the rent guarantee deposit scheme it helps families and makes moving house more affordable as we needed to move at short notice and we have low income and no savings the rent advance and desposit is highly expensive and alot to outlay before even moving.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I have learned that it is planned to no longer fund the Rent Deposit Guarantee Fund. I cannot agree that this is wise or acceptable. This will impact hugely on people who need to be in a Private Let but can't afford to fund their own deposit. This could impact on Homeless numbers and as a result put further burden upon these people and ultimately the Council.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG12 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I do not agree with the proposed funding cuts to the rent deposit guarantee scheme
It is a good thing and when you dont have too much money and cannot afford a desposit
and a rent in advance all at the same time. Helps have security when you need to move
for the sake of a child.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DGL. [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

PEOPLE ARE VALUED AND
DESIRE ALL HELP GET TO
GET ON TO HOUSING LADDER.
THAT'S WHY AM SENDING
ABOVE

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>You are wrestling with tough decisions. I respect and appreciate the difficulties. I wish that you did not have to go through this horrendous process yet again. My main points are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thank you for consultation opportunities and the superb facilitation and technical work on the 2nd Dec. I am often on international assignment from our Creetown-based business and could only 'meet' your officers on this very professional and helpful e-event. 2. All opportunities to raise revenue should be taken in order to reduce the impact of cuts. I am in favour of a 5% raise in council tax and seriously seeking other income-generation activities you can legitimately undertake. 3. I have worked with many different community partnership models - a useful approach when they work well. They need to be based on sound learning about what works in our region and elsewhere, and on evidence that local people and groups can actually deliver. Training and capacity-building support for individuals and groups needs to be based on high quality assessment of needs and strengths, to ensure that folk have the relevant skills, sufficient current and reserve resources (time, people, money, space, energy) and - especially - good governance. Up-front energy from a few people is not enough on its own. Transitions must managed well so that folks can be supported not just initially but when conflicts of interest, or over personalities present themselves. The voluntary sector is not easy and cannot just "pick up" where the council left off. 4. Education and environment must be prioritised. 5. Vulnerable people must be protected in all areas where cuts are being made, with high quality needs assessments and back-up plans. <p>Thank you for your efforts and best wishes for your deliberations.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>1. Regarding roads maintenance, the existing standard is already grossly inadequate resulting in unacceptable standards of safety in multiple locations. The policy of patching potholes rather than re-surfacing is simply deferring and increasing cost. This is also increasing the probability of serious accidents and injury/deaths due to drivers losing control as a result of surface defects. In such events, D&G Council may be found liable with attendant huge costs for compensation, not to say personal liability for those in charge. Savings should therefore not be made in this area. Indeed, extra resources should be found, if necessary by sacrificing those not affecting safety.</p> <p>2. Similarly, the length of roads gritted should not be reduced as savings should not be made where increased risk of injury and death will result. In particular, all bus routes must receive adequate gritting. In my experience, as a part-time bus driver, I do not think this is the case at present.</p> <p>3. In respect of verge cutting, while it may be acceptable to reduce cutting to once a season generally, there are a large number of locations where sight-lines at minor road-ends are reduced below acceptable levels if this is done. Such locations must be identified and cut more frequently and in some cases further back from the tarmac. I know of one location locally where vehicles approaching at 60mph (or more) cannot be seen through tall grass without partially emerging on to the main road. Does it have to take a fatal accident to raise awareness of this safety issue?</p> <p>4. When reviewing bus services, if those routes and services at certain times which show very low utilisation were cut and services having reasonable passenger levels were increased in frequency to encourage usage, less subsidy would be required while overall the service would be improved. Improved timetables with better connectivity between services would also be beneficial in increasing usage. As an example, the 520 service to Dalmellington (for Ayr) is such that a day trip is not worthwhile. A later afternoon return would encourage traffic. (The 16.22 Dalry service if extended to Dalmellington could arrive/leave at c16.55, for example.)</p>
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Dear Sirs, I am writing to express my concern at the D&G Council's proposal to cut their £81k budget to the Bethany Christian Trust Support Services in Dumfries.</p> <p>Bethany has provided a unique support service in Dumfries, as well as accommodation, for over 17 years now, for 14 years of which I was employed by them as a Support Worker, until my retirement in 2017. During this time, I saw many lives turned around and transformed, due to the holistic approach Bethany has with its Service Users, working to identify and address the root causes of their often chaotic lifestyles. Other support agencies mainly address housing issues and tailor their support to assist to maintain a tenancy, whilst for many Service Users this comes too early in their support programme, so they do not succeed, their needs and issues running much deeper.</p> <p>Bethany has a history of providing accommodation and person-centered support to people with multiple support needs, including at times severe mental health issues, and are quite often used by other service providers as a "last resort" opportunity for some folk.</p> <p>If Bethany support services were to be terminated, I wonder what the Council think would happen to those who would otherwise have benefited from its services and who will therefore persist in their chaotic lifestyles, going through the for ever revolving doors of other already over-stretched services in the town.</p> <p>I urge the Council to carefully reconsider these budget cuts and to look further ahead at the long-term effects of cutting such a unique and valuable service.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	BETHANY CHRISTIAN TRUST ([REDACTED])

Please share your views in the space available below

I understand how hard it is to make ends meet in a domestic context; I can only imagine how much harder it must be for an organisation such as a Council. Tough decisions need to be made: something has to go.

However, as someone who has several years experience of working with vulnerable adults, including homeless people and people with addiction issues I know how vital the provision and support of agencies such as the Bethany Christian Trust are. Service users (or 'quarto' as I preferred to call them) have told me on several occasions that this kind of assistance has literally kept them alive.

I would passionately and earnestly request the relevant Councillors to search their hearts and minds to seek at least a compromise solution to prevent funding being withdrawn from this amazing organisation.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I wish to make representation in support of the work of Bethany Christian Trust in Dumfries (through its Bethany Supported Housing Service) with the request that you reconsider your decision to withdraw funding and recognize the value of continuing the financial support that this service needs to continue its vital work among some of the most vulnerable and needy people within our community.</p> <p>Bethany Supported Housing have been providing much needed support to homeless and vulnerable people through their supported accommodation in Dumfries for 15 years and support to up to 40 others per week, through the Whitesands Drop-In which it has run for a number of years.</p> <p>The value of the work that they do is clearly in the lives of the many people they have supported and served over the years. The valuable and uniqueness of the service they provide is also clearly identified in reports of inspections by the Care Inspectorate (which are in the public domain). In it's most recent inspection report (24 March 2017), it quotes an external provider as telling them that "the service supports some people that other services would not, due to their history". The question then has to be asked, who would support these people (that other services would not) if the service provided by Bethany Supported Housing was not able to continue because of a lack of funding.</p> <p>The same report also identifies how people who use the service found the support provided by Bethany Supported Housing all of which where "very complimentary" but I would identify three.</p> <p>"There is nothing I would improve about it, I don't think that the staff can improve it."</p> <p>"It's friendly, informative and people bend over backwards for you."</p> <p>"Some other services I've used 'push my buttons,' they were nasty, the approach here is very different and if it wasn't for them I would be dead."</p> <p>Not to put too fine a point on it, but quoting from a person who used the service, Bethany Supported Housing saves lives.</p> <p>The standard of support that the service provides has been consistent gaining an over-all "very good" grading over 4 consecutive inspections. Indeed in the inspection report immediately prior to the one already quoted (5 Feb 2015) the Inspector reported that</p>
--

"Overall, we found that a very good service was being provided and it was clear that people using the service benefited from the input from the staff team..."

Two comments from people who used the Service at the time of that report are worth noting.

"Everyone has been fantastic to me. Compared with where I was eight months ago, there is no comparison. Without the help and support I wouldn't be here now. I can see light at the end of what has been a long dark tunnel. I cannot praise the staff enough. They are fantastic."

"I think the service that Bethany Supported Housing provides and all the members of staff are brilliant. I don't know where I would have been without their help and support."

Similar comments can be found in earlier reports which together show that the service given by this organization has been consistent, of a high standard and more importantly valuable and life changing for the people who use it.

The people who use the service, the Government service who assesses it, and an external provider all identify the unique, life-changing and vital service that Bethany Supported Housing provides to some of the most vulnerable and chaotic people within our society, as one person told the Inspector

"If it hadn't been for Bethany I don't know where I would be now. Now I have a new home and a future, and my relationship with my family has been restored."

and another

"The Bethany have been my saviour, as I was always in prison. For fifteen months I've not had any more charges and I've moved into my own flat. The Bethany is an amazing trust."

No one can put a price on the value of that kind of life transforming work provided by Bethany Supported Housing.

I trust that you will consider who will provide the much needed and unique service provided by Bethany Supported Housing, and therefore who would be able to help, support and transform the lives of the people who use the services of Bethany Supported Housing if that service is no longer available. I have to ask the question: Is removing funding of £81,000 to such an organization, which has helped literally hundreds of people over the years, out of a budget of £364,000,000 a price worth paying.

Copies of the Care Inspectorate Reports for Bethany Supported Housing can be found at: <https://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php/care-services>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

There are so many people who
need help in this day.

It is my belief the the organisation
of Bethanny do a good job.

Please help them to continue
the good work they do with
the homeless and those in need.

[REDACTED]

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG11 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	Concerned member of the public

Please share your views in the space available below

"Scotland has the highest rate of drug related death in Europe" (The Telegraph - 16th July 2019)

"Scotland's drugs death rate is now higher than the U.S.A. and every other country in Europe." (The Telegraph)

And Dumfries Council are considering removing £80,000 from Bethany Christian Trust - based in Dumfries - working with local addicts to reform + contain their habit and developing clean, responsible citizens.

If this money is removed it is unlikely Bethany Christian Trust will be able to operate - who then - will be responsible for those unfortunate souls - it will fall to Dumfries Council who will have a duty of care for these people - one way or another - it will cost D+G council - it may cost much more.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

The Bethany Christian Trust is a positive outlet for many vulnerable people in Dumfrie.

The people working for the Bethany Trust are warm, kind and compassionate and well appreciated by many in Dumfries - it would be a great loss to many if the Bethany Trust was not here.

They have been a very positive experience in my life at a vulnerable time and help also with people and difficult housing situations. Making a positive impact in people's lives.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	Ae Pnmany

Please share your views in the space available below

Wish further details about small school catering, regarding:

- > staffing
- > meal preparations on site or not
- > equality for all pupils

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I strongly disagree with the proposal to serve notice on the Bethany Christian Trust and to cut funding to the Hub rent Guarantee Scheme, First Base and the Food Bank.</p> <p>As a landlord of affordable shared accommodation for up to 95 tenants, I know that the recent changes to landlord legislation in Scotland have already adversely impacted on the provision of housing for the most vulnerable people (and this will become worse over the next year or two). The removal of the no-fault grounds for eviction after 6 months has made landlords too scared to offer accommodation to anyone who might be a problem,</p> <p>As an owner of shared accommodation, we certainly can no longer risk taking a tenant who might upset other housemates because we would have little/no ability to remove the problem tenant, even after 6 months. . Previously we did offer accommodation to people who were in a period of bad luck (sometimes using the Hub Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme) and mostly, they were delighted with their home and were good tenants. Only the minority were a problem.</p> <p>As a result of the new legislation, we can no longer take risks with the tenants to whom we give a chance and we plan to sell up the business next year. I believe that another landlord, [REDACTED], has reduced the risk to his business by changing 2 houses from 5 bedroom HMOs (affordable and warm room rentals) to family homes for rent.</p> <p>The combination of this change in legislation, reducing the available affordable accommodation for people most in need, as well as reducing the funding for the organisations above, will, without doubt, result in more homeless people struggling to survive outside, with less food.</p> <p>If anything, the Hub should be given a little more funding, rather than less - Currently if guarantees payment for any damages (which rarely happens). If it covered a modest* rent, if tenants become unable to pay, there would be a greater uptake by private landlords. I believe this would ultimately relieve the Homeless Department of the council of a lot of admin work and expense. (* an upper limit could be set).</p>

While I understand that festivals and leisure centres and the arts will provide employment, promote fitness and attract people to the area, these could surely mainly be funded by the organisations which run them e.g. sell tickets for festivals.

Many of the people who will be affected by these proposals i.e. will have to spend cold nights huddled outside, with empty stomachs, are unlikely to know about these proposals or to have the ability to make a formal response.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

The council should be leaving schools and Education alone. Why continue to cut anything to do with our children's learning. These children that will be affected are our future. Their Education is so important. You have stretched classroom sizes and teaching already. And as for wanting to reduce hot lunches in schools of 50 or less. You should be ashamed. For some children this is their only hot meal of the day. How about you start with the council and hold people accountable for the DG1 fiasco and the recycling bin fiasco which has wasted millions of pounds. You should be reducing the "In house" budget of the people at the top who get paid more per annum than the Prime Minister.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG6
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Education "Maximising" (how many?) class sizes reduces the effectiveness of teaching. Each extra child reduces the time available for personal attention & increases teacher workload.

Reducing / narrowing curriculum options deprives young people of the opportunity to develop skills & squanders the skills of highly trained teachers. This generation of young people are being offered poorer opportunities than previous generations. Why? What are the implications for their future and the future of this region and the future of Scotland?

Roads My household has suffered 2 accidents this year from 1) potholes 2) branches obliterating a stop warning (could have been fatal). Lack of maintenance could cause death and is also costly to council in terms of insurance claims.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG6
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

- Why are cuts imposed every year?
- Why is central government reducing funding to this area when we all pay tax?
- Why is it assumed that we are not prepared to pay for services?
- We don't expect everything to be free
- We do expect essential services to be provided and our environment managed safely.
- The resources of Volunteers and external partners should be exploited.
KBT Galleries uses volunteers well.

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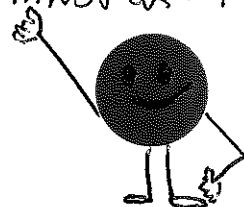
I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

- * WITH REDUCING LIBRARY BOOK STOCK — THIS WORRIES ME — IN THE LAST TWENTY YEARS LOCAL LIBRARIES BOOKS HAVE BEEN DRASTICALLY REDUCED, I DON'T WANT TO SEE EVERYTHING DIGITALISED.
- * NON-CLASS CONTACT TIME IN SCHOOLS (PRIMARY) — THIS MIGHT BE HELPFUL BUT ONLY IF THE INCOMING TEACHING AID PEOPLE WERE PROFESSIONAL AND THE STANDARD WAS MAINTAINED/IMPROVED.
- * REDUCE TRANSPORTATION COSTS:
YES TO INTER-COUNCIL COURIER REDUCTIONS,
NO TO REDUCTIONS IN BUS ROUTES + PUBLIC TRANSPORT!!!



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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Population is declining in D&G, particularly school age (5-18) so we need to look closely at the school estate - buildings and teachers. I appreciate the value of village schools, but they come at a cost and these costs need to be rationalised. Perhaps greater use could be made of IT and video conferencing.

D&G has a significant older population which can put great demands on health and social care. I am disappointed that the ISB has not led to greater economies in health and social care yet.

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Community Planning Partners Estnors have also discussed the possibility of looking at D+P, ie joint budgets. So I am a little disappointed that D+P is looking at its budget individually without reference to other bodies such as the NHS. D+P could potentially cut its spend on social care, but it could simply increase budgetary pressures for the NHS. . . . so no real value to D+P!



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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

It is a false economy to stop funding the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The knock on effect on people's Health & Wellbeing of not having a stable home life is huge. I have seen the effect of children having to move home & having an unsettled home life as a teacher. It has a huge impact on their schooling & mental health. The children who move multiple times have even bigger problems. Everyone should be allowed access to more settled home lives and the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme makes this possible for some people who would not be able to afford private rented housing otherwise. As a landlord I am happy to accept tenants using the RDGS.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	Land lord

Please share your views in the space available below

Removal of the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme will be a false economy. Sure if someone can't raise a deposit then the council will have to re-house them in emergency accommodation.

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG7
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below
<p>The Council clearly has some hard choices to make, and one can only wish that circumstances did not require yet further cuts to services.</p> <p>My main concern is the proposal to close museums etc and/or turn them over to Community organisations. Unlike many other cuts, closing a museum is usually irreversible if good times return, and an important component of D&G's heritage, learning resource, and tourist attractions is lost for good.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

This form is also available online
at dumgal.gov.uk/budget

I am concerned by the proposal to reduce the number of subjects on offer at secondary schools. I strongly believe that children should be able to Chemistry, Maths, Physics, Biology and English at NATS and Higher level if they wish and also these core subjects at Advanced Higher level. Due to timetabling this is not available at all schools. These subjects are essential for Science, Engineering, Medicine and Pharmacy among other important subjects at University. The Council should be investing more in our children's education which is so important for the achievement of their career goals. I therefore disagree strongly with prioritising core subjects at Secondary level.

I also disagree with the cuts to the Music Instrument Service. Many small* schools already have lost their class music teachers so this Service is their only affordable option to learn music. Learning a musical instrument offers many benefits to children. It is an excellent service and it would be wrong to remove it from all but the SQA students.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Please consider carefully before making the proposed cuts to Education. Schools are supposed to equip our young folks to achieve their potential, and yet, all off the proposed cuts would hinder that aim and are unacceptable. A 3% increase in Council tax is suggested and is high but a further 1% increase would be worth paying to protect Education. Surely the Scottish Government would accept such a request or perhaps suggest other areas where you could make savings.</p> <p>Specifically I do not agree with the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restricting Youth and Life Long learning services to vulnerable communities only (£138k) • reducing funding for library book stock (£72k) • remodelling music service so that the less advantaged pupils can no longer receive tuition regardless of ability (£292) • increasing class sizes in Secondary Schools and reducing the subject choice with the resultant reduction in teacher numbers (£470k) • reducing class contact/planning time in Primary schools adding more workload, even though classroom assistants have already been removed (£627k) • shortening the school day resulting in a reduction of staff (£470k) • development of class teacher roles and responsibilities for Additional support for learning, again reducing the number of staff required, adding to the workload of a fewer number of teachers (£312k)
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG4
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I urge Dumfries and Galloway Council to re- consider their plans regarding the music service in schools. Music tuition must be available to all students from primary through to secondary.</p> <p>It isn't clear what a 'communities model' is or looks like. Has anyone conducted a full review of music in Dumfries and Galloway schools? Where is that information?</p> <p>I acknowledge that the music service in Dumfries and Galloway is out of date (and already under- funded) but rather than putting it under the banner of budget cuts, why not review the music service and ask students, teachers and parents what they want from their music service? What about singing in schools? There are so many options out there to keep music alive in schools.</p> <p>I am originally from Dumfries and Galloway but now working for a music hub in England. I ask councillors to consider the work of music hubs across England and to look closely at what the offer to schools looks like before making any cuts to music tuition in Dumfries and Galloway.</p> <p>Some useful links to music hubs include:</p> <p>https://wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk https://www.sound-connections.org.uk/taking-off/types/music-education-hub https://www.soundfoundationsomerset.org.uk/about-us/</p> <p>Please keep music tuition available for all music students in schools across Dumfries and Galloway.</p>
--

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Prioritisation 1 reducing staff by amalgamation of departments will result in less knowledge with in teams so being less effective. 2 I can see this would be a saving in the long run but yet another social interaction for the children with adults. 3 this I can get behind as littering and dog fouling is a pet hate of mine. However, this is where social interaction for children is important for them to respect the world and i am not singling out children we need the inform adults as well. 4 reducing the secondary school subject is detrimental how can young adults develop in well rounded people. 5 not sure about this will the council take responsibility for more accidents and possibly deaths. 6 I agree with this 7 will council carry on paying out for damage to vehicles from potholes and accidents caused by poor maintenance</p> <p>Digital 1 in a ideal world this sound like a good idea but without strong leadership in the class room will the student learn or just play about. Very unsure about this. Social interaction comes into this again.</p> <p>Modernise 1 Not sure what this techno speak is saying but. reduce admin YES reduce support NO Fewer assets 1 Not sure of this, does this include the MUGA. 2 again not to sure but if it includes the Wigtown museum there is little that can be reviewed as little cost to the maintenance and a important part of the cultural identity.</p> <p>Workforce 1 Reducing teachers through the shortening of the school day seems detrimental to the school children and if parents have to pick there children up earlier so they do not have a full working day how will they earn the money to pay the increase in council tax.</p>

- 2 Again a small reduction could be detrimental to the young adults education parent might not be effected as much.
- 3 Will this result in more pressure on the already stretched teachers by streamlining support.
- 4 Reducing the Community Safety team front line staff will be detrimental on the local communities.
- 5 surly it is the front line staff in social work that are more important than the management staff that help to keep our community safe.

Increasing income

- 1 I feel that increasing charges by 5% although seemingly modest increase will result in less people using the facilities and restricting the use to the more affluent in D&G. The removing of free access to talented athletes is a retrograde step.
- I would agree with off peak reduction in charges.
- will the introduction of personal fitness trainers mean a increase in costs unless it is charged for.
- 2 Agree with marina fee increase and this to fund any future development more along a business model. 3 not sure on this inflation increases perhaps.
- 4 Are we against marriage now?
- 5 I can understand recovery of burial costs but making a profit out of someones loss is wrong.
- 6 Increase of Council Tax by 3% so over 3 years the increase will be over 9% this shows the short sightedness of the Scottish Government and the Council for not fighting it. Anyone with a brain would know the the freezing of council tax is non sustainable and would lead to the deficits we now have and the with some crippling costs of the increase.
- 7 Not sure but surly any business reclaims its out of pocket expenses for services were required.
- 8 I feel that increase in per-planning and non statutory advice could be detrimental with a 15% increase but costs to be recovered would be a better way forward. 9 An increase in pitch fees will lead to more wild camping resulting in more littering and on cost for cleaning services.

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Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I realise the Council is very pressed financially, and there has been a lot of effort to cut costs over recent years. Large scale dramatic changes are likely to be needed to save enough in future - these are long overdue and doubtless politically undesirable.</p> <p>Most of the proposals in the consultation make sense. Education cuts will cause uproar, and reducing choice for secondary pupils is especially undesirable, since it risks reducing both engagement in education and resultant future skills and knowledge that could benefit this region. Education is investment in the future so it must be valued, however there are a number of small primary schools, and savings could be made by taking a harder line on these, closing them down.</p> <p>Communities like Xmas but D&GC should stop funding Xmas lights for communities, apart from larger towns which provide main shopping areas.</p> <p>It may be wise for Council to maximise opening up leisure facilities in schools to other (paying) users, and to stop providing stand alone leisure facilities where independent provision could reasonably take over. Festivals draw in tourists who spend locally, but they are expensive to put on; could Council develop a strategy of forcing reduced reliance on council funding and increased sustainability through greater efficiency, changes to pricing policy and other funding sources.</p> <p>Roads maintenance is a challenge and its funding should not reduce, as poorer maintenance encourages more rapid deterioration; evidence shows that compensation costs increase and savings are lost. This is a small part of Council budget which a huge impact on all, and it has been squeezed a lot already.</p> <p>Council should maximise use of technology to reduce the need for travel across the area.</p>
--

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Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>Reducing core subjects offered in Secondary School - I disagree strongly as long term adverse effect on pupils being able to achieve both an education and qualifications required for FE, University or career choices.</p> <p>Reduce grass cutting on verges - turn a negative to a positive by seeding with wild flowers viz environmentally friendly to bees and more attractive visually.</p> <p>Reduce spending on road maintenance - could result in increase in damage claims</p> <p>Reduce winter service treatment of roads - as above with potential for increased litigation.</p>
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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>I agree with the following Budget Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + reduction in the frequency of cutting grass verges to once a year + savings in the cost of school crossing patrols through the introduction of automated crossings + changes in catering for small schools + efficiencies in the current subsidised transportation service. <p>I don't agree with any of the cost cutting proposals in Education. This is the most vital part of a child's development.</p> <p>I do not agree with any cuts to Social Work staffing as it is all needed and more.</p> <p>Bus services could be managed more effectively. I often see two buses chasing one another every day with very few passengers and smaller buses could be used,</p> <p>The level of Council tax should reflect the employment in this low cost economy where wages are low and there are few large employers and young people are moving away to more well-off areas.</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

<p>Please share your views in the space available below</p> <p>In response to the D&G budget options, my input would be NO to the following:</p> <p>Reduction in road maintenance/winter service treatments. Reduction in library book stock. Reduction in hot lunches for primary schools!</p> <p>Then most of the education proposals... digital delivery, additional support for learning changes, timetabling efficiency etc</p> <p>Increase in Council Tax</p>

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1 (WHITE SANDS)
Organisation (if applicable)	BETHANY CHRISTIAN TRUST

Please share your views in the space available below

Just want to appeal for continued funding for Bethany Christian Trust, providing meals 3 days a week for homeless and other needy people. This is a vital service for some of the most vulnerable people in society, and would be greatly missed if the funding were not available.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I WAS HOMELESS IN DUMFRIES THROUGHOUT THE WINTER OF 78 AND IT WAS A VERY HARD TIME. THE SALVATION ARMY GAVE US FOOD TWICE A WEEK. WED - FRI, HOT MEAL. FORTUNATELY I NEVER FORGOT IT, AND ENDED UP WORKING WITH THE HOMELESS. THE BETHANY TRUST IN EDINBURGH^{IT} WAS A SAFE PLACE TO TAKE TROUBLED SOULS, AND I TOOK MANY UP ON THE TRAIN THROUGHOUT THE LATE 80^S AND 90^S. HOW GLAD WE WERE TO HEAR OF A LOCAL BETHANY TRUST OPENING UP. THE HOMELESS CAN WASH THEIR CLOTHES, SHOWER, EAT, AND KIND UNDERSTANDING EARS TO HELP THEM IN MANY WAYS. DOZENS IN DUMFRIES HAVE BENEFITED FROM THIS WONDERFUL "DROP IN", AS WELL AS GETTING BACK ON THEIR FEET.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	BETHANY CHRISTIAN TRUST

Please share your views in the space available below

The Bethany Christian Trust is a safe and unthreatening environment that is welcoming to people of all religions and ethnicities. It is a place where service users can be without an authoritative figure watching over them, making them feel intimidated or degraded in any way, and are surrounded by support that they otherwise may not receive. The service users, staff and volunteers have become relatively close and have formed genuine bonds with one another. Location is a key point for The Bethany Christian Trust. It is located on the Whitesands so it is relatively easy to find, and having the Free Church on Wednesday's makes it better for space and for those needing wheelchair access as the building on the Whitesands is upstairs and not suitable for those unable to use stairs. Bethany Trust is a place where those who are feeling vulnerable, may be struggling financially or mentally, can come and socialise with other like themselves and build relationships that will benefit outside of Bethany. Not only do Bethany Trust provide a drop-in centre where anyone is welcome, they also accompany service users to appointments where they may feel uncomfortable going alone and need support or extra advice. They also provide accommodations with their own houses that they have around the area or support them in finding other living spaces. Overall the Bethany Christian Trust is a relevant organisation that makes a positive impact on the Dumfries community.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

My name is [REDACTED]
 When I found out that Bethany might be closing I was utter heartbroken. You see many people don't really appreciate what the people in Bethany do. They operate below the radar, without fuss or recognition.
 I know that they help so many people. The kind of people that others wouldn't give a second look at. So many people make instant judgements about me and others. It is true, I might not wear the most up to date trendy clothes. Others might say all sorts of horrible things about me.
 There is one place I can go in the town that always has an open door. (that is when they are not busy).
 The drop in service down stairs in the Bethany is a lifeline. I can assure you that when I have had absolutely nothing to eat they have fed me and clothed me too. Pam Crosbie and the volunteers are amazing. They don't judge us. They quietly serve and listen to us.
 The Bethany staff have saved my life and I really mean that.
 Not so long ago I met [REDACTED] from Bethany ([REDACTED]) when I was up town. [REDACTED] was on his lunch break and saw me. [REDACTED] must have noticed something was wrong as he stopped and asked if I was okay.
 Thankfully [REDACTED] did ask me. I had made planned to end my life by suicide that day. [REDACTED] sat with me and listened to me. He didn't judge me or criticize me. He just listened. Towards the end he made a plan with me. I agreed to speak again to my doctor and if [REDACTED] did not hear from me at a certain time then [REDACTED] would call the police.
 I honestly would not be hear today if [REDACTED] had not stopped. The only reason I trusted [REDACTED] was because he was my partner [REDACTED] support worker. I had seen him work alongside [REDACTED] [REDACTED] played a very important role in saving [REDACTED] life too. In a practical and vital intervention.
 I can say that every one of the staff at Bethany are like that. Each one gives so much of themselves. They would give them the shoes off their feet if they could. Big [REDACTED] the manager gave a service user his own coat.
 Bethany staff do so much for people. Unseen. Difficult at times.
 They work with very vulnerable people for no recognition.
 Please do not pull the service from the town. So many people use the service.
 Thankyou.
 [REDACTED]

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

BETHANY CHRISTIAN TRUST

I AM WRITING TO ASK YOU NOT TO CONSIDER WITHDRAWING FUNDING, EITHER IN PART OR IN FULL, FROM THE ABOVE. I REALISE THAT YOU ARE LIMITED IN TERMS OF BUDGET AT PRESENT BUT WONDER IF YOU HAVE CONSIDERED THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY DECREASE IN FUNDING ON THOSE WHO RELY ON IT AND IF YOU HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN IN PLACE SO THAT THEY CAN CONTINUE TO BE SUPPORTED.

WITH THANKS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

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YES ☒

NO* ☐

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG1
Organisation (if applicable)	Bethany Christian Care for the Homeless

Please share your views in the space available below

This form is also available online at dumgal.gov.uk/budget

I am very concerned about the proposal of the Council to withdraw its funding from the above organisation.

As a volunteer I have worked many years for Bethany and have observed first-hand the care and respect displayed by members of staff while assisting some of our region's most vulnerable people.

If funding is withdrawn these people will still have to be taken care of. The time, energy and dedication that is put into helping those who pass through their doors has to be seen to be believed.

We should consider ourselves very privileged to have an organisation like this one in our area and I feel very strongly that they should be thanked, not threatened by the Council for the wonderful work they carry out on the basis of showing love toward their fellow human beings.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG2 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

I believe that Bethany is an invaluable service that helps people who experienced homelessness by not only giving them housing service but also offering support to sustain and maintain their tenancies.

I have visited Bethany on many occasions and have always seen it being very busy with service users and more importantly people were being listened to knowing that they will get support with addressing their difficulties. Bethany's service users always speak highly of this service and find it invaluable to them. Bethany also gives out free lunch to people and this service is very popular by service users who feel safe attending and it is an opportunity not only to eat a meal but also to socialize with others and spend nice time with others whom they can trust. This service also tackles social isolation of homeless people and meet their most basic human needs. It is a safe place for people to attend and being supported and more importantly, having this service means that there is less demand on other services.

I'm baffled by the Council's proposal here as by taking away this service, the Council will increase the demand of homeless people needing support to have their most basic human needs met, unless the Council have prepared an impact assessment prior to making this decision and have considered contingency planning as to where the homeless people will receive support from March/April 2020?

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8 [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

Leisure centres are expensive and not providing a modern, inspiring service. Having visited the Highland & Islands Leisoc Centres I noted the cheaper fees, excellent modern equipment and subsequently full gym. It would appear the leisure centres work in conjunction with outside agencies such as Highland & Island Development or Independent Trusts., so can attract Charity Money and run tax free. I think this model should be adopted here.

I also think small schools such as Carsphairn, Drumoley, Kirkcubbin, etc should be closed. I understand this cannot be done to "save money" but I sincerely believe (as a Mental Health Nurse) that they poorly serve our children. The schools are too small to allow sufficient peer-peer interaction or age appropriate levels or allow full range of experiences. Music lessons, PE, or art could be more dynamically taught perhaps by outside providers if the classes and schools were large enough to justify the organisation and staff involved.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Staff costs seem huge.

Leisure + Sport Facilities — should be privatised?

Early Learning & Childcare — perhaps make more use of volunteers.

Customer + digital services.

Public spaces etc — make more use of volunteers.

Lifelong Learning must stay — tiny amount of budget at present. Makes big difference to people's lives.

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Council Budget 2020/2021 Response Form

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I AGREE TO MY RESPONSE BEING PUBLISHED: YES ☒ NO* ☐

*Unfortunately, if you do not agree to your comments being published, these will not be made available to Councillors when considering the responses.

District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Proposed ~~secondary~~ education cuts seem reasonable, if necessary. (Secondary + Primary)

Use of other agencies/resources to cut council expenditure seems like a good idea.

COUNCILLORS SHOULD ONLY BE REIMBURSED WHAT THEY SPEND. I.E £10 WORTH OF PETROL SHOULD BE REFUNDED WITH £10. AND NOT A AMOUNT PER MILE AS THEY ARE ACTUALLY MAKING MONEY FROM EXPENSES WHICH IS WRONG EVERY PENNY IN EXPENSE SHOULD BE REFUNDED WITH ONE PENNY
LIFELONG LEARNING IS ESSENTIAL FOR ME.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

I have seen the difference attending Lifelong Learning sessions makes to people's lives. — Learners improvement in confidence + skills has helped to get them back into work after sometimes long periods in unemployment. Would have a big impact on individuals if Lifelong Learning budget is cut.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	[REDACTED]

Please share your views in the space available below

Life long learning is a very valued group.
This has helped me personally by helping me get my job.

PEEP Groups has also helped my family, especially my youngest - who has speech problems. Really helped him with that.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Coming to life long Learning
has given me the confidence
to go to College.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG5
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

Coming to Life Long Learning has helped with my Confidence and they have supported me with my family problems. They have helped me to get the qualifications that I needed to get into College.

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District Postcode (For example DG1)	DG8
Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

lifelong learning is extremely important
service allowing all individuals to make
improvements to their everyday lives.
There are no barriers to their learning
with this service.

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Organisation (if applicable)	

Please share your views in the space available below

The lifelong learning group in Newton Stewart helps with building my confidence & is helping me on my journey to get a job. I couldn't do this without the ~~unfolding~~ help of the staff at the group, they really help me progress with my learning.

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